

The CHIEF

Red Cloud - Nebraska
PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

Entered in the Postoffice at Red Cloud, Neb., as Second Class Matter.

GEORGE NEWHOUSE - Manager

JAPS TO CURB EMIGRATION

MIKADO'S GOVERNMENT MAKES REPLY TO SUGGESTIONS.

DENIES BREACH OF FAITH

Accepts Some of American Suggestions, but Declines Others as Incompatible With Dignity of Japan—Outlines Plans for Further Restriction.

Tokio, Jan. 1.—The Japanese government handed to Ambassador O'Brien a memorandum containing a reply to the suggestions offered by the United States government some weeks ago, whereby the American government sought a friendly way to help Japan in perfecting plans for the future restriction of immigration, thus effectively avoiding a possibility of friction over the question.

While the contents of the memorandum are carefully guarded, both at the Japanese foreign office and American embassy, the Associated Press has reason to believe that the memorandum is couched in the most friendly terms and that while it accepts some of the American suggestions, it declines others as incompatible with the dignity of Japan, and outlines plans for the further restriction of emigration to America.

The memorandum has been cabled to Washington, from whence it is possible a counter suggestion will be forthcoming, but it is intimated that Japan thinks that the memorandum will form the basis whereon the two countries will be able to reach a final and satisfactory understanding.

Officials of the Japanese foreign office, talking to the Associated Press, have said that the system controlling labor emigration, which will be immediately enforced, would effectually avoid complaints which have arisen in consequence of the mistakes of administration of the regulations inaugurated last spring.

While not desiring to shirk the responsibility for these mistakes, the officials of the foreign office point out that it would be foolish to charge the Japanese government with a willful breach of faith.

The Japanese government, having carefully investigated the details, has discovered the causes of the failure of previous plans and now proposes to demonstrate its ability to effectively prevent the emigration of laborers, who are needed in the development of Japan. The consensus of opinion of American residents in Japan shows confidence in the sincerity of the Japanese government and its competency to control emigration, as well as its desire to maintain friendly relations with America.

It is pointed out that its concession to Canada, limiting emigration to that country, is a part of its entire scheme of control, because Vancouver afforded an opportunity for large numbers of Japanese to cross the border into America.

DUN'S ANNUAL REVIEW OF TRADE

Finds Much Cause for Congratulation in Insolvency Returns.

New York, Jan. 1.—The withdrawal of \$125,000,000 from a few large trust companies, precipitating a season of hoarding and sending currency to a premium at a time when it was most needed throughout the country, is credited in R. G. Dun & Co.'s Annual Review of Trade, with having been one of the great factors in turning the year 1907 from its promise of new records in prosperity, to a closing period of financial disturbance that caused many plans for future extensions of business to be either abandoned or postponed. The restoration of normal conditions, the Review declares, depends upon easier money and a revival of confidence, both of which seem nearer today than at any time since October, when the stringency began. While failures were frequent during the last quarter of the year, the review points out that if the comparison is carried back to previous periods of distress, there is much cause for congratulation in the insolvency returns.

Brought is On in Georgia.

Atlanta, Jan. 1.—A bill was filed in the United States circuit court asking that the Georgia prohibition law be declared unconstitutional. Judge Norman has taken the matter under consideration. It was at first believed that a temporary injunction would be asked, but the lawyers handling the case decided not to do this. Consequently Georgia went dry today without interference from the courts.

RENT WAR IN NEW YORK

East Siders Have Organized and Landlords Make Reductions.

New York, Jan. 1.—The systematic campaign for lower rents by thousands of tenants on the lower East side began to show material results when many landlords announced that they were ready to make reductions. Some of the landlords are offering compromise propositions, but in the main the tenants are holding out for a material reduction. The rapidly increasing numbers of men and women out of work is an added argument which the tenants are advancing for a new rent scale. The United Hebrew Charities association announced that it would send out \$7,000 today to aid, in a measure, the army of unemployed people to pay their rents.

The work of organizing the tenants goes unceasingly on. It was stated at the headquarters of the tenants' organization that 600 big tenement houses had already organized to demand lower rents when the rent collectors call today. As there are already from twenty to thirty families to a tenement and five persons on an average to a family, it means that the landlords already have 77,000 people to contend with. Several labor organizations have indicated their intention of aiding the tenants. It is generally agreed by the tenant organizations that when tenants are evicted for refusing to pay the old rent scale they will be sheltered by tenants in the same house. The tenants demand reductions of \$2 a month.

HARSH WORDS FOR HARDEN

State Attorney Scores Editor in Pleading to Court.

Berlin, Jan. 1.—The hearing of the Harden-Von Moltke libel suit was resumed. At the opening of the session the judge questioned Count Kuno von Moltke as to whether he had resigned from the army as a result of the articles published by Harden in Die Zukunft. The count responded emphatically in the affirmative.

The state attorney, Dr. Isenbiel, then opened the pleadings and demanded the imposition of a sentence of four months' imprisonment against Harden. He declared that Harden had assured that there existed near the person of the emperor a group of men whose influence was detrimental to the interests of the fatherland, and which he felt himself called upon to disperse. Among the members of this group were Prince Zu Eulenberg and Kuno von Moltke. Harden attacked these two men and founding his accusation upon the mere word of a hysterical woman, Mrs. von Elbe, the former wife of Von Moltke, and upon statements made by her mother, Mrs. von Heyden, who was quite untrustworthy, he declared them to be possessed of abnormal tendencies.

FATE OF EXPRESS COMPANIES

Railroad Commission Considering Whether to Order Arrest of Officers.

Lincoln, Jan. 1.—R. W. Breckenridge of Omaha, representing the Adams Express company, and S. D. Adams, representing the American Express company, appeared before the railroad commission with additional information about the companies' business, ordered given in the annual report, but not heretofore furnished. The report is yet inadequate and it is now a question whether the commissioners, to secure the information concerning earnings, salaries, etc., will order the companies' men arrested. A fine of from \$500 to \$5,000 may be assessed under the railroad commission law for such offenses.

Druggists Exempt from Food Law.

Pierre, S. D., Jan. 1.—By granting a writ of habeas corpus to the application of R. F. Brown, a wholesale druggist of Sioux Falls, the supreme court completely overturned the contention of Pure Food Commissioner Wheaton, that the amendment to the pure food law of the last session required vendors of patent medicine to sell nothing of that class in this state unless it bears upon the bottle or box a formula of its contents. This was the construction placed upon the law by Commissioner Wheaton and under which the arrest of Mr. Brown was made. The court holds that the law in no way whatever is drawn to apply to druggists.

In Hands of Receivers.

Chicago, Jan. 1.—Receivers for the Chicago and Milwaukee Electric Railroad company and allied corporations were appointed by Judge Tuthill on a petition filed by Charles J. Monahan, a stockholder. Monahan charges fraud in the management of the properties, whereby A. C. Frost, president of the railroad company, is alleged to have gained control. Carter H. Harrison, Charles G. Dawes and Gordon Ramsay were named as receivers.

Knife to Lumber Charges.

Minneapolis, Jan. 1.—Lumber prices are down. Nearly everything in the northern pine list is cut from \$1 to \$3 a thousand. Lath is cut 50 cents a thousand.

NINE DIE IN MINE BLAST

FATAL EXPLOSION IN NEW MEXICAN COLLIERY.

DINNER HOUR SAVES SCORES

Explosion Shakes Country for Miles Around and Several of the Bodies Are Blown Out of Main Entrance to the Mine—Three Fatally Injured.

Albuquerque, N. M., Jan. 1.—At least nine miners were killed and three fatally and two seriously injured in an explosion of gas and coal dust at noon in the Bernal coal mine, at Carthage, Socorro county, N. M. Nine dead bodies have been taken out and, although the mine is still filled with gas, it is believed that no more victims remain in the workings.

The dead: C. L. Wilcox, an American mine boss; Juan Archuleta, Ignacio Archuleta, C. T. Nasterson, Thomas Archuleta, Angelo Ligorne, three Mexicans.

The fatally injured: Bernardino Vavaretta, Benito E. Cuchildessa, Max Walker.

All of the men had apparently been killed instantly and some of the bodies were mangled beyond recognition. Women and children are with difficulty kept from the mouth of the mine and the scenes when the bodies of the dead are brought up are most harrowing.

The explosion shook the country for miles around and several of the bodies were thrown clear out of the main entrance to the mine. Two men were blown 500 yards away.

A force of about fifty men is employed in the mine, and all but those who were killed or injured had gone to dinner.

PRINTER SHOTS EDITOR

Al Spink of St. Louis Fatally Wounded by Employee.

St. Louis, Jan. 1.—Alfred H. Spink, editor and president of the company publishing the Daily World, author of "The Derby Winner" and several other plays and formerly a sporting writer of national reputation, was shot and perhaps fatally injured last night by Victor Groves, an employe, following an altercation with William Spink, the editor's son. Mr. Spink was rushing to the scene of the quarrel, when Groves whipped out a revolver and fired two shots, one of them entering the editor's left shoulder and penetrating a lung.

Groves surrendered to the police immediately after the shooting.

It is alleged that Groves was under the influence of liquor, and William Spink requested him to leave the office. The altercation became violent, and Mr. Spink, in an adjoining room, rushed out to stop the noise. Why Groves fired at the editor in particular has not been ascertained. Groves is a printer.

Mr. Spink, who is fifty-three years old, has been in the newspaper business many years and has acted as special correspondent for the largest newspapers in the country in covering sporting events of national interest.

Pastor-Eloper Again Flees.

San Francisco, Jan. 1.—Rev. Jere Knode Cooke and Floretta Whaley, with their two-month-old baby boy, are believed to still be in this city. After leaving their Green street flat, they were given refuge by Eugene Martin, of 1265 O'Farrell street, who took pity on their helpless condition. When an attempt was made to see them at the Martin residence, it was stated that they already had left their temporary lodgings there.

Ohio Bankers Arrested.

Cleveland, Jan. 1.—Charles N. Schmick, president, and his son, W. Harry Schmick, cashier of the defunct First National bank of Leetonia, O., were arrested here by the federal authorities on the charge of wrecking the Leetonia bank. The assets of the bank were \$200,000 and the liabilities \$275,000. The federal officials assert that half of the assets consist of worthless paper.

Salt Company Awarded Damages.

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 1.—Damages to the amount of \$455,746.23 were awarded the New Liverpool Salt company by Judge Wellborn in the United States district court against the California Development company on account of destruction of property, caused by an overflow of the Colorado river, which resulted, it was alleged, from the construction of canal intakes by the development company.

Last Day of Powers Trial.

Georgetown, Ky., Jan. 1.—The case against Caleb Powers is rapidly drawing to a close. Major W. C. Owen made the closing argument for the defense this morning. Commonwealth's Attorney Franklin began at 1:30 and will have four hours and ten minutes. The jury will get the case for final consideration about 5:30 o'clock. Both sides are confident.

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