

LOOKING TO ENGLAND

Leasing Crows that Great Britain May Show Its Hand in Far East.

AMERICAN ATTACHES IN LONDON TALK

British Fleet is in Position to Do Quick Work in Asia.

ARMY NEVER IN BETTER CONDITION

Now Has More Experienced Soldiers Than Any Other Nation.

BERLIN HEARS RUSSIA MAY ACCEDE

Alliance that Great Britain Has Made Representations to Russia Which May Result in Securing Desire of Japan.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—The Nagasaki correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says the Japanese railways have been ordered to be prepared to transport 70,000 troops from the north to the south.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—A dispatch to Reuters' Telegram company from Tokyo says that Premier Katsura and War Minister Terauchi visited the Marquis Ito, president of the privy council and the Marquis Yamagata, chief of the council of field marshals, at their villas this morning.

The meetings are believed to have been connected with important developments in the Russian-Japanese situation. The minister returned to Tokyo this morning.

The Japanese press is urging the immediate dispatch of troops to Korea. It is asserted Japanese interests are menaced by Russian military advances in the north and Russian intrigues in Seoul.

The impression is growing in the best informed circles that the adoption of such a policy is now inevitable.

On the supposition that Great Britain as a last resort might threaten to forcibly interfere, the United States naval attaché, Captain Charles H. Baskett, pointed out to a group of representatives of the press that Great Britain's extraordinary developed naval mobilization at the present moment was a great factor toward peace.

"The Mediterranean fleet," said Captain Baskett, "hovering towards Japan, is powerful. It is a great deterrent. The British fleet now in the far east could quickly be reinforced by part or possibly even the whole of the Mediterranean fleet, whose duties would then be taken up by the channel squadron, leaving the home squadron in British waters. Great Britain never had so many ships in commission or men in the navy as it has today."

The United States military attaché, Major John H. Beaman, similarly pointed out that if Great Britain insisted on peace it has "behind any such demand more men of campaigning age who have been under arms for any nation, and a military advantage which, doubtless, is not overlooked by any European power."

Diplomatic circles in London look for several days of dull Russo-Japanese negotiations.

The Japanese legation points out that Japan's counter proposals will possibly entail somewhat prolonged consideration.

Ambassador Chouteau, who yesterday attended Lord Lansdowne's reception at the Foreign office, is among those who can hardly conceive how it is possible that some way out of the difficulty cannot be found.

In order to avoid a war which must be so disastrous to both nations, and the consequences of which upon other nations cannot be foreseen.

The reported military and naval preparations on the part of Russia and Japan were regarded as an ordinary precaution which would inevitably be taken by the disputants in such a case and which have but slight bearing on the eventual issue of the negotiations.

Russian Press Irritated.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 24.—The Russian papers are displaying the liveliest irritation at the British press, whose anti-Russian attitude in the present Russo-Japanese dispute has been a real public enemy against Great Britain that exists against Japan.

The Japanese minister, M. Kurino, has been indignant as the result of a chill for some days, and has had no interview with Foreign Minister Lamorinière. Neither the members of the Japanese legation nor the other Japanese residents here are showing any sign of impending departure.

The hopefulness in official circles of a peaceful settlement of the Russo-Japanese dispute was reflected in the Japanese press which largely recovered from the nervousness which has prevailed for several days.

Thinks Russia Will Accede.

BERLIN, Dec. 24.—An intimation has reached the Japanese legation here that Russia will concede Japan's requests.

SHOWING OF STEEL PLANT

According to Expert Witnesses There Was Rapid Change at Bethlehem.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Alfred Rose, the

accountant who made the investigation of the financial status of the Bethlehem Steel company for Receiver Smith, resumed the stand at the shipbuilding hearing.

The construction and repair accounts of Bethlehem were the first subjects of inquiry by Counsel Undermyer, his object being to find if excessive expenditures were made during the year ending May 31, 1903.

Rose said that the construction account for the year ending May 31, 1903, was \$1,000,000, according to the auditor's report.

Rose said that the monthly earnings in July having suddenly jumped to \$68,100 from an average of less than \$25,000 during the preceding two months.

The values of stock on hand, as shown by inventory of July 31, 1903, was \$4,873,779 higher than any previous inventory in the history of the company and \$1,246,000 higher than the July, 1902, inventory.

By October 31, 1903, the inventory value had still further increased to \$4,977,530.

An increase of \$684,284 in surplus current assets from July 31, 1902, to October 31, 1903, was shown, and after a long series of other questions about figures in the reports of the company and of Mr. Rose, Mr. Undermyer relinquished the witness.

Mr. Guthrie asked a number of questions designed to bring out Mr. Rose's experience in examining shipbuilding and steel companies, and then cross-examined him as to the method in which the investigation of the Bethlehem plant was made.

Rose said he knew that subsequently to April 21, 1903, the Bethlehem company billed \$3,000,000 of goods.

"Mr. Rose, are you prepared to say that the item of \$500,000 which the Bethlehem company added to its profits on manufactured material was in excess of a fair profit actually?" he was asked.

Rose said that it had anything to do with the profits, it was put in the estimated selling expenses," he replied.

"If anything in your testimony of this morning seemed to be an aspersion on the honor or integrity of any of the officers of the Bethlehem plant, may I ask, Mr. Rose, if it was your intention that such an aspersion should be against them?" asked Mr. Guthrie.

"Assuredly not; that was not my intention, and if any such inference should be drawn I should be sorry," replied the witness.

An adjournment was taken to January 5, 1904.

WOOD TELLS OF BELLAIRE

General Writes to Friend Regarding Correspondent in Cuba and Philippines.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The Commercial Advertiser prints a letter signed by General Wood and addressed to General Horace Fletcher of Yale, in which the writer tells of his acquaintance with Edgar G. Bellaire.

In the letter, which was written at Cairo, on May 12, 1898, General Wood, referring to Bellaire, said:

In the spring of 1898 he was promoted to Havana (from Santiago), not at my request or suggestion, direct or indirect, as I remember it. He had, absolutely no favors of me, or so far as I know, of any of the military or naval officers of the United States army or navy in Cuba and the Philippines, not at my suggestion or request, direct or indirect.

After the war he was my particular friend and that I sent him to China, and that his attitude toward the civil government of that country was very friendly.

He was far-fetched and dishonest and intended to cause trouble. This is the whole story of his life as far as I know, especially intimate with me or my family; that is to say, I don't think that in all this vast service he was at any time more than three or, at the most, four times, I saw him, and I did not see him, and they were treated exactly alike.

OMAHA PASSENGERS SHAKEN

Missouri Train's Run Into Kansas City Ties to Run Through a Freight.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 24.—A special to the Star from Atchison Kan., says Missouri Pacific southbound passenger No. 52, from Omaha for Kansas City, ran into an open freight car on the tracks at Atchison, Mo., and collided with a freight train standing on a siding.

SUSTAINS RIGHT TO PICKET

Minnesota Supreme Court Declares Men Have Right to Strike.

MAY INDUCE OTHERS TO QUIT WORK

Declares that Judge of Inferior Court Went Too Far in Recent Order Against Members of Labor Union.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 24.—The supreme court today in deciding the labor case of Gray & Co. of Minneapolis against the Building Trades Council et al. asserts the rights of laborers to strike and to induce others to strike and to use all means to win their case which are compatible with law and order.

The court declared Judge Gray of Minneapolis went too far when he restrained the defendants to "go upon the premises." Judge Gray granted an injunction preventing the labor agitators from interfering with the business of the plaintiffs.

Asks Grand Jury Investigation.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Scathing criticisms of persons who have disturbed funeral processions in Chicago were made by a grand jury which today reported to Judge Clifford. The grand jury also criticized "irresponsible organizations" for creating disorders in Cook county, destroying property and defying the law.

The report, which was drawn by Colonel James W. Nye, foreman, says: "We find that for several months irresponsible organizations have been creating disorder in Cook county, destroying property and defying the law. We have found that ordinary subpoenas and subpoenas returnum modo forthwith issued by this court have been evaded."

It is in public records that present, in Chicago, houses of worship and houses of mourning are made the scenes of disorder and riotous conduct. The bodies of the dead are desecrated. We believe that these conditions justify careful examination and we respectfully suggest that the conditions we have recited be made a special subject of inquiry by the grand jury.

The services of a union strike officer offered to drive the hearse at the funeral of Detective Thomas D. Farnsworth were rejected because he refused to take off his union button. Police, both in uniform and in plain clothes, guarded the hearse. Two detectives accompanied the empty hearse from the stables. Six patrolmen in uniform acted as pallbearers.

With uniformed policemen mounted on horse and carriage the body of William H. Kitchin was taken to Oakwood cemetery. The strikers had pickets in the neighborhood of the home, but they answered that their presence was merely for the purpose of seeing that no union men were driving the carriage.

Labor Corporation Dissolves.

By dissolving the incorporated organization known as Franklin union No. 4, the striking pressfreeders here stole a march today on the Chicago Typothetae, the association of employers.

The pressfreeders being incorporated, were to be sued at law. Judge Holdom recently filed the union \$1,800 and damage suits are now pending for many times this amount on account of the strike, which is one of the most persistent ever fought in Chicago. If the employers could not sue the pressfreeders, they might be able to seize the \$40,000 in the union's treasury, or a goodly part of the sum, under the Taft-Vale decision in England, which holds incorporated unions liable for strike damage.

As a voluntary association, the pressfreeders believe, they are safe from damage suits, except as individuals.

Jury Still in Doubt.

GEORGETOWN, Colo., Dec. 24.—The district court adjourned this afternoon until Monday afternoon with only one juror selected for the trial of the Idaho Springs dynamiting case. J. E. Chandler, secretary of the Idaho Springs miners' union, who disappeared from that place about the time of the blowing up of the Sun and Moon mine building and who was arrested later in Los Angeles, arrived here today. His bond was fixed by the court at \$2,000.

Paris Bakers Quiet.

PARIS, Dec. 24.—Owing to the continuance of the bakers' strike mounted patrols are circulating today throughout the city and details of the infantry are still trolling all the suburbs.

HAVE NOT EVEN TIME TO DRESS

Passengers on Steamer Off Connecticut Coast Nearly Slain with Collision of Vessel.

SOUTH NORWALK, Conn., Dec. 24.—In a tuck for today the steamer Eratus Corning of the Sterline line, bound from New Haven to New York, with thirty passengers and a heavy cargo of freight, struck on the rocks of Copps Island, just outside New Haven, where a hole two feet square was stove in the side of the steamer and within five minutes it sank in fifteen feet of water.

The shock of the collision and the cries of the crew aroused the passengers, who rushed on deck in a panic. Most of them were thinly clad. One woman jumped overboard, but was rescued by a member of the crew. During the confusion six of the crew cleared away a small boat and left the steamer. The boat contained two men and four women. All the remaining passengers and crew reached here safely on board a tug, and the passengers soon after left by train for New York. Some of them had no outer wraps and all were without baggage, the vessel having filled with water so quickly that they had barely time to seize clothing and rush to the deck.

The Eratus, coming left New Haven late last night, left the beach at New Haven in the sound and was proceeding slowly when it went on the rocks on Copps Island, about a mile off the usual course. The launch, with some of the crew, was sent to this city for assistance, and a tug was sent to the stranded steamer.

A report from Green Farns says that a small boat containing the six persons who probably were passengers on the wrecked steamer Eratus Corning has landed at that point.

A thick fog hung over the sound, Copps Island, where the steamer lies, is about a mile outside the usual track of the sound steamers, and it is supposed that its navigator lost his bearings. The vessel lies high up on the rocks, so that though it is partly filled with water its passengers are believed to be safe.

A tug has gone to the scene of the wreck and will bring the passengers of the Eratus back to the city, where they will be put aboard a train for New York.

WARREN POSTOFFICE LESSEE

Wyoming's Senator Held to Be Landlord to the Federal Government.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—(Special Telegram.)—The Washington Times this evening states that Senator Warren of Wyoming is leasee to the government of the postoffice quarters at Cheyenne, his home town, and that the present lease was entered into in April, 1898, for a period of four years, at an annual rental of \$300.

When asked about the matter tonight Senator Warren said: "I have not seen or heard of the statement. I cannot say at this moment whether or not my name is affixed to the lease with the government for the Cheyenne postoffice. A number of buildings at Cheyenne are owned by corporations in which I am interested and I own several in private ownership. The postoffice occupies a portion of the Warren block, built by me for general purposes over twenty-five years ago. The postoffice has been in the block part of the time, off and on for two years or more. During that time the block in question has changed ownership two or three times, as the county records will show. If it was standing in my name or in the name of a corporation with which I was connected at the time the lease was executed, then I likely signed them either as agent, officer or owner. My own rent roll and care of my property, as well as that of the corporations mentioned, has been for some years in the hands of an experienced agent in long in my service. Hence my present ignorance of details. I do not recall the date of the last lease. I came into the senate in 1897; went out in 1898 and came back again in 1898. The postoffice at Cheyenne has always been rented to the lowest bidder after the receipt of competitive sealed bids. If, as you say, the present lease is at \$300 per annum, then at the last bidding the bid was made by some \$200 or \$300 less per year than offered by the next lowest bid. This figure is much lower than proposed on each side and opposite the postoffice is rented at, and we are impatiently waiting the completion of the new federal building, which I have been endeavoring to hurry forward ever since my return to the senate, in order that the postoffice and other federal offices at Cheyenne may be removed into it and owners be relieved through receiving current rentals in place of the low rents now paid by the government."

NEW TEACHER FOR CHEYENNE

Indian Commissioner Jones Decides to Re-Establish Place of Female Industrial Instructor.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—(Special Telegram.)—Indian Commissioner Jones today decided to re-establish the position of female industrial teacher for the Cheyenne river Indian school and upon the recommendation of Congressman Burke has reinstated Mrs. Eunice Warner in that position.

H. C. Norman, day school teacher at the Cheyenne agency, was appointed superintendent of the Indian school at Red Lake, Minn., to succeed Charles Davis, removed. Charles F. Werner, teacher at the Flathead, Mont., Indian school, was today appointed superintendent of Rosebud school at a salary of \$3,100 per annum.

William K. Farmer, teacher, today recommended the appointment of the following postmasters: Joshua H. Evans at Callaway, Custer county; Mrs. Kate Rice, Hunter, Sioux county; William I. Clark, Saint Michael, Buffalo county.

Rural carriers appointed: Nebraska—Charles W. Williams, A. Overman, substitute; Clarence P. Kealey, Colon, regular; Joseph M. Genoways, substitute; Peter Seaburger, Trumbull, regular; Charles W. Talbert, substitute; Harrison R. Talbert, Weston, regular; Joseph K. Yutani, regular; William K. Farmer, regular; Robert W. Jenkins, substitute; Alfred Jenkins, regular.

A rural free delivery route has been ordered established February 1 at Atlanta, Phelps county, Neb. The route embraces an area of forty-four square miles, covering a population of 710.

Postmasters appointed: Nebraska—Arcadia, Valley county, Harold O. Cooley, vice L. A. Reynolds, resigned; Cordova, Seward county, William M. McKeever, vice D. S. Whitcomb, resigned; Iowa—Nawan, Winona county, Edna Lawrence, vice John Lawrence, dead.

OMAHA FAST MAIL WRECKED

Cattle Train Collided with Wabash Flyer in Missouri, Killing Engineer Whittier.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 24.—A telephone message from Mexico, Mo., is that the Wabash fast mail which left Omaha at 6:53 last night for St. Louis, collided head-on with a northbound cattle train between Mexico and Benton City shortly after 1 o'clock this morning. It is believed that none of the injured will die. They were brought to this city. The baggage and mail cars were badly damaged and many cattle were killed, but only slight damage was done to the passenger coaches.

The names of the dead and injured follow: Dead: ENGINEER THOMAS WHITTIER of Moberly, Mo. Injured: C. W. Blodgett, Bussler, Ia. Charles Robert Lamont, Vandusky, Mont., dangerously and perhaps fatally injured.

The latter two were stealing a ride between the express car and tender.

Among the many Omaha people on the wrecked train were W. H. Sutherland and wife and Walter Metcalf, an advertisement solicitor. As no complete list of the Omaha passengers was kept in the local offices of the company, the names of the other passengers could not be ascertained. The statement was given out at the local office, however, that no passenger was injured, even slightly.

ACTIVE TRADING IN COTTON

Market Fluctuates Considerably, but Has Noticeable Undercurrent of Bullishness.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Trading in cotton was active today with fluctuations in the market, although generally speaking there was a good undercurrent of bullishness. On the other hand, there was heavy liquidation and more talk of settled conditions in the far east so that every betterment met with heavy selling. After the call the market showed a slight decline at 10:20 points, but liquidation caused a reaction at several points.

EVENTS OF GLAD TIDE

On Every Hand Christmas in Omaha Will Be Celebrated with Cheer.

WARM WEATHER SPOILS THE TRADITION

Churches, Fraternal Societies, Charitable Institutions and Even Prisons Will Celebrate This Natal Day.

Christmas Calendar. The weather, fair, colder. At the theaters: Boyd's, William H. Crane in "The Beggars"; Orpheum, "Modestine"; Grand Opera, "The Power Behind the Throne"; Maudslayi at each playhouse.

Charitable and penal institutions give dinners and hold services. Salvation Army's free dinner to poor, The Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. give a "Mog's" dinner to newboys on Farnam street.

Christmas in Omaha will be celebrated in the usual time-honored manner and with the usual amount of joy and trouble. Unless the weather breaks down, which the weather forecaster doubts, the day will not be the Christmas anniversary of tradition, and Santa Claus and the Santa Claus boys of these modern times will have to leave the good old reindeer sleigh in the shed and turn in earnest to the automobile.

In churches, charitable homes, fraternal institutions in the city, county jail and hospitals preparations have been made for the celebration of the day. In the fraternal institutions, for in these the merry-makers have not been made so particular as to automatic accomplishments for their dolls or three-colored icings to adorn their cakes.

High Mass at St. James.

The St. James orphanage in Benson leads with a high mass in the early hours, celebrated by Rev. Father Jenette. A Christmas tree will be displayed at 9 o'clock, with a small Santa Claus by one of the children. At midday the festive dinner will engage the attention of the children. Miss Margaret Fagan has been busy in collecting the essentials. In the afternoon at 2 o'clock the entertainment of the day occurs with song and recitations.

The City Mission is going to have the finest Christmas that ever came in December, but it will not come until Saturday. At 2 o'clock on that day there is to be a gorgeous tree with a live Santa Claus and a real gift chimney for him to enter. The gifts will be distributed to the children in a beautiful way. The parish will be used for dinner Christmas day. The Sunday schools and young people's societies of various churches are attending to the wants of the mission.

The newboys' home will have a Christmas chicken dinner at noon. The women who have taken up this charity, together with Moggy, have been preparing for some days and will serve about 150 boys.

The Salvation Army and Volunteers of America will do their best to make Christmas more than \$1.19 in currency to the poor at 133 Howard street.

Exercises at Churches.

The church celebrations this year are rather scattering. The Catholic churches will all observe the day with solemn high masses. In St. Philomena's cathedral will be celebrated a solemn high mass at 9 o'clock in the morning, at which the junior choir will render the music. At St. Michael's church will be celebrated, assisted by Rev. James W. Stenson, deacon, and Rev. P. A. McGovern, subdeacon. Low masses will follow at 7, 7:30 and 8 o'clock. At 10:30 another solemn high mass will be celebrated by Rev. James W. Stenson, with Rev. P. A. McGovern, deacon, and Rev. P. A. McGovern, subdeacon. The musical program at this service will be sung by the full senior choir, under the direction of Miss Swift.

In St. Cecilia's church the masses on Christmas morning will be at 8 and 10:30 o'clock, assisted by Rev. M. Bronsgeest, S. J., and Rev. J. Calhoun, B. J. Miss Margaret J. Jorgensen, the organist, has prepared a new mass for the occasion, which is likely to become a favorite, both with the choir and the congregation. The mass will be followed by a service of the Misses Grooves, McDermott, Lewis, Martin and Messrs. Bradley, O'Malley and Martin. Miss Purvis will sing Adam's "Holy Night." The pastor will make a short address. At 10:30 o'clock there will be a second high solemn mass, at which Rev. M. Bronsgeest, S. J., will be celebrant. Rev. M. Bronsgeest, S. J., will be celebrant. Rev. M. Bronsgeest, S. J., will be celebrant. Rev. M. Bronsgeest, S. J., will be celebrant.

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NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST

Cloudy Friday, Probably Snow and Colder; Saturday Fair.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday: Hour, Deg. Hour, Deg. 5 a. m. 21 1 p. m. 40 6 a. m. 21 2 p. m. 44 7 a. m. 20 3 p. m. 41 8 a. m. 21 4 p. m. 39 9 a. m. 21 5 p. m. 37 10 a. m. 25 6 p. m. 35 11 a. m. 30 7 p. m. 34 12 m. 30

POSTAL TELEGRAPH CHANGES

Creates Three New Districts in Western Division Because of Increased Business.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—On account of the increase in the number of lines and offices of the Postal Telegraph company, General Superintendent Nally has created three new districts in the western division, as follows: The fifth district, comprising all the lines and offices west of the Missouri river to the Colorado line, including Kansas City, Omaha, St. Joseph, Leavenworth, Atchison, etc. W. J. Cape, superintendent, with headquarters at Chicago.

The eighth district, to include all the lines and offices in the states of Iowa and South Dakota, Charles F. Fox, superintendent, Des Moines.

The ninth district, to include all the lines and offices in Wisconsin and northern Michigan, Harry G. McGill, superintendent, Milwaukee, Wis.

On account of the promotion and transfer of G. E. Paine to the general superintendent at Atlanta, Ga., Samuel H. Mudge, manager of the St. Louis office, has been appointed superintendent at St. Louis, and will have what is known as the third district. The change takes effect January 1.

CHRISTMAS EVE IN TENNESSEE

Three Dead and One Wounded as Result of Festivities in Different Places.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 24.—Deputy Sheriff L. R. May shot L. A. Lewis at Powell's Station tonight, the result of a political quarrel, while the men were returning from a Christmas entertainment. Carl Woodley was shot in the hip and wounded by a stray shot.

Westley Bright, while cleaning his gun today preparing to go hunting on Christmas, tried to ascertain whether it was loaded by placing the muzzle in his mouth to blow through the barrel. With the toe of his shoe he pushed back the hammer. The hammer slipped from his toe and the load went through his head, tearing it nearly off.

Near Madison, Tenn., Lon Monlight shot and killed Lee Raser while they were involved in a quarrel due to too much Christmas whisky.

LEBANON, Tenn., Dec. 24.—During a Christmas entertainment today at Fall Creek church, Sheriff Jennings shot and fatally wounded Rice Pickett, who, together with several other young men, went to the church to remove a Christmas tree.

PINCH ALLEGED BANK ROBBERS

Three Men Under Arrest at Kansas City Supposed to Be Wanted at Turin, Iowa.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 24.—(Special Telegram.)—Three men who had in their possession more than \$1,100 in currency and drafts were arrested here today on suspicion that they are safe-blowers and wanted in Turin, Ia., on the charge of cracking the safe of the City National Savings bank and robbing it of \$1,000. The men gave their names as John A. Day, John Wilson and Charles White. The police received notice of the robbery the first of the week and for several days have been watching for the men. In Day's possession the detectives found three drafts, two for \$75 each and the other for \$68. Day also had \$6 in currency. Wilson had a few dollars in change, while White had \$30.37. Nearly all the currency found on the men was in gold coin. Day and Wilson are the men believed to be wanted in Iowa, but there is nothing in the information received from there which would implicate White. The Iowa officials have been notified and will be here to identify the men. All three are to talk or give any information as to how they came by so much money.