

## TROOPS GO TO COREA

Both Russia and Japan Are Hurrying Forces to Territory in Dispute.

## JAPAN IS PREPARING TWO DIVISIONS

Sends Soldiers South Under Plea of Having to Restore Order.

## RUSSIAN REGIMENT IS ON THE

Go with Orders to Protect Interests of Czar's Government.

## IS KEEPING THE POWERS IN SUSPENSE

Reports from France, Germany and England Indicate That These Nations Are Preparing to Guard Interests in East.

SEOUL, Jan. 5.—A detachment of thirty-five marines from the United States ship Vicksburg, now lying at Chemulpo, arrived here yesterday as a guard for the American legation. Another body of seventy marines will arrive tomorrow. The United States transport Zaphiro is also at Chemulpo, where Russia, Japan and Great Britain have each one man-of-war. Quiet prevails here, but the police are heavily guarded by the Korean army. The movements of the Japanese troops and fleet are unknown here. The attitude of the Korean government is unchanged. Solidarity as to what may happen is shown on the arrival of troops.

PARIS, Jan. 5.—A dispatch to the Havas agency from Tokyo today says that the preparations for the embarkation of two divisions of Japanese troops are continuing actively. It is believed they will be dispatched to ports in south Korea, to restore order.

Owing to the absence of details regarding the Russian reply, the officials here are careful not to express an opinion as to the outcome, but the general tone of the comments in official circles is slightly less hopeful. The most significant feature of a dispatch from Tokyo is the statement that Japan is hastening final preparations for a far more extensive dispatch of troops to Korea than at first contemplated. The government has now decided to send an army of 50,000 men, organized as two divisions, to Korea. This is more than double the strength of the expedition first contemplated and requires a large fleet of transports and extensive arrangements, which are proceeding rapidly toward completion.

Rumors are in circulation at Marseilles that a French naval division, composed of the armored cruisers Kiebo, Desaix and Admiral Alou and the turret ship Suffren, is about to receive orders to sail for the far east. The reports, however, cannot be confirmed here, but there is reason to believe that the naval authorities are considering the disposition of the warships in the event of a serious turn in the situation. This is due mainly to the present small French naval force in the Pacific, which is confined to two unimportant vessels.

Russian Troops for Korea.  
ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 5.—A semi-official dispatch to a news bureau from Vladivostok, and private information, state that owing to disturbances between the Koreans and the Japanese in Korea, the Russian Second Rifle regiment, at full strength, has been dispatched to Korea in order to protect Russian interests there.

In its reply to Japan, Russia made great concessions and hopes the proposals will prove acceptable to Japan.  
The Foreign office informed the Associated Press today that instructions had been sent to Viceroy Alexieff, on which the reply was based. The latter was drawn up in the most conciliatory spirit. Some of the Japanese proposals were accepted, while others were made the subject of extended observations and were met by counter proposals.

There are strong hopes in many circles that on Thursday of next week, the Russian Christians, the czar may be able to announce that peace is assured.  
The hurry on the bourse yesterday is explained by bankers as being due to the annual settlement operations, and they add that it was wholly uninfused by the far eastern situation.

Germany Concentrates Force.  
BERLIN, Jan. 5.—The widely separated vessels of the German far eastern squadron have been ordered by Admiral von Prittwitz to concentrate at Tain Chow, province of Shan Tung. This movement is considered here as probably relating to the possibilities of war between Russia and Japan.

England Lays in Supplies.  
CARDIFF, Wales, Jan. 5.—There was excitement on the Coal exchange here today on the announcement that the British admiralty had placed a big order for Hong Kong. Quotations for coal vessels advanced from 11 shillings 6 pence to 12 shillings.

American Marines Land.  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The Navy department is in receipt of two cablegrams from the commanding officer of the United States ship Vicksburg, at Chemulpo, dated the 4th and 5th insts., respectively, as follows:

After consultation with American minister we are of the opinion aspect of affairs very grave at Seoul. There is much fear of riot by Korean soldiers. I have completed arrangements to send the company of marines overland by railroad at the critical moment, also about thirty five men and field gun from this vessel at Chemulpo, if deemed necessary.

The second message is as follows:  
Two officers and thirty-six men left at 10 a. m. (for Seoul). The remainder of guard is prepared if any demand. There is little change in the situation.

What Japan Wants.  
NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—The Associated Press has been furnished with the following statement of the Japanese view of its present contention with Russia by one who is in constant touch with Tokyo, and whose knowledge of Japanese affairs and intimacy with prominent Japanese give weight to his opinion:

"The negotiations between Russia and Japan have reached a critical stage, although an amicable adjustment is still possible. Russia's reply to Japan's latest representations will decide the issue. While neither government has taken the public into its confidence, it is not difficult to surmise the general tenor of the views which the Japanese government would express. Something in the nature of an agreement between the two governments whereby they bind themselves to respect the independence and territorial integrity both of China and Korea would naturally come first. Such an agreement would probably include also mutual recognition of the special interests of Russia in Manchuria and of Japan in

## WANT CONVICTS RELEASED

France and Germany Make a Demonstration on Behalf of Former Haytian Bankers.

PARIS, Jan. 5.—M. Jean Joseph, the Haytian minister here, gave an explanation today of the question which has arisen between Hayti and France and Germany relative to the demands made for the release of the director and other officials of the National Bank of Hayti, charged with complicity in the issue early last year of \$200,000 in fraudulent securities.

The minister said:  
There can be no question of immediately releasing these men, because they are in accordance with a judicial decision issued under the government of the United States. The part of Germany and France in this matter is due to an understanding reached on the former bank officials.

## SEES SCHISM OF SOCIALISTS

Vote of Millard in French Chamber May Cause Division of Party.

PARIS, Jan. 5.—The Socialist Federation of the Seine, a branch of the socialist party of France, today voted the expulsion of M. Millard, the socialist deputy, from the organization because his vote at a recent session of the Chamber of Deputies against the proposal to reduce the military expenditure and thus eventually compel the disarmament of France. It is believed that the action of the federation will produce a new schism in the socialist ranks. M. Millard says he and his friends will remain outside the party, though they are members of the socialist party or of the socialist Parliamentary group.

## SENDS DELEGATE TO MEXICO

Consider First Step in Resuming Diplomatic Relations by Vatican.

ROME, Jan. 5.—The pope today signed the brief appointing Mr. Seraphy, archbishop of Spoleto, apostolic delegate to Mexico. Instead of apostolic visitor in Mexico, as expected. This is considered by the Vatican authorities the first step toward the resumption of diplomatic relations between Mexico and the Holy See.

Rev. Father Correll, now attached to the secretariat extraordinary of ecclesiastical affairs, has been appointed secretary of the new delegation to Mexico.

## MONTREAL FIRE KILLS TWO

Secretary of Mount Royal Club and Fireman Die and Woman is Injured.

MONTREAL, Jan. 5.—Fire today gutted the Mount Royal club, the most exclusive of the city. One fireman was killed by falling timbers and another was badly injured. A young woman, who acted as bookkeeper to the secretary, was also injured. The loss is about \$100,000.

German Editor Goes to Jail.  
BERLIN, Jan. 5.—Herr Zietzsch, editor of the paper at Chemnitz, has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for insulting Emperor William by saying his only function of state was to receive \$10,000 for each time he signed a law.

## PASSES CUBAN LOTTERY BILL

HAVANA, Jan. 5.—The house of representatives today passed the national lottery bill by a vote of 25 to 12. The measure will now go to President Palma.

## SENATOR HANNA AT CHICAGO

Confers with the Local Republican Committee Regarding National Convention Affairs.

CHICAGO, Jan. 5.—Senator Hanna, chairman of the national republican committee, attended a meeting here tonight to confer on plans for the national republican convention. Harry S. New, secretary of the subcommittee of the national executive committee, came from Indianapolis to meet Senator Hanna. The special committee, comprising Messrs. Hanna, Raymond, Graeme Stewart and Samuel Raymond, chairman of the local committee in charge of the arrangements, took part.

Mr. Stewart and Mr. Raymond assured Chairman Hanna and Member New that the Coliseum would be ready for the convention. The special committee, which in addition to Chairman Hanna and Mr. New, consists of Senator Scott and Mr. W. H. Schneider of Nebraska, will meet here February 5. Senator Hanna is suffering from a slight attack of grip.

## FAILURES OF LAST YEAR

Bradstreet's Reports 9,508 with Liabilities of \$154,277,000 and \$84,000,475 of Assets.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—There were 9,508 failures reported to Bradstreet's in the calendar year 1903, with liabilities of \$154,277,000 and assets of \$84,000,475. This marked a decrease in number of just 2 per cent. from 1902 and of \$8 per cent. from 1901. With the exception of 1903, the increase over which is 1.4 per cent. the year 1903 shows the smallest number of failures casualties reported since 1887. Liabilities, however, owing primarily to the increase in suspensions of financial institutions, but also because of the heavy number of manufacturing concerns suspending, were larger by 46 per cent. than those of 1902 and the heaviest loss since 1887. There were 56 failures involving \$3,833,300 of liabilities and \$2,832,197 of assets in the Dominion of Canada in 1903, a decrease of 12 per cent. in number and a practically identical total of liabilities.

## SHIP RESEMBLES ICEBERG

German Steamer from Liverpool to Halifax Has Rough and Cold Passage.

ST. JOHN'S, N. F., Jan. 5.—The German steamer Rhenania, seventeen days from Liverpool to Halifax, arrived in this port this morning with six feet of water in its hold. The vessel met with a terrible experience, having been buffeted by the gales during its entire passage. Huge waves swept the decks, the holds were flooded, the bulwarks smashed, the deck houses stove in and steam pipe damaged.

During the voyage the Rhenania was continually coated with ice, rendering it almost unmanageable. The shifting of the cargo caused a list of twenty-five degrees and the vessel was in great danger of sinking. On its arrival it resembled an iceberg.

## DEFECT IN CURTAIN KNOWN

Theater Employes Say It Had Failed to Work at Previous Fire.

## ALLEGED EMPLOYEES WERE INCOMPETENT

Head of Theater Employes Union Says Iroquois Stage Hands Were Not Experienced and Were Employed Because Cheap.

CHICAGO, Jan. 5.—Evidence showing gross criminal negligence than any previously developed was given under oath today in the fire department's investigation of the Iroquois horror.

Joseph Daugherty, who had charge of the curtain, swore that two weeks ago during a maine performance there was a fire on the stage and that when he attempted to lower the asbestos curtain it was stopped by the same obstruction, a projecting plank placed for a lantern stand, that prevented the curtain from being lowered.

The curtain manager declares that he protested at that time, but that no attention was paid to his warning. In his opinion, if the curtain had been run down during the fatal maine, the lives of many, if not all the victims of the disaster, might have been saved. It was only by the mere chance that a panic was averted as the result of the first fire. The skylight at that time, he said, was securely closed.

After the interview with Daugherty, attorney Fulkerson said the rumor of a previous fire at the theater had been investigated several days ago, but as it had been denied by most of the authorities, including Will J. Davis, he had been compelled to believe that the report has had no proper basis.

So far as I can learn," said attorney Fulkerson, "the fire two weeks ago was in a pile of combustible material back of the stage and was extinguished without alarming the audience. The fire curtain failed to work, and why this warning was disregarded is a matter that somebody will have to explain."

Daugherty's statement was made under oath. Speaking of the skylight on the day of the first fire, Daugherty declared that the skylights above the stage were closed, as were the ventilators between the skylights. The latter were designed to create an upward draught in case of fire. The ventilators were operated by a lever, but Daugherty declared no attempt was made to open them during the tragic fire which came a few days later. The ventilators were in perfect condition, he said, and had been operated a number of times before the commencement of the Blue Bird company. He could give no explanation as to why the vents were not opened when the fire broke out.

Recurring to the curtain, Daugherty insisted that it was not a light on the proscenium arch, but the five-foot plank which was used as a platform to sustain his "spot" light which obstructed the asbestos curtain.

Two important witnesses were discovered today in the persons of Charles E. Koester and Henry Zander, real estate dealers, who were passing the Iroquois theater when the fire broke out and attempted to get into the theater. While smoke was issuing from the cracks in the front door they were denied admission. They declare that the doors were kept closed by the ushers and attendants in the lobby for nearly five minutes after the fire was discovered on the stage.

Foreman Jones of the Fuller Construction company, said by witness to have smashed in the skylight of the theater after the fire, has been found. He was examined to-day in connection with the allegation that an attempt was made to destroy evidence. The Fuller company is assisting the fire department in every way possible by supplying witnesses.

David Jones of the Fuller Construction company was today formally charged with manslaughter. The charge is made by the police. Jones is alleged to have removed after the fire the skylight that prevented the flames from going upward through the roof and sent them instead dealing death through the audience. The police theory is that the removal of the skylight showed knowledge of the fastenings of the skylight before the fire.

After the police announced their intention of holding Jones on the charge of manslaughter, Jones' attorney succeeded in convincing Assistant Fire Chief Schuttler that the charge was unjustified. Later Schuttler announced that the formal charge had been withdrawn, but that Jones would be held as a witness.

The police later formally booked Jones on two charges, one of malicious mischief and one of destroying property without the owner's consent.

Unions Charge Incompetence.  
President W. O. Schardt of the Chicago Federation of Labor will tomorrow name a committee of union labor representatives to report on the Iroquois theater fire. The unions seek to prove that incompetent non-union stage employes caused the blaze.

"Picked up" men, paid \$1 a performance, while organization members got \$4.50. Particular stress is put by the labor union on the charge that the management of the Iroquois refused to employ high-salaried men to handle the stage lights. It is claimed that the man who worked the light that caused the fire was just learning the trade of theatrical employe—in brief, an apprentice.

Action by the Chicago city council having made the opening of any of the theaters inside of two weeks improbable, the managers of the attractions now here have begun their arrangements for the placing of their companies elsewhere. Henry W. Savage of the "Yankee Consul" organization called the members together and informed the members that a week's rest would be taken here at full salary. The Studebaker will remain closed until it can be ascertained what the revised company will require. The Ward & Vokes company at the Grand Northern will leave the city today. The Bostonians, to have presented "Robin Hood" this week at McVie's are devoting their enforced leisure to rehearsing. Mrs. Pike, who was to have appeared at the Grand, has not decided what will be done during the fortnight she was to have spent here. It is understood that Mr. Brady will send "The Fiv" on the road next week.

Arrangements for the Inquest over the bodies of victims of the Iroquois theater fire were made by Coroner Traeger today. Everything is now in readiness for the examination of witnesses when the inquiry begins Thursday. Since the day after the fire the sheriff's office has been busy serving subpoenas on persons wanted as witnesses. One hundred and forty of them have been summoned, among them being Will J. Davis and Harry J. Powers, real estate dealers.

Case Against Kansas City, Millionaire Goes Over Until Next April.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 5.—The supreme court today continued the case of R. M. Snyder of Kansas City, who was convicted in St. Louis on a charge of bribery, to the April term. This was done because of the illness of Attorney General Crow, who desires to argue the case for the state.

## DISLIKE ODELL'S RULING

Missourians File Brief Protesting Against Action in Ziegler Expedition Case.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—Governor Odell and the attorneys for William Ziegler today received copies of the brief prepared by Attorney General Crow of Missouri, protesting against the decision of the governor denying Missouri's application for the extradition of Mr. Ziegler on the charge of bribery.

Score of cases and decisions are quoted in the brief and Governor Odell is clearly informed that the Missouri authorities do not accept his ruling as good law and that they are perfectly willing to have the case reviewed by the state or federal courts of New York.

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## PROBES POSTOFFICE DEALS

Grand Jury in Missouri Makes Investigation as to Purchase of Sites.

HANNIBAL, Mo., Jan. 5.—Investigation of alleged corrupt transactions in the selection and sale of postoffice sites in Columbia, Moberly, Kirksville, Louisiana, Joplin and Nevada, was begun by the federal grand jury here today in special session. The investigation is being conducted by Judge Elmer B. Adams of the United States district court at St. Louis.

Evidence will be presented to the grand jury, it is said, to show that large sums of money were paid to control the location of postoffice sites.

United States District Attorney D. P. Dyer, his assistant, Horace Dyer, Chief Deputy W. L. Morse and Chief Deputy W. V. Nally arrived from St. Louis today.

In connection with the investigation United States marshals are searching for Dr. J. B. Vernon of Fayette, Mo., a cousin of Charles L. Blanton, formerly of Paris, Mo., who was seen by the Treasury department to buy the postoffice sites in the Missouri towns. It is said that evidence will be presented to the grand jury that will doubtless result in the issuance of many warrants before the end of the work. Postoffice Inspectors A. A. Runsen and W. T. Reid of St. Louis have been probing into alleged irregularities for several weeks, and they will report to the grand jury. It is said evidence has been developed that sums of from \$800 to \$1,000 were spent in each town in the selection of a postoffice site. Subpoenas have been issued for about 150 witnesses.

## PASSES QUARTERLY DIVIDEND

Holders of United States Steel Common Stock Get No Returns This Time.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—The dividend on United States Steel common stock was passed at the quarterly meeting of the directors today, but the regular 15¢ was declared on the preferred stock. This was practically what Wall street expected. At the previous quarterly meeting the common dividend was cut from 4 to a 2 per cent basis.

Chairman Gary made the formal statement after the meeting that the action of the directors was unanimous. The statement of earnings for 1903 shows a great shrinkage in the business of the corporation's earnings (December estimated), aggregate \$10,579,012, as against \$15,338,751 in 1902 and \$14,000,000 in the first nine months of the corporation's history in 1901. Briefly, business for the twelve months of 1903 was only about \$3,000,000 in excess of that for the first nine months of the corporation's existence. For the last quarter of 1903 net earnings (December estimated) were \$1,000,000, as against \$2,100,000 for the same quarter of 1902. Thus earnings for the last quarter were decidedly less than half of those in 1902. It is probable when complete returns are in for December, 1903, that the last quarter may show slightly more than 10 per cent of earnings for the same period of 1901.

## FOUND FROZEN IN THE SNOW

Man Supposed to Be George Fortune Apparently Fell from Train in Illinois.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., Jan. 5.—A well-dressed man with a heavy overcoat, supposed to be George A. Fortune of Kansas City, died at a hospital in Jacksonville last night as the result of a fall from a Chicago & Alton passenger train near Prentice. He was found in a snow drift and so badly frozen that death was inevitable. He never regained consciousness. Papers found in his pockets indicated his name and address, but his clothing bore the names of Chicago firms.

He is five feet five inches in height, slender, has brown eyes, black hair, a protruding upper lip, a broad nose and will weigh about 135 pounds. Two teeth, the middle one and the one beside it, on the left side of the upper jaw are missing. The body will be held pending identification.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 5.—George A. Fortune formerly was a bell boy in a local hotel. He came here from Chicago two months ago, and left recently for that city. His sister, Julia Kinley, lived in Chicago and he had a brother at Evansville, Ill. William Davenport is the name of a bell boy in Kansas City with whom Fortune worked.

## TRANSPORTS PREPARE FOR SEA

Five Capable of Moving 8,000 Men and Equipment Ready for Service.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 5.—Orders have been received to prepare the transports arctic and Mead for sea. This will make five big troop-carrying vessels that are being kept ready for service. They are capable of carrying close to 8,000 soldiers with their equipment for service in the field. The Sherman and Buford are now ready to sail on forty-eight hours notice and the Crook will be ready to put to sea within a week.

In addition to these five vessels the Dixie is coming to this port from the Philippines and should be in the harbor within the next ten days. Plans are prepared for carrying horses on this transport.

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## UNCERTAIN ABOUT WEBSTER

Nebraska Delegation Desires to Hear from Constituency Before Acting.

## WILLING TO HELP IF STATE DESIRES IT

Senators in Commenting on Dietrich Case Consider Ruling on Conspiracy Indictment to Be Good Law.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—(Special Telegram)—There was considerable discussion today in Nebraska congressional circles here over the announcement from Omaha that the boom for John L. Webster for vice president had begun on assumption of the proportions. Among some of the Nebraska colony here there is a disposition to look upon the Webster boom as mildly antagonistic to Mr. Roosevelt's nomination for president. Just how this impression came to be abroad could not be learned, but it has gone further than to have it intimated that behind Mr. Webster's candidacy lurks subtle Hanna sentiment. The Nebraska members of the congressional delegation, who have been appointed members of the promotion committee in behalf of Mr. Webster's candidacy, are at a loss to know just exactly what is expected of them, their only source of information being press dispatches from Omaha in relation to last week's meeting. The members of the delegation state that if it is sentiment of the republicans of Nebraska to put forward Mr. Webster's name at the coming national convention then they are for Mr. Webster heart and soul, but before deciding as to their position they want more definite knowledge than they at present possess.

Comment on Dietrich Case.  
Yesterday's ruling of Judge Van Devanter in the Dietrich case dismissing the charge of conspiracy, was the subject of much comment today among the senator's colleagues. If an honest sentiment could be obtained from senators it is doubtful if there is one who would go to the extent of stating that he believed Senator Dietrich guilty of the charges against him. The law in the case, with the exception of one opinion today, that Judge Van Devanter could have done nothing less than to have held the indictment for conspiracy as defective.

## BURKET AT RURAL ROUTES

Congressman Burckett is still waging a persistent fight for rural free delivery in Nebraska. He has always insisted that his own first district was the ideal spot for the service. It will be remembered that last summer the department turned down fifty or sixty routes in Mr. Burckett's district on the ground that there were not enough houses. Whereupon he came down to Washington armed with affidavits and evidence of mistaken counts by the inspectors. The result was a few routes were ordered by the department and most of these routes have since been established. But Mr. Burckett has not contented himself with having sufficient houses on his routes, and in order to present the state of Nebraska in the best light to the department he has prepared a few routes that may be a revelation to some, and while gratifying to Nebraska may be somewhat chagrining to other localities that are sometimes wont to hold their proud heads in contempt of the west. Mr. Burckett's figures of comparative statistics show that New York, Connecticut, Indiana, South Carolina, Mississippi and Nebraska. In the first place he finds that all the routes in Nebraska average 111 houses per route, but that the average number of boxes per route is seventy. Showing that only seventy-six people on an average get mail, and the rural delivery system. There is delivered into these boxes an average in Nebraska of 4,300 pieces of mail per month and collected from them 547 pieces of mail. No other state can show this amount either of delivery or collection.

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