

VALENTINE, NEB.

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NO PEACE PROPOSAL

JAPAN EXPECTS TO CONTINUE WAR WITH VIGOR.

Port Arthur is but a Step—No Idea of Intervention is Suggested—Every Indication that the War Will Go on with Great Zeal.

Japan has made no overture for peace to Russia, directly or indirectly, through the United States or any other power...

This, in brief, represents the views of Mr. Kozaro Takahira, the Japanese minister, who has recently resumed charge of the legation at Washington after a long illness at New York.

"The fall of Port Arthur," said the minister, "is but a step in the war that Japan is waging for a principle. Certainly it is an important step, but nothing could be further from the truth than the assumption that because Japan has captured a stronghold, the fall of which has long been expected, the Japanese government will now propose peace."

At the Russian embassy it was reiterated that Russia would fight all the harder in view of the temporary loss of Port Arthur. Europe, it is believed, is firmly of the conviction that however dark the outlook for peace at this moment when the prospect brightens it is to prove that the neutrals as well as the belligerents will look for the intermediary through which negotiations can be made.

LIFE FOR WOMAN.

Mrs. Lillie Must Go to the Nebraska Penitentiary.

The Nebraska supreme court has denied the motion for a rehearing in behalf of Mrs. Lena Lillie, convicted of the murder of her husband at David City, Neb. Application for a rehearing is the last appeal possible, and the court's action means that Mrs. Lillie must go to the penitentiary for life.

CLASH AT DENVER.

Peabody Men Gain a Victory in the Legislature.

A Denver, Colo., special says: The followers of Gov. Peabody gained a victory Friday in the legislature in the first fight over the canvass of the vote for governor.

PEACE IN MOROCCO.

France and the Sultan Have Settled Their Recent Misunderstanding.

A Washington dispatch says that France and Morocco have settled their recent misunderstanding, and the French minister at Tangier is proceeding to the court of the sultan for an audience.

Sioux City Stock Market.

Friday's quotations on the Sioux City stock market follow: Butcher steers, \$3.25@4.50. Top hogs, \$1.50.

Drugged and Robbed.

Joseph Price, proprietor of a general store in Clarke County, Ia., was found by the police back of the Grant Club building at Des Moines, Ia., Friday morning at an early hour in an unconscious condition.

Fire at Springfield, Mass.

The city hall at Springfield, Mass., valued at over \$50,000, was completely destroyed by fire Friday.

Main Point in Colorado Governor's Message

A Denver dispatch says: The Colorado legislature will commence its doings. When the joint session of the house and senate was called at 5:30 o'clock Thursday afternoon all the political preferences to the canvassing of the vote for state officers had been swept away.

Clerk Harper, of the house, was sent to inform the senate that the house was prepared to enter into joint session for the purpose of hearing the message of Gov. Peabody.

The message read by the governor dealt for the most part with recommendations concerning reports from various departments, but he could not attempt to epitomize it. On the question of election the message says:

"The fraudulent conduct of elections under our present system demands your immediate and concerted action. In a general way it seems sufficient to say that a modern primary and registration law should be enacted, and the advisability of introducing voting machines should be considered."

Of the labor troubles, the governor, after urging the adoption of "a reasonable, just and equitable eight-hour law," says:

"Early in my administration a certain organization known as the Western Federation of Miners, claiming public consideration under the name of labor, whose officers and those in direct charge of its management are bold, careless, reckless men, attempted to foment trouble in several of the sections of Colorado to the end that this particular organization should have recognition in the operation and management of the mines, mills and smelters, wherever located in the state, which efforts culminated in the arbitrary calling of the most senseless, senseless, unjustifiable and inexcusable strike ever known in this or any other country, and believing that my duty to the people of the state lay in protecting life and property in advance of annihilation, I proceeded to stop the unlawful methods of this reckless band of men. Subsequent it is to say, law and order were maintained, peace restored and prosperity immediately followed."

"I recommend the passage of an act by your honorable body prohibiting boycotting, picketing, unfair lists, or other interference with the lawful business or occupation of others, and providing suitable penalties therefor."

FOR BIG EMBEZZLEMENT.

Two Ohio Bankers Arrested in British Columbia.

United States secret service agents arrested at Victoria, B. C., Lewis Oplinger, president, and J. R. Zimmerman, managing director of the Western National bank, of Wooster, O., charged with embezzlement of funds amounting to \$250,000. They have agreed to return to Wooster for trial, waiving extradition.

Both men came to the Dominion hotel at Victoria from Seattle, December 31, registering as B. P. Roland and S. R. Case, of New York. No securities or funds other than a few hundred dollars were found in possession of the men.

WORK OF THE "BLACK HAND"

Bomb Exploded Against Door of New York Barber Shop.

The explosion of a bomb against the door of a barber shop in First avenue, New York, Wednesday night, followed the refusal of the proprietor, Sam Fassett, to pay \$300 which had been demanded from him in letters signed by "The Black Hand."

The front of the building was considerably damaged, but no one was injured, although several persons were in the shop at the time the explosion occurred. The first of several threatening letters was received by Fassett, who is a young Italian, two weeks since.

To Sell Pearl Jewels.

The \$60,000 pearl necklace and other jewels seized from Mrs. Phyllis M. Dodge at New York when she returned to this country on the steamship St. Paul, in 1933, will be sold at auction. Owing to the advance in the price of precious stones, they are now worth about \$75,000.

Body Found in River.

The body of Nell S. Phelps, a capitalist of Battle Creek, Mich., who mysteriously disappeared a number of weeks ago, was found Thursday badly decomposed in the river. Phelps committed suicide while despondent over the loss of a fortune.

The Surrendered Garrison.

A report from Nagasaki received Thursday at Tokio largely increases the figures of the surrendered garrison and intimates the force handed over to the Japanese at Port Arthur will be 32,000, exclusive of 15,000 or 16,000 sick and wounded, making a rough total of 48,000.

Diet is Discarded.

A Budapest dispatch says that Emperor Francis Joseph formally dissolved the diet Wednesday in a speech from the throne dealing with the parliamentary situation.

Burlington Official Quits.

A Chicago special says: Frederic A. Delano, for nearly four years general manager of the Burlington's line east of the Missouri river, has resigned, effective January 10. It has not been announced who will succeed Mr. Delano.

Made Revenue Collector.

Henry M. Rose, reading clerk of the national senate, has been appointed internal revenue collector for the Fourth district of Michigan, with headquarters at Grand Rapids.

People Blame Government for Reversals.

Dispatches from St. Petersburg state that the fall of Port Arthur has taken all the heart out of the approaching festivities of the Russian Christmas. It is even proposed to dispense with the illumination and decorations, which are always features of the holidays.

The churches are filled with mourning friends and relatives of the fallen heroes of the fortress.

The zemstvos and town councils of many cities, including St. Petersburg, have adjourned as a testimony of their grief as a result of the public calamity, but the unmistakable grief of the people is also accompanied by the undeniable mutterings against the government.

The papers are openly blaming the military censorship for keeping the public in the dark as to the true situation of the fortress, and allowing the surrender to come as a surprise. They are using this as a text to show the necessity for taking the people into the government's confidence, and are continuing their attacks on the autocracy whose bloodless lips repeat the same old lie whenever it is proposed that the sovereign should hear the voice of the people.

The Russ declares that the nation's well wishers could not tolerate the idea of peace, but adds that no victory is possible with disunion at home, and it insists that Japan is counting as much on the possibility of revolution in Russia as upon her own army and the strategists.

Therefore, it is vital to convince Japan that if the war is to be pushed until the enemy's resources are exhausted, the whole Russian nation will be solid, which, however, will only be possible by allowing the real representatives of the nation to speak. The renewal of agitation on this line in spite of official warning, is extremely significant, and may foreshadow the coming crisis.

It seems now to be definitely decided that Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's squadron will not attempt to reach Vladivostok at present. The decision has been reached that he will await the Pacific squadron, on which work is proceeding night and day, and several ships of which are expected to be ready for service by the end of January.

THEODORE THOMAS DEAD.

World Famous Musician a Victim of the Grip.

Theodore Thomas, of Chicago, the noted orchestra leader, died of pneumonia there early Wednesday, aged 63 years.

Death came to the world famous director almost at the hour of achieving his ambition—the establishment of the Chicago orchestra in a magnificent permanent home.

Thomas lived to lead his orchestra in but four concerts in the great new hall built by popular subscription. His last appearance was at a concert the day before Christmas. It was a week ago Saturday that Thomas first felt the ailment which culminated in his death. Apparently it was but a slight touch of the grip. Last Thursday, however, pneumonia developed. Saturday his condition was grave. Sunday he improved and Monday his physicians felt hopeful of his recovery.

ADAMS TO BE SWORN IN.

Colorado Democrats Will Carry Out Ceremony January 10.

A Denver, Colo., dispatch announces that the democrats have decided that on January 10, the date prescribed by the statutes, they will have Alva Adams sworn in as governor of the state. The oath will be administered by Justice Steele, of the supreme court. The hour and place for the ceremony have not been definitely settled.

Dead Girl Known.

A Colorado Springs, Colo., special says: The body of the woman found dead on Cutler mountain December 17, supposed to be that of Miss Bessie Benton, of Syracuse, N. Y., has been positively identified as such by a professional nurse, Miss Curtis, of Denver, who attended Miss Benton during her illness at the Albany hotel in the latter city in June last.

The girl is believed to have been murdered by a man with whom she was traveling, who has not yet been located.

England Would Settle.

A London special says: The government has offered Adolph Beck \$25,000 in compensation for wrongful imprisonment. Beck who is a Swede, and was living in England, was arrested in 1896 on the charge of obtaining money and jewelry from women under false pretenses, and later the charges were dismissed.

Get Six Months in Jail.

At Denver, Colo., City Detective W. H. Green, John Desere, Frank McMahon and Robert Goodman were Thursday adjudged guilty of contempt by the supreme court for irregularities at the late election and each sentenced to six months in jail.

Fire at Elmira, N. Y.

At Elmira, N. Y., a three-story brick building occupied by DeWaters Bros., dealers in carriages, harness and farm implements, and the Eastern Leaf Tobacco company, was totally destroyed by fire. The total loss is \$75,000.

Great Strike Threatened.

A Berlin, Germany special says: The discontent in the Westphalian coal fields has reached an acute stage and a general strike affecting 250,000 miners is impending.

NEWS OF THE WEEK IN A CONDENSED FORM.

Heroic Death of a Woman—Fatally Burned, Mrs. Reuss Puts Out Fire in Home and Saves Children—Desperate Struggle with Flames

Cleaning clothing for the approaching holiday and its celebrations, using gasoline for the purpose, Mrs. Joseph Reuss was burned to death in a terribly tragic manner at her home near Elgin.

Using an open pan of gasoline a short distance from a heated cook stove, the woman was suddenly covered with flaming fluid, and she attempted to smother the blaze that enveloped her body, cutting her clothing and leaping into her face and hair, she used up almost all of her strength. Quits and blankets which she seized in an effort to stop the fire were burned.

Finally despairing in her attempt to put out the flames, she ran out of the house, succeeded in reaching the water tank at the barn and dived into the icy liquid. With a hissing the water put a stop to the fire, but her clothing had been so nearly destroyed that the fall particles remaining dropped off into the tank, leaving the suffering woman afloat. Still courageous, however, she ran back to the house to put out the fire and save the children. When she had done this she dropped exhausted into a chair, where her husband, some hours later, found her moaning and charred. For a night and a day she lived in horrible agony, finally succumbing. She was formerly Miss Gertrude Eichman, of Carroll, Ia.

ROUSE FOR SPEAKER.

South Platte Men Combine and Defeat Rouse's Candidate.

George L. Rouse, of Hall County, was nominated Monday in caucus for speaker of the house by 52 members, and William H. Jennings, retired farmer, merchant and banker of Thayer County, was named for president pro tem of the senate caucus of that body.

Rouse and the leading officers and employees of the house were nominated at the session in the afternoon with fifty-two members present. The latter session was attended by 68 members and they ratified the action of the former and selected the remainder of the house slate.

M'GREEVY HOLDS A RECEPTION

O'Neill Banker Finds Many Friends Willing to Sympathize.

Bernard McGreevy had, perhaps, more callers to see him at the county jail at O'Neill Saturday than anyone else in the town. He says everyone appears to be friendly and that several have expressed their good wishes toward him. McGreevy at one time lived on a homestead northwest of town and many of his old neighbors called to see him.

No move has been made yet looking toward bail, but several offers of bail have been tendered. The date of the preliminary hearing has been fixed by the county judge to take place on Jan. 13th.

Hotel Burns at Hastings.

Fire from a defective flue was discovered in the new Denver Hotel at Hastings, owned by R. A. Batty and occupied by Capt. W. S. Noyes, at 9 o'clock Thursday night. The hotel was a venerable building, making it almost impossible to play the streams upon the smouldering woodwork, and necessitating heavy water damage. The hotel was insured for \$5,000 and is damaged to the extent of \$3,000, while Capt. Noyes' loss is about \$1,000, covered by insurance.

Charged with Perjury.

John E. Decker, manager of a large photographic supply house in Chicago, has been charged with perjury and is now a prisoner in the Lancaster County jail at Lincoln. It is asserted he swore he was a resident of Lincoln and then voted in Chicago. The trouble resulted from a divorce suit in which he desired a decree from Admie M. Decker. He is prominent in Chicago.

Preachers Hurt in Runaway.

While Rev. C. A. Mastin and President Elder Alexander Leonard of the Methodist church were out driving at Kearney, the horse became frightened and, turning suddenly, overturned the buggy. Elder Leonard had one of the bones in his right arm fractured just above the wrist, while Rev. Mastin was quite badly bruised about the back and hips.

Poultry Show at Fremont.

The Dodge County Poultry Association's annual show closed at Fremont Friday evening. The cold weather of the early part of the week prevented many poultry men who had already ordered their birds from sending them in and the number of chickens was much smaller than it otherwise would have been.

Has Electric Lights.

The village of Crab Orchard is now lighted by its new electric lights. A home stock company was formed, which put in a very creditable plant, and the lights have just been started. Within sixty days after the ground was broken for the power house the lights were running.

A. L. Button is Discharged.

At a preliminary hearing held in the county court at Seward Thursday, A. L. Button, of Plainview, charged with selling land without a title, was discharged. Mr. Button is president of the Barton Land Company, which has a branch office in Seward.

Sets Jail on Figs.

Otto Westlund was placed in jail at Louisville for drinking, and in the afternoon it was discovered that the jail was on fire, and as the marshal was away at the time and had the keys with him, the lock had to be broken, and the man was taken out nearly suffocated.

Preserved Watermelons.

Charles Slagle, a farmer living near Tecumseh, preserved a number of watermelons this season. At Christmas time they were just as luscious as though they had just come off the vines.

Gov. Mickey and Other State Officers Duly Sworn In.

Gov. J. H. Mickey and the state officers were duly sworn into office Thursday, while a howling gale enveloped the capitol building. The ceremonies were simple. At 2:15 o'clock the house and senate met in joint session, the governor's message was read and the officials took the oath.

The following were sworn in: A. Galusha, secretary of state; Peter Mortenson, treasurer; Norris Brown, attorney general; J. L. McBrien, state superintendent; H. M. Eaton, commissioner of public lands and buildings; E. M. Searle, Jr., auditor.

Gov. J. H. Mickey in his message condemned paid lobbyists, advocated economy and advised a general retrenchment on expenditures.

Brilliant and elaborate ceremonies marked the inauguration of Gov. Mickey and the state officers Thursday night. The capitol building was decorated from top to bottom in flaming bunting; ferns, palms and flowers were in all the offices, and there was an interminable receiving line leading up to Gov. Mickey, who was surrounded by his staff in uniforms ablaze with gold lace.

DISAPPOINTED OFFICESEEKER ATTEMPTS TO END LIFE.

Ex-Representative F. W. Ketter, of Douglas, Wednesday afternoon attempted to commit suicide in his room, at 1500 P street, Lincoln. He locked himself in the room and turned on the gas. He was disappointed over his failure to be appointed sergeant-at-arms of the house, a place secured by Buck Taylor, of Omaha. He was a member of the house two years ago.

A German woman discovered Koetter, Dr. Spethman was called and detected signs of life. Koetter was taken to the city hospital and an effort made to revive him.

Complaints of Loss of Stock.

State Veterinarian Thomas anticipates a heavy loss to stockmen through the prevalence of the cornstalk disease. Numerous complaints of losses are made to him. He estimates that the loss due to that source alone was \$500,000 last year, 20,000 cattle having died. Because of the very dry fall the veterinarian believes that the loss will be much greater for the current year unless the farmers take precautions to keep the animals out of the stalks.

Nebraska Bond Tangles.

Deputy Attorney General Norris Brown has been permitted by the supreme court to file application for a rehearing in the case wherein the law permitting state officers to give indemnity bonds is declared unconstitutional. This action, it is believed, will serve as a stay and permit State Treasurer Mortensen to present a security company bond and still legally retain his office. Treasurer Mortensen's old bond expired January 5.

Nebraska Sheriff's Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Nebraska State Sheriff's Association convened at the court house in Kearney one day last week. About thirty members were in attendance. A set of recommendations to the legislature was adopted covering legislation which will be of benefit to the sheriffs. The old officers were re-elected, these being John Power, Omaha, president, and Nicholas Reese, Lincoln, secretary and treasurer.

Building Boom at Papillion.

During the last year Papillion has enjoyed a building boom that it has not seen for a good many years, showing that business is in a very prosperous condition. Besides the many new residences which have been erected, these new buildings have greatly improved the town, and with the new cement walks on Main Street Papillion is very citylike.

Capture Goods on Men.

Chief of Police Franz arrested four alleged crooks at Fairbury Sunday night and found in their possession a lot of goods stolen from two stores, which they were trying to sell. One of them is known as John Ryan, alias Davis, and is well known in police circles. The others are unknown, but will be held for identification.

Bank Robbers Sentenced.

Frank Todd and George Dowd, the men who have been held in the county jail at Nebraska City on a charge of blowing open the safe in the bank at Palmyra, pleaded guilty. Dowd would not say anything about the robbery and was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. Todd was given seven years.

Church Dedication.

The Congregational church at Sutton opened the week of prayer by dedicating its new church. The new part cost nearly \$6,000, and is beautiful in architecture and has all modern improvements. Taking the old part and the basement together the plant is nearly worth \$10,000, all fully paid up.

A Profitable Cow.

A cow belonging to George Young, a farmer living near Baretstown, gave birth to triplets the other evening. The calves were well formed and of uniform size, but they only lived a short time after being born. The cow is 7 years old and so far has given birth to seven loads of calves.

Diphtheria at Shelby.

Florence Spencer, 15 years old, died at Shelby and the baby daughter of William Donaldson died also, both from diphtheria. For some time there has been no school or church meetings, a number of houses have been quarantined and it is now considered under control.

Farmer is Found Dead.

Charles Kahl, a bachelor aged 40, living twelve miles north of Hebron, was found dead in bed. Coroner Squires held an inquest and a verdict of death from natural causes was returned.

Loses Three Fingers.

While out hunting rabbits along the Missouri River near Plattsmouth with some other boys a gun in the hands of young Peters was accidentally discharged and the contents amputated three fingers from his left hand.

Probably Fatally Hurt.

Abe L. Lloyd, a young farmer, was probably fatally injured at Pickrell Wednesday by driving under a large beam over a pair of scales with a load of corn with the result that he was badly crushed.



One Hundred Years Ago.

The first benefit to the United States resulting from the war between England and Spain was the opening of the port of Havana to American vessels.

Stocks had risen 3 and 4 per cent in London owing to France's overtures for peace.

The exportation of corn was prohibited from the Swedish and Prussian ports.

The contemplated siege of Gibraltar by the French and Spanish fleets was decided on positively.

Napoleon authorized the Pope to invite all the bishops and clergy, who formerly took the constitutional oath, to abjure its obligations.

The Spanish Governor of Mexico sent to Spain for aid to suppress serious disturbances in that colony.

English ships captured a Spanish vessel with \$200,000 and a valuable cargo of indigo.

Seventy-five Years Ago.

Wine duties in Prussia were reduced one-half, as the vintage had been scarce the previous year.

A proclamation was issued by General Bolivar convoking a constituent congress at Bogota to form a constitution for Colombia.

Raised printing for the Mind was invented by Charles Barbier, a Frenchman.

The term "Philistines" was applied by the Liberal party of Germany to the Conservatives.

Methodism was introduced into Germany.

General Guerrero resigned the presidency of Mexico. The new government settled under Bustamante, the former vice president.

Fifty Years Ago.

The French Chamber passed a law authorizing a loan of 500,000,000 francs.

The cities of Brooklyn and Williamsburg, New York, were united under one municipal government and called Brooklyn.

A special message from the President was read in Congress, explaining his reasons for vetoing the river and harbor bill.

General Castilla defeated President Echegaray and entered Lima in triumph.

The English admiral Fanshawe was making vigorous efforts to stop the slave trade in Cuba.

Prussia decided to open its coasting trade to England.

Forty Years Ago.

The Juarez government of Mexico offered a large bounty to volunteers from other countries who would enter its service.

Hood, having been forced to evacuate Decatur, Ala., by General Sherman, who occupied the town, was being closely pressed on his retreat.

At a mass meeting of Chicago citizens a committee of thirty was named to devise methods of cleansing the Chicago river.

The trial by court martial of several persons arrested in Chicago for treason commenced at Cincinnati.

Thirty Years Ago.

Garibaldi refused the pension granted him by the Italian Parliament because of the low condition of the nation's finances.

A wage conference between anthracite operators and miners at Hazleton, Pa., resulted in a disagreement and a coal strike was threatened.

The Illinois Central Railroad Company refused to renew an agreement with the other roads entering Chicago, which had been in force a year, prohibiting the issuing of free passes.

General Sheridan assumed command of the Department of the Gulf at New Orleans and made plans to suppress the lawlessness in Louisiana, due to rival claimants to the State Government.

The Pin Indians were reported to be on the warpath in Indian Territory, and Vinita citizens believed the sacking of the town was imminent.

Alphonso XII. was proclaimed King of Spain.

Twenty Years Ago.

Earthquake shocks were experienced in Austria, Spain, and other portions of Europe.

A Pittsburg newspaper, after explaining who he was, quoted Andrew Carnegie as favoring socialism.

Earthquake shocks were felt in Maryland, Virginia and New Hampshire.

The Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Company inaugurated a sweeping cut in tolls.