THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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TO SAVE BALTIMORE

Prompt Action to Prevent Trade Advantages from Slipping Away.

TEMPORARY BUILDINGS GO UP AT ONCE

Hoped That a Share of Spring Business Will Be Saved.

CALL TO BE MADE FOR FEDERAL TROOPS

Militiamen Not Only Exhausted, but the Cost is Considerable.

BELIEVED OUTSIDE HELP IS NOT NEEDED

Authorities Have Offers of Financial Help which at Present Are Ample, as No Destitution or Suffering Appears.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 10.—The scene in stricken Baltimore began to be visibly clear today after a conference between Mayor McLane, a special joint committee of the legislature and a formidable delegation of representative business men. This conference was arranged with a view of meeting in a practical way the awful exigency which this community faces. At this meeting besides the mayor there were present influential members of the state law-making body, a dozen bank presidents, former Governor Smith, United States Senator-elect Raynor and several of the leading citizens.

The supreme question to be decided was that of calling on the national government for soldiers to take the place of the two militia regiments now doing duty in the burned district. The constitution of Maryland requires that no such request be made of the president except request of the state legislature. The legislative committee was present and consulted with the mayor and city officials on that point. It was shown that this is not a time for sentiment as to the ability of the state to take care of itself, and that the United States soldiers were needed and needed at once. On this score it was shown that the militiamen were already much exhausted, and that the militia on active duty is costing the state $50,000 a day.

The announcement of the legislative committee that it would recommend at once the immediate passage of the resolution was received with pleasure by the officials and business men present.

Effort to Hold Trade.

For the last twenty-four hours the business men of Baltimore have been aroused to the necessity of doing everything possible from keeping their trade advantages from slipping away. Merchants and bankers have been conferring today on this subject and the prevailing opinion is that it will require the greatest vigilance to prevent the deflection of trade to Philadelphia and New York.

It is believed the situation may be saved if the debris can be cleared away and temporary buildings erected within four months. That a large percentage of the spring trade will be lost is inevitable, but there is a set belief that the percentage shall be as small as possible. The opening today of the board room of the Chamber of Commerce and the receipt of quotations, the uninterrupted shipments of grain cargoes, the certainty of state aid and the notification by some large insurance companies of their readiness to pay 50 per cent on losses and the action of the legislature in asking for federal troops constitute a chain of incidents which have contributed materially to the restoration of public confidence and cheerfulness.

No Destitution Apparent.

Late this afternoon Mayor McLane reconsidered his previous decision in regard to outside help. He said:

The situation here does not justify such action. There is no destitution here as yet. I cannot tell what may follow. We have a board of charities, which looks after the city's destitute. This board is in close touch with all the organized charities. An appropriation is made annually for the purpose of taking care of cases of destitution; there are some funds now on hand, and it may be that the state appropriations may be sufficient to care for those in need.

Of course, it may be necessary to ask for outside help. I will in a few days be in a better position to decide on this. We have received about $7,000 from the outside and additional offers of thousands of dollars have been received. The money received will be put aside until we determine whether or not to ask for outside help.

Baltimore has taken fresh courage today. On all streets abutting on the burned district signs have appeared on the windows and over doorways announcing the temporary resumption of business in various lines. The pervading sentiment was well portrayed by Governor Warfield, who said today:

"Baltimore will rise gloriously from its ashes."

Building Inspector Preston was an extremely busy man today, owing to the clamor for permits by large business and financial houses to rebuild. To the Associated Press Mr. Preston said: "The spirit shown by those who suffered by the fire is truly remarkable. Without waiting to have their insurance adjusted they are ready and anxious to go ahead. I am compelled, however, to withhold all building permits within the fire limits for several days. The burned territory is too dangerous for any large force to work in just now."

It has been suggested to the city officials that in engaging men to help clear up the fire district that preference be given to men who were thrown out of work as a result of the fire. There are many thousands of those and it is practically certain that this plan will be carried out as far as possible.

The committee will also report in favor of an immediate relief appropriation by the legislature. Mayor McLane announced that he will appoint an emergency committee of representative citizens to act as an advisory board to the municipal authorities.

The night was marked by two new alarms of fire, the fall of a number of walls and conditions of extreme discomfort for the soldiers and policemen on guard, the temperature dropping about ten degrees and a keen wind blowing throughout the night. The weather conditions, it is thought, were responsible for the falling walls, the racking effect of the cold on the heated bricks and mortar aiding the wind in bringing down several of the ruins. The firemen were called out during the night by a blaze originating in the engine room of the lumber yard of William D. Gilleson, not far from the burned lumber district. Three companies and a fire boat responded and extinguished the fire, after it had done $7,500 damage. Later an unimportant blaze in the residence district again called out the overworked firemen.

The detachment of police who spent the night in the ruins guarding the safes in the financial district were far more safe.

Owing to the need of police to patrol

(Continued on Second Page.)

NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday and Warmer in Eastern Portion; Friday, Warmer and

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	0	1 p. m.	8
6 a. m.	—1	2 p. m.	10
7 a. m.	1	3 p. m.	12
8 a. m.	1	4 p. m.	13
9 a. m.	2	5 p. m.	13
10 a. m.	3	6 p. m.	12
11 a. m.	4	7 p. m.	11
12 m.	6	8 p. m.	9
		9 p. m.	8

"—" Indicates below zero.

ARREST IN SCHAEFER CASE

Man is Taken to Indiana Reformatory Charged with Killing School Teacher.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 10.—The governor's office was informed by Superintendent Whitaker of the Jeffersonville reformatory today that Sheriff Smith of Bedford had arrived at the institution with James McDonald under arrest charged with the murder of Sarah Schaefer.

If McDonald insists upon a preliminary examination he must be taken back to Bedford within forty-eight hours. If he waives a preliminary examination he need not be immediately returned. At the governor's office it is not thought that the evidence is very strong against McDonald.

Detective Reed, at whose instance the arrest of James McDonald was made, said today:

We base McDonald's arrest on his own words before the court of inquiry as to his whereabouts on the night of the murder. We have good evidence or we would not have made the arrest. The motive was assault.

The two points urged against McDonald during the secret investigation preceding his arrest, were that he refrained from telling the board of inquiry what he claims to know about the crime till a week ago, and when testifying he confused J. D. Alexander, who last spoke with Miss Schaefer, with Superintendent W. E. Alexander of the Bedford schools, although he said he knew both well. The detectives insist that they have evidence stronger than suspicion against McDonald.

JEFFERSONVILLE, Ind., Feb. 10.—Authorities of the Indiana reformatory refuse to let anyone talk to James McDonald, under arrest charged with the Bedford murder. With Sheriff Smith, Mayor H. Smith and Detective Reed, he arrived here today, heavily manacled. He walked in the gates erect with no apparent excitement. He denies his guilt. The officers say he will have his preliminary hearing at Bedford February 29.

SPREAD FEAST UNDERGROUND

Novel Banquet at Chicago Enjoyed Forty Feet Beneath the Level of City Streets.

CHICAGO, Feb. 10.—A feast laid on a table three blocks long and forty feet under the streets was a feature of a novel banquet participated in here tonight by 600 people, the guests for the most part being members of the Chicago Press club and their women.

The banquet was given to the Press club by President Albert G. Wheeler and General Manager George W. Jackson of the Illinois Tunnel company. The banquet was held in that portion of the company's underground workings lying on Jackson boulevard between Franklin and Clark streets. In the twenty miles of tunnels now nearing completion the company propdses to handle much of Chicago's freight traffic, as well as to operate a telephone system. A ride through three miles of the tunnel was given the guests of the banquet, the cars running by electricity, making an average speed of twenty miles an hour.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC STATEMENT

Showing of Increase in Operating Expenses Over Receipts for Last Year.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—The report of the Southern Pacific company for the year ended June 30 last was issued today. The total income from operations of rail and water lines, interest and dividends, rentals and all other sources was $90,683,436, an increase of $4,941,110, as compared with the proceeding year. Operating expenses, including $10,805,737 for maintenance and equipment, were $60,301,260, an increase of $5,406,560. After payment of rentals, interest, sinking fund provisions and all other charges, there remained a balance of $8,964,431, a decrease of $1,577,039. Of the total increase in operating expenses the report says a considerable part was due to higher wages, congestion of freight traffic and the additional expenses of moving traffic during the year in which a large amount of reconstruction was under way.

During the year 277 locomotives were changed to burn oil, making a total of 619 locomotives thus equipped.

AGREE UPON FIVE POINTS

Conference of Passenger Officials of Railways East of the Mississippi is Concluded.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—The conference of passenger officials of railways east of the Mississippi to the number of about seventy-five, representing the eastern, central and New England associations, which has been held under the auspices of the Trunk Line association came to an end today. The chief matter for conference was the adoption of rates for the St. Louis fair traffic.

It was agreed that, beginning April 25, round trip tickets good until December 15 shall be sold at 80 per cent of double the one way westbound fare, tickets good for sixty days at one and one-third of the westbound fare and tickets good for ten day for one westbound fare plus $2. The railroads will also run day coach excursions to return within ten days to New York at $20 and $18.

BODY OF MOORS ARE COMING

Envoy Langerman Brings Egyptian Antiquities for St. Louis Fair and a Native of Morocco.

BOSTON, Feb. 10.—J. W. S. Langerman, former United States vice consul at Tangier, but now a special envoy of the sultan of Morocco, arrived here today on the steamship Republic of the White Star line from the Mediterranean. Mr. Langerman's work is to assume charge of the exhibit of Morocco at the St. Louis exposition. He is accompanied by a native, who will act as an attendant at the Morocco exhibit.

Mr. Langerman said that 150 Moors would arrive later. Antiquities of great value were brought on the Republic from Alexandia, Egypt, for the Egyptian exhibit at the exposition. Mummies thousands of years old and relics said to have existed at the birth of Christ are said to be included in the collection.

CHURCH HOWE UNDER KNIFE

Consul General to Antwerp Submits to Operation for Appendicitis.

REPORTED TO BE IN SERIOUS CONDITION

Colonel Grigsby of South Dakota Wants to Raise Regiment of Cowboy Cavalry to Fight for Japan.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—(Special Telegram.)—Church Howe, consul general to Antwerp, Belgium, is a very sick man, according to advices received at the State department today. Mr. Howe has been ailing for some time and it is thought he has been suffering from appendicitis. A few days ago an operation was performed, the nature of which is not known at the State department. Today, however, Deputy Consul Haine cabled the department that the operation had been followed by acute indigestion and pleurisy. Beyond this the State department has no knowledge of Mr. Howe's illness.

Grigsby Wants In.

Colonel Melvin Grigsby of South Dakota, who raised a regiment of rough riders for service in the Spanish war, believes that with the aid of 3,000 rough riders Japan could conquer Russia. He is making a thorough investigation of the obstacles that would be encountered in carrying out such a plan and believes they could be overcome without the slightest violation of the neutrality laws. He today presented his plan for the consideration of the Japanese minister at Washington, but received no great encouragement.

Colonel Grigsby said: "I have during the past week received numerous letters from boys who were in my regiment during the war with Spain inquiring if there was any chance to see service in the war between Russia and Japan. They plainly indicate their desire to enter the service. This war would afford every opportunity for the display of that kind of fighting for which the cowboy rough riders are particularly well qualified for the reason that one chance for Japan to win will be to cut the Russian railroad and keep it closed for repairs.

"Of course, I know the law forbids enlisting men in this country to fight against a nation with which we are at peace, but a citizen of this country, without violating the law, could go to Japan for the purpose of enlisting when he arrives. If a ship load of such individuals happened to leave at the same time there would be no violation of international law provided there were no organizations."

Representative Burkett today recommended the appointment of Roy B. Cox, vice O. P. Stuart, postmaster at Murdock, Cass county.

S. H. Burnham, president of the First National bank of Lincoln, and Mrs. Burnham are in Washington visiting their daughter, who is attending school in this city.

Pay for Doctors.

Representative Hinshaw will tomorrow introduce a bill to pay physicians for treating Spanish-American soldiers while they were home on furlough. This bill is the outgrowth of the treatment given soldiers who served through the Spanish-American war from Nebraska, there being a number of cases in that state having been treated by local physicians and in many cases being called miles from their homes to treat returning volunteers. Mr. Hinshaw, realizing that the condition in his state would apply to other states, has conceived the idea of a general bill recompensing physicians called to administer upon American soldiers who went through the Spanish-American war. Claims of course will have to go through the regular channels.

Favorable Report on Land Bill.

A favorable report was made today from the committee on public lands on Senator Gamble's bill regulating accounts between the United States and the several states relative to the disposition of public lands.

Representative Kinkaid today recommended G. S. Beynom to be postmaster at Burwell, Garfield county.

Routine of Departments.

Rural carriers appointed: Nebraska—Western, regular, Herbert W. Kierscheunan; substitute, James Magee. Iowa—Clarksville, regular, Louis Matzdorf; substitute, Mrs. Matzdorf.

Postmasters appointed: Iowa—Diff, Appanoose county, Jesse M. White, vice Anna L. Benefield, resigned. South Dakota—Pioneer, Edmunds county, Charles C. Lundquist, vice, William I. Pritchard, removed.

The application of C. F. Irwin, A. S. Paul, R. S. Stewart, T. R. Stewart and George C. Boileu to organize the Farmers' National bank of Henderson, Ia., with $25,000 capital, has been approved by the comptroller of the currency.

CANNERS GO SIGHTSEEING

Elect Officers and the Canned Goods Brokers Take Steps Toward Forming Organization.

COLUMBUS, Feb. 10.—The convention of canners and packers spent the greater part of today inspecting the big display of machinery at the auditorium. The Western Canned Goods association election was as follows:

President, D. A. Frazier, Manitowoc, Mich.; treasurer, Ira S. Whitmore, Bloomington, Ill.; vice president, L. A. Sears, Chillicothe, O.; executive board, the president and secretary and treasurer and J. W. Cuvkendall, Atlantic, Ia.; Frank T. Stara, Waukesha, Wis.

The Canned Goods brokers took steps toward the forming of an organization, electing James M. Paver, sr., of Indianapolis, president; Fred L. Dulton of New York, secretary, and Lincoln North of New York, vice president.

OFFICERS SPOIL ELOPMENT

Take Girl from Train at McCook Who Was Enroute to Omaha to Wed.

WRAY, Colo., Feb. 10.—(Special Telegram.)—Vickie Finn, a pretty 16-year-old girl, disappeared Sunday, leaving a note tied to the reins of her brother-in-law's team saying she had left for Omaha, where she expected to work. She requested that her folks express no anxiety on account of her absence. A young man with whom the girl had been keeping company left Wray some weeks ago to attend a business college in Omaha and the girl undoubtedly intended to join him there. Word was sent to the authorities at McCook, Neb., and the girl was taken into custody there. She is now at the home of her sister in that city. She says she will not return to Wray. Her sister and a friend have gone after her.

PUBLIC IN RUSSIA KNOW LITTLE

Even Soldiers Ignorant and Indifferent Concerning the War with Japan.

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ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 10.—(New York Herald Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Some time ago a rather naive correspondent of an English paper caused merriment to those here who read his account of imaginary war sentiment among the lower class droski drivers and the like in St. Petersburg. That class knows nothing of the war and cares less.

I am quite sure if you were to ask a hundred droski drivers their opinion of the war ninety-nine would rather imagine you were poking fun at them or would reply: "What war?" The same is the case among the workmen of the lower classes—utter ignorance and complete indifference.

"What has the war to do with us?" they say. But you might expect to find some spontaneous sentiment concerning the war among soldiers. Not a bit of it. M. Majuschenski of the Petersburger Viodomesti had an inspiration. He said to himself "If the Russian soldier knows the cause of the war he will certainly fight with might and main. I will start you out to see what he has to say.

Accordingly, inspired with a strong desire to ascertain the amount of understanding the soldier had of the cause of the war in which he is likely to be called upon to take an active part, M. Majuschenski proceeded to interrogate one of the soldiers of the guard as follows:

"What do you think of the war?"

"The war? Do you mean with the Japanese?" replied the soldier

"Yes, with the Japanese."

The soldier said: "I know nothing about it; they say it will be war."

"That is not what I want to know. Ought we to go to war or give all the Japs ask?"

Soldier—What do they want?

"They want to take Manchuria."

Soldier—Does it belong to us?

"It does not exactly belong to us, but we have a railroad and two harbors there."

Soldier—Indeed!

The soldier remained pensive.

"Well, how is it, should we make war or not?"

Soldier—I don't know. It is as the people above desire.

"But what do you, yourself, think about it?"

Soldier—It is all the same to us. We have taken our oath to the service of the czar and our country, so we shall do as we are told.

There being nothing to be got from the soldier upon the basis of the Manchurian question, and as neither railroad nor harbors had the smallest effect upon him, M. Majuschenski tried a change of tactics.

"But the Japanese say they can beat us."

Soldier—They will beat us?

"They say that the Russian soldier will not face the Japanese."

Soldier—Not face him?

"Yes. They say they will beat and destroy Russia."

Soldier—Destroy?

The soldier retired and took up the defensive attitude.

"And the English say that the Japs can beat us?"

The soldier drew himself together, his arms moved nervously and his eyes lit up with uncertain hatred.

"Shall we give up Manchuria?" asked M. Majuschenski.

"Give up? No; let them come themselves and take it," cried the soldier.

RUSSIANS LEAVING JAPAN

Consular Representatives Make Haste to Get Out of the Country.

(Copyright, 1904, by James Gordon Bennett.)

NAGASAKI, Feb. 10.—(New York Herald Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Today several Russians are leaving upon the German mail steamer Gera for China. The French mail steamer Varra will sail from Yokohama on February 12 with the consul. It will subsequently convey the Russian consuls from Kobe and Nagasaki back to Europe.

Baron von Rosen telegraphed his compatriots from Tokio: "Pray do not delay your departure." It is reported that the Russian merchantmen Argun and Rossia have been taken into Sasepo and a later report says other ships have been captured.

Three Russian warships have steamed southward in the direction of Formosa. Submarine mines have been laid down at Dalny.

VARIAG IS A TOTAL WRECK

Gunboat Koretz Also Destroyed by the Japs Off Chemulpo Harbor.

(Copyright, 1904, by James Gordon Bennett.)

TOKIO, Feb. 10.—(New York Herald Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—During yesterday's engagement off Chemulpo the Russian cruiser Variag was completely destroyed by fire. A further message dated off Chemulpo at 2 p. m. says the Russian gunboat Koretz has been destroyed. Its crew, who escaped to land, have been captured.

A Seoul telegram says the Corean emperor is taking up his quarters at the French legation.

A Chinese man-of-war is expected at Chemulpo with troops to guard the Chinese legation at Seoul. According to a Tien-Tsin telegram the Russians are making every effort to obtain control of the railway from New Chwang to Shan Hai Kwan.

SHAW CONFERS WITH BANKERS

Secretary of the Treasury Consults New Yorkers Regarding Paying for Canal.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—Leslie M. Shaw, secretary of the treasury was in conference with a number of bankers at the subtreasury today regarding the governments payment of Panama canal moneys.

Definite arangements have been completed, the secretary said, to the end that there may be no disturbance of local financial conditions.

After the conference with Secretary Shaw the banks sent $12,000,000 in bonds to the subtreasury, which will be pledged temporarily to secure deposits made with them of government funds of out-of-town banks. These funds will be held only a few days, but the additional deposits of collateral have to be made in accordance with the law. The secretary made clear today the point that the banks would not be compelled to lose the use of the money through the transfer to the subtreasury. He said that the warrants for the payments would be drawn on the subtreasury here and that the demand for the withdrawals from the banks would be made simultaneously with the presentation of the warrants for payment.

CAPTURES TWO THOUSAND RUSSIANS

RUSSIA DISLIKES HAY PLAN

Thinks It Indicates Moral Support of the Action of Japan.

OTHER POWERS ASSENT TO THE IDEA

Best of Reasons for Believing that Germany Suggested the Move to the United States.

(Copyright, 1904, by James Gordon Bennett.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—(New York Herald Telegram—Special Telegram.)—The Herald's Washington correspondent says there was an air of calm dignity about Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, when he called at the State department at noon and was ushered into the audience chamber of the secretary of state. He had called under instructions from the Russian imperial government to inform the United States that Russia had been forced by Japan to declare war. Count Cassini handed to Mr. Hay a copy of a cable message from St. Petersburg, in French, which, translated, read as follows:

During the night of the 8th of February a detachment of Japanese torpedo boats unexpectedly attacked the Russian squadron in the outer roads of the fortress of Port Arthur. This attack being the beginning of military operations obliges the imperial government to take immediate measures to reply by armed force to the challenge issued Russia. Be good enough to convey this information to the government of the United States.

Following the delivery of this note, Count Cassini and Mr. Hay discussed the movement for the neutrality of the United States, but the former brought no indication of how his government would receive either that or the suggestion that the belligerents localize the radius of hostilities.

Count Cassini this afternoon gave emphatic denial to the statement of Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister at London, that Russia was seeking to have the powers mediate.

"This is absolutely false, and I wish you would express my emphatic denial of it without reservation," said Count Cassini to the Herald correspondent. "Russia did not wish war and Admiral Alexieff was directed not to initiate hostilities. But now that Japan has made this attack without any declaration of war Russia has no inclination to draw back, and the statement that she would seek mediation by the powers is absurd."

Count Cassini remained with Mr. Hay for only a few minutes, and it was impossible for any full exchange of views on the localizing of hostilities and the neutralization of China, for which the United States is at this time pressing. It is possible that there will be a discussion of these things very soon.

Not to Russia's Liking.

I am able to state on authority that Russia is not likely to regard the representations of America regarding the localizing of hostilities between it and Japan with entire satisfaction. It is possible that this will not be regarded in Russia as being at all in the direction of a better understanding between the governments at Washington and St. Petersburg. On the contrary, there is a feeling here that the action will be taken in Russia as furnishing official signs that the sympathy of the United States in this contest is with the Japanese government. Great stress has been laid in St. Petersburg on the apparent desire of many newspapers in this country that Japan go to war with Russia and public utterances have been quoted as showing that there was hostility to Russia on the part of a large class of citizens of the United States. This has been refuted by the United States ambassador, Mr. McCormick, who has said in St. Petersburg he did not believe an unfriendly feeling did exist here. It is expected that the negotiations now going on will be seized on as a pretext in Russia for again showing that there may yet be official cause for irritation.

It may be asserted that the concert of the powers, if it be obtained, will complicate the situation. Just why Russia fails to respond to the suggestions of the United States, which Secretary Hay says has been made from the friendliest motives, will probably appear in a few days. One reason may be the eagerness with which Japan has accepted the proposition, conditioned on Russia's acceptance. It is pointed out here that while the request of Secretary Hay to the powers as to the neutrality of China will be found when published to include Manchuria in a general designation of the Chinese empire and while Japan is expressing its willingness to "localize hostilities," the Japanese have forced a state of war by attacking the Russians in Manchurian territory.

Japan, it is said, has been pressing for the integrity of China ever since the Russian occupation, and the Russians, it is said, are bound to regard the United States as playing Japan's game at the very outset of the war. They probably will represent to this government at the proper time that the effect of this has been to make Japan feel that it had the moral support of the United States and has led it to the extremity of beginning the war in the night without a declaration.

Position of Hay.

The aim of this government in instituting inquiries among the other states has been to keep China out of the vortex of war. Realizing the different interests of the powers and without prejudice to Russia, Mr. Hay has sought to make the proposition as simple as possible. The point is that it is to the interest of all powers and to the world as a whole that China remain neutral and that the sphere of war be restricted as much as possible. It is felt that to the suggestion that China remain neutral no nation can object or can any nation if it do object justify its objections before the family of nations. In the first place, if China remains neutral the chances of China maintaining its integrity are enhanced.

In the second place Russia avoids the risk of having on her hands a war with China and is left free to withdraw a large guard from her long frontier.

In the third place, other nations, all of which have interests in China, escape the constant danger which would otherwise be threatening them of becoming involved in the controversy.

Mr. Hay's suggestion, when published, will be found to lay down the two propositions in the plainest language. He has not differentiated between old China and that part of the empire known as Manchuria and now occupied by Russia and almost certain to be the scene of war. Nor has he included the future independence of Corea. That was a question with which he did not want to involve the greater and more pressing question of the neutrality of China and the territorial integrity of China,

(Continued on Second Page.)

JAPAN SCORES AGAIN

Japan has added to its victories at Port Arthur and Chemulpo the capture of three transports, containing 2,000 soldiers.

At St. Petersburg there is the greatest excitement and expressions of loyalty are seen on every side. People anxiously await news, which is slow in arriving. The Transsiberian telegraph line receives no commercial business. A rumor of Russian victory on the Yalu river is current. The czar has issued declaration of war.

At Paris the officials deny cooperating with Russia in Asia, but it is reported that France will not endorse the position taken by Secretary Hay, as it might hamper Russia in its program during the war.

At London Baron Hayashi gives an official account of the engagement in Chemulpo harbor and says that Japan is preparing for a land attack upon Port Arthur. The British ministry will issue a declaration of neutrality, probably tomorrow.

At Berlin there is much speculation as to the whereabouts of the new Japanese cruisers and it is expected that without full equipment they may attack Russian vessels enroute to the far east. Much interest is taken in the report of the battles and the inefficiency of the Russian force is commented upon.

At Washington Count Cassini has presented the czar's formal declaration of war upon Japan.

At Tokio the report of victory at Chemulpo and the capture of Russian soldiers is received and sent out.

RUSSIA SHOWS BAD STRATEGY

American Naval Officers Comment on Result of the Naval Engagement.

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NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—(New York Herald Telegram—Special Telegram.)—The Herald's Washington correspondent says that Japan has won control of the sea by sinking and disabling eleven Russian warships in the three fights which have already occurred is the preponderance of naval opinion here. But the word has been quietly passed out from the Navy department that officers are not to express their views on these battles for publication for fear of wounding Russian pride. Nevertheless, it can be stated that Secretary Moody considers the result a mighty proof of the wisdom of this government's policy of constantly maneuvering its fleet, continually banging away at the targets and always drilling officers and men in an endeavor to always be in a state of perfect preparedness. Japan, according to the Navy department, has been perfectly prepared for weeks.

"Russia was quite unprepared," is the verdict of half a dozen high ranking naval officers, expressed to the Herald correspondent today.

"Was Russia's unpreparedness unusual and was the responsibility for it criminal on the part of the officers in command," was the question put to a prominent officer.

He replied: "It was not unusual. The Asiatic squadron is not the best part of Russia's fleet, for it is far away from St. Petersburg, and the officers grow careless. I cannot bear testimony to the truth of the report that the officers of the fleet lived ashore instead of on their ships at Port Arthur, but I do know the squadron is not as good as that Russia maintains in the Baltic.

"The result of these engagements merely shows the difference between a power like Japan, which constantly exercises its fleet in battle exercises, and one which lets it lie in port most of the time. Whether the carelessness which it seems exists at Port Arthur was criminal depends on the attitude of the Russian government."

Another officer, whose name must be withheld because he spoke so frankly, said:

"Japan now controls the sea. The Russians were foolish in allowing the Japanese to divide their fleet, for, as you know, the strongest Russian squadron was at Port Arthur, two ships were at Chemulpo and the remainder at Vladivostok, unable, on account of the ice, to come out and do anything. The squadron at Port Arthur has been reduced more than half in strength. The Russians may be able to make repairs there, but it will take a long time even if the place does not fall into the hands of the Japanese. This scattered disposition of Russia's fleet made any other result than the complete Japanese victory at Chemulpo improbable. The Russian fleet at Port Arthur was evidently weak or it would never have hung under the protection of the shore batteries, but would have been out at sea hunting a fight. Now the Japanese have an overwhelming force to oppose the Russian squadron at Vladivostok, and they are sure to capture the Russian squadron which recently passed through Suez for Asiatic waters."

CAN REPAIR AT PORT ARTHUR

Several Months Must Elapse, However, Before Ships Can Go into Commission.

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ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 10.—(New York Herald Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Statements made in London and elsewhere that Russia has no facilities at Port Arthur for the repair of the ships damaged by the Japanese torpedo attack are far from the truth. At this point Russia has a thoroughly equipped navy yard and dry docks and the damaged vessels can be repaired there as readily as anywhere. Just how serious the injuries of the three ships are is not made public by the authorities, though from the fact the ships steamed some distance from the point where they were injured before being beached it is taken that the damage is not vital.

The repairing of the hulls of ships of this class, however, is a task requiring considerable time, ordinarily several months under the most favorable circumstances, and before repairs can be started in this instance the ships must be temporarily repaired and floated in order to get them to the dry docks. Under the most favorable circumstances, therefore, it will be several months before the ships can again be put into commission.

Will Be at the Fair.

GUAYAQUIL, Feb. 10.—The government of Ecuador has decided to participate officially in the St. Louis exposition.

Report Says Japanese Off Corean Coast Take Transports Conveying Russian Troops.

RUSSIANS MAKE ATTACK AT CHEMULPO

Refuse to Retire When Requested by Japanese and Offer Battle.

SINK IN HARBOR AFTER SHORT FIGHT

Not Known Whether Sinking Was Due to Crew or to Enemy.

ONE VICTORY CLAIMED BY RUSSIANS

Unconfirmed Report Tells of Japanese Repulse on Yalu River.

APANESE VESSELS ARE NOT INJURED

Japanese Minister to England Says Military Operations Will Be Rapid After Landing of Troops on Continent.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—A special dispatch from Tokio today says the Japanese have captured three Russian transports, having on board about 2,000 troops.

Official dispatches from Tokio received by Baron Hayashi say the Japanese admiral, on arriving at Chemulpo, Corea, sent in word to the two Russian cruisers, giving them a time limit in which to leave. Shortly afterward the Russians came out and attacked a Japanese torpedo boat, which replied with a torpedo ineffectively. A general exchange of shots then followed. After a hot fire the Russians returned to Chemulpo and sank at the entrance of the harbor. It is not yet known whether their sinking was due to the Japanese fire or to the Russians' own action, but it is believed to be due to the former. The crews of both the Russian vessels sought refuge on a French warship at Chemulpo. There were no casualties among the Japanese and their vessels sustained no damage.

"We were slow in exposition, so we are making up for lost time by quickness in action," said Baron Hayashi this morning. "The engagements at Port Arthur and Chemulpo were merely in accordance with plans long matured. As soon as our forces are landed in Corea look for an important fleet action at Port Arthur. The Russian vessels are to likely to give up the advantage they gained by being under the cover of their land batteries. By going to the Chinese side, however, the Japanese fleet, by high angle fire, can drop in shells which should make it very uncomfortable for the Russian ships lying moored close to one another. Thereby it is hoped to drive out Viceroy Alexieff's forces. Possibly, like Admiral Cervera, he may anticipate fate and come into the open of his own accord. The present events merely go to show the utter uselessness of Port Arthur from a strategic view point."

Dealing with Secretary Hay's note to the powers on the subject of preserving the integrity of China, Baron Hayashi said:

The neutrality of China was first suggested by my government, and we received assurances that Chinese neutrality would be observed. Japan will certainly agree most heartily to Secretary Hay's proposition, which appears chiefly to be due to the suspicion that Russia might find a pretext for military action against China. If, however, the United States and other powers contemplate the neutrality of Manchuria, the case becomes very complicated. So long as there are Russian troops in Manchuria, Japan canot regard it as neutral territory. I scarcely think the United States, Great Britain or any other power would attempt to drive the Russians out of Manchuria, however they might insist that Manchuria is part of neutral China. So while we are anxious to assist in assuring the neutrality of China proper, we have every intention of waging an aggressive land campaign in Manchuria itself. Having resorted to arms, we shall probably go further than our modest demands made during the negotiations.

Official Report of Fight.

The text of the official dispatch received by Baron Hayashi is as follows:

On Monday a Japanese squadron, escorting transports, met on the way to Chemulpo, Corea, a Russian gunboat Koretz, as the latter was coming out of port. The Koretz took up an offensive attitude toward the Japanese vessels and fired on the Japanese torpedo boats. The latter discharged two torpedoes ineffectively and then the Koretz returned to its anchorage in the port.

Early in the morning of Tuesday Admiral Urik, commanding the Japanese squadron, formally called on the Russian warships to leave Chemulpo before noon. The admiral added that if his demand was not complied with he would be compelled to attack them in the harbor. The two Russian warships left the port at about 11:30 a. m. and a battle ensued outside the Polynesian islands. After about an hour's engagement the Russian warships sought refuge among the islands. Toward evening the Russian cruiser Variag sank and at about 4 a. m. today, February 10, the Koretz was reported to have also sunk, having been blown up. The officers and men of the two sunken vessels sought refuge on the French cruiser Pascal. There were no casualties on the Japanese side.

According to the official advices received by Baron Hayashi only four battalions of Japanese troops have up to the present time landed at Chemulpo, Corea.

It was announced in the House of Commons today that a proclamation of British neutrality will be drawn up at a special cabinet meeting tomorrow and that it will be published shortly afterwards.

The necessary instructions will immediately be issued to the authorities at the British ports, including those of the self-governing colonies, prescribing their conduct toward belligerent warships.

Home Secretary Akers-Douglas said in Commons today that the instructions would be similar to those issued in the case of previous wars, covering supplies of coal and restricting vessels' stay in port to twenty-four hours, except owing to stress of weather or necessary repairs.

Boats Sunk at Chemulpo.

Baron Hayashi has received official confirmation from Tokio of the destruction at chemulpo of the Russian first-class cruiser Varag and the third-class cruiser Koretz.

The cruiser Varing, which was built at Cramp's ship yard Philadelphia, in 1899, was of steel and unsheathed. It was of 6,500 tons displacement and its indicate horsepower was 20,000. On its speed trials it made twenty-four knots per hour for eight hours. It was 400 feet long, 52 feet beam and had a depth of forty feet. The Variag's armament consisted of twelve six-inch quick-firing guns; twelve twelve-pounder quick firers; eight three-pounder quick firers; two one-pounds and six torpedo tubes, two of which were submerged.

The Koretz was built in Stockholm. It was of steel, and was 206 feet in length, 35 feet in beam, 1,413 tons displacement and 1,360 indicated horsepower. Its speed was thirteen knots. The armament of the Koretz consisted of two six-inch breech loaders; one six-pounder quick firer; four