

WE CLOSE SATURDAYS AT 4 P. M. See, Feb. 21, 1904.

New Silks for Shirt Waist Suits

They are the height of dress elegance in Paris. The mingling of colors and tufts of color, the pretty shepherd checks in two and three colors, with a dainty polka dot or dash on the surface of bright color; the pretty hair, stripes of medium and bright lines, the blending of shades and harmonious combination of new spring colors, is the very latest in Parisian fashion centers.

HANDSOME NEW FOULARD SILK—'Special price.' Without doubt this number of Foulard silk is the finest value ever offered at this price. Purely all silk, handsome, rich luster, in all the pretty dots, small figures, etc., 50c a yard. OTHER FINE VALUES in Foulards at 75c and \$1.00 a yard.

THOMPSON, BELDEN & Co.

Y. M. C. A. Building, Corner Sixteenth and Douglas Sts.

thwart the speculators in those centers where they are trying to force down the price of the ruble.

The municipality of Khabarovsk, east Siberia, has drawn up a scale of prices for foodstuffs to prevent speculation during the war.

Alexieff Gets a Snub. TOKIO, Feb. 20.—Three hundred Russian scouts reconnoitered yesterday in Wiju and vicinity. They crossed the Yalu river, entered the town and scouted through the surrounding country. They then recrossed the river and rejoined their force.

CZAR OF RUSSIA SADDENED BY WAR.

Military Activity Ever Increasing and the Soldiers Fearful.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 20.—The czar, according to those who have access to his presence, feels keenly the outbreak of hostilities and sorrow at the burdens the war entails. Since the bombardment of Port Arthur he has not appeared in public.

When his majesty addressed some troops a few days ago and admonished them in these words, "Remember, your enemy is brave, bold and cunning," he could not disguise his emotion, and his voice shook very much.

Military activity is proceeding on an ever increasing scale and all is in readiness for the mobilization of the entire Russian army should that become necessary.

Port Arthur one of their main objectives, military men here do not believe that they will be able to effect and hold a landing there.

Stories of privations suffered by the soldiers on the military trains going to the east are greatly exaggerated. Covered freight trucks have been converted into really comfortable cars for the men.

REGRETS NOT HELPING THE BOERS

Russian Noblemen Look on Attitude of America as Retributive.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—"Russia will look on the present attitude of the United States to it as a visitation of divine justice because it did not heed the appeals of the Boers during the struggle with Great Britain," said Baron de Ferson, a Russian nobleman, cousin of Baron A. A. Scipion, Russian consul at Chicago, who is here on a visit.

"Time and again," continued the Baron, "did President Kruger appeal to Russia for sympathy and help against England and as often did the Russian government

February Sale

Infants' Wear

An Exclusive Exhibit of Infants' Dainty Apparel and Juvenile Lingerie.

The newest ideas in infants' wear find a showing here. The most approved patterns, the daintiest need-work and trimmings, the softest, finest materials and the lowest prices are characteristics of the display.

Your Critical Inspection

is invited all along the lines, whether on the Nainsook dresses with tucks and insertions at 50c, or perhaps on the beautiful hand-made garments.

Advance Showing

Young Men's, Boys' and Children's Spring Suits. Novelties in Girls' and Children's dresses.

Write for Catalogue.

BENSON & THORNES Lilliputian Bazaar

Phone 1781. 1515 Douglas.

RUSSIA TELLS ITS STORY

Gives Statement as to Proceedings Prior to Beginning of War.

WOULD CORRECT SOME MISSTATEMENTS

Official Messenger Says Japan Did Not Observe the Accepted Rules of Warfare in Opening Hostilities.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 20.—A Russian account of the events immediately preceding the rupture with Japan is published in the Official Messenger today, "with the object of rectifying certain statements from Japanese sources."

In this account it is stated that on receipt of the last Japanese proposals on January 16, the government immediately proceeded to examine the Japanese demands, and on January 23, M. Kurino, the Japanese minister, was informed, in reply to his inquiries, that the czar had entrusted the proposals to a special conference, the members of which would meet January 23, and that his majesty's decision probably would not be given before February 2.

On the last named date Emperor Nicholas ordered the preparation of a draft of definite instructions to Baron de Rosen, the Russian minister to Japan, based on the deliberations of this conference. On February 2, essential telegrams were sent to Viceroy Alexieff and Baron de Rosen, containing the text of a draft of a proposed Russo-Japanese agreement, and a statement of the reasons which prompted Russia to modify the Japanese proposals and general instructions to Baron de Rosen concerning the presentation of the reply to the Japanese government.

Forty-eight hours before the news of the rupture, Foreign Minister Lamdoroff notified M. Kurino of the dispatch of the Russian reply.

Japan's Action Unexpected. On February 5 Viceroy Alexieff notified the Foreign office of Baron de Rosen's receipt of the reply. February 6, at 4 p. m., M. Kurino, quite unexpectedly, handed to Count Lamdoroff two notes, notifying him of the rupture of relations and of diplomatic relations, and adding that he, M. Kurino, and his staff, would leave St. Petersburg February 18.

The notes were accompanied by a private letter from M. Kurino to Count Lamdoroff expressing the hope that the rupture of relations would be confined to the narrowest possible limits. At the same time Viceroy Alexieff, Baron de Rosen and all the Russian representatives at Peking, Tokio and the capitals of the great powers, were informed by urgent telegrams of the rupture of relations and of the issue of the rupture of relations.

Although the breaking off of diplomatic relations by means of the opening of hostilities, the Japanese government as early as the night of February 8 and during the night of February 9 and 10, committed a series of attacks on Russian warships and merchantmen, attended by violations of international law. The decree of the emperor of Japan declaring war was not issued until February 11.

Germany Accepts Hay's Plan.

BERLIN, Feb. 20.—The Foreign office several days ago instructed the German ambassador at St. Petersburg and the minister at Tokio to communicate to the governments to which they are accredited Germany's adherence to the terms contained in Secretary Hay's note on the neutrality of China, and both powers gave a general assurance that those were acceptable to them.

RUSSIA BARRIER TO YELLOW PERIL.

Press Asserts Arms Will Accomplish More Than America's Diplomacy.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 20.—The Viedomost publishes an editorial article on the pride shown in Great Britain and the United States in the pro-Japanese sympathies and asks what these will ultimately cost the "civilized" world.

Aside from the question of the "yellow peril" it is hopeless blindness not to see that Russia stands as a barrier between the approaching of the old, barbaric, degenerate Europe, and to desire that this barrier be swept away is absolute imbecility. It is clear that the progress and civilization. The same thing was said in 1896 about Prussia, and it was not suspected that a most expensive arms would be a continual source of alarm and only end when the political balance of Europe.

The law down to the cultured advance of Japan, but it brings to western nations the idea of endless wars. The far east is now a most expensive proposition. What China will do in a week or in months, when its war position is more clearly defined, is a matter of great interest to the powers on the American receipt, is one of those fictions which Europe is so used to paying for with a most expensive armed peace. Russian victories will project the west from the horrors America is trying to keep off by diplomacy. For Russia this heavy cross is its glory.

The report that Count Cassini, Russian ambassador at Washington, is to be recalled, is absolutely unwarranted.

PORT ARTHUR PROVIDES FOR SIEGE.

Japanese Who Attempt to Blow Up Railroad Bridge Hanged.

YIN KOW, Feb. 20.—By means of a special permission obtained from Major General Pting, Viceroy Alexieff's chief of staff, a newspaper correspondent succeeded in passing the lines under official escort and visited Port Arthur, which is closed to all civilians.

Only 30 per cent of the population remains at Port Arthur and many of these are leaving. The trains are still crowded with refugees.

The authorities have mitigated war conditions at Port Arthur by fixing the prices of foodstuffs. The prices of other commodities, however, have advanced. The authorities have taken possession of all food supplies in the stores which were deserted by Chinese and other merchants. They are providing for a siege by sending wheat milling machinery to Port Arthur, and claim that there is a sufficient food supply there for a resistance of two years.

FOUND AT 70.

The Power of Food.

An Illinois lady who never knew what health was until she reached her 70th year presents an unusually convincing case of the power of proper food. She says: "I am 74 years old this fall and I never had good health that I can remember since I was a child until I commenced to use Grape-Nuts four years ago."

"From the very first I could feel a vast improvement and now in four years I have gained so that I do all my own work, and I cannot say too much in favor of Grape-Nuts and what this grand food has done for me as old as I am."

"I have recommended Grape-Nuts to several and they all have been benefited by it." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

The power of proper food (which means food that the stomach will digest and at the same time yields the all-necessary nutriment) is almost unlimited and that's the reason 10 days trial of Grape-Nuts often works a wonder.

Look for the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville" in each package.

ties do not expect further arrivals. The Japanese fleet, which is sighted at intervals from Golden Hill, completely controls the gulf, and under the imperfect police system all incoming are treated as spies.

The repairs to the Russian fleet are proceeding. The cruiser Novik has been docked, but the condition of the battleship Casarvitch and Retvizan remain unchanged. Engineers say that the Retvizan will be floated in a few days.

Shippers are of the opinion that the harbor of Dabny will be unsafe for years to come on account of stray mines from the Yentse, some of which are reported by the last merchantman arriving at Port Arthur as drifting in the open sea. The Novikiki has suspended publication and only issues bulletins. The city is darkened every night, but Viceroy Alexieff's house is lighted, although the people know he is at Harbin.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 20.—A dispatch received here from Harbin, Manchuria, dated February 20, says the railroad is in working order and that the Japanese who attempted to blow up the bridge over the Sungari river have been hanged. Bands of chunchus (bandits) have been observed under Japanese leadership and are being pursued. Almost all the civilian inhabitants of Harbin have left and the remainder of the population is quiet. The movement of troops is causing heavy traffic on the railroad. All of the Japanese laborers on the railroad have fled and the Chinese laborers have returned to work.

PREDICTS SUCCESS FOR RUSSIA

General Wheeler Talks on War in the Orient.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—Major General Joseph Wheeler, after reviewing a squadron of the State guard at the Grand Central here, has delivered a brief address on his views of the war between Russia and Japan. He compared the strength of their armies and their resources and reached the conclusion that Russia is likely to win in the long run. "I believe that the Chinese organized and under good officers would make," he said, "as good soldiers as any in the world. They are brave and enduring and seem to enjoy a fight. There are 400,000,000 of them and a tremendous army could be raised there. Those people could make a march and occupy any part of Europe that they chose. However, we need not worry about that just yet."

Baron de Rosen, Russian minister at Tokio, and his staff have sailed for home, says a Times dispatch from Shanghai.

M. Pavloff, the Russian minister to Korea, who left Seoul a few days ago, remains at Shanghai awaiting instructions.

SPANISH ARMY IS BECOMING ACTIVE

Rumors in Madrid that Great Britain Has Designs on Spain.

MADRID, Feb. 20.—Two regiments of infantry at San Sebastian and two regiments at Pampeluna are held in readiness to start for the Balearic islands. War Minister Linares has also sent a circular to the military authorities ordering the recall of all soldiers on furlough and to remain with the colors men whose service terminates March 1. These measures caused considerable excitement, which was not diminished by the rumors which continued to circulate in spite of official denials, that this military activity was due to a warning from a European power to the effect that in the event of a continental war Great Britain intended to seize points on the Spanish coast.

Empress Is Alive.

PEKING, Feb. 20.—The diplomatic body was received in audience by the dowager empress today. The Japanese and Russian legation guards their commanders have agreed not to allow them leave of absence on identical days.

OHIO REPUBLICANS CONFER

As Result Governor and George B. Cox Are Not Senatorial Candidates.

CLEVELAND, Feb. 20.—A conference of republican leaders was held here today, attended by Governor Herrick, George B. Cox of Cincinnati and others, to discuss the situation in connection with the election of a United States senator to succeed the late Marcus A. Hanna.

At the conclusion of the conference Governor Herrick issued a statement saying that he was a candidate. George B. Cox also said he was not a candidate for the place.

DEATH RECORD.

Mrs. Anna Elizabeth Bille.

DAKOTA CITY, Neb., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Mrs. Anna Elizabeth Bille, more commonly known as "Grandma" Bille, aged 84 years, died yesterday at her home here, after a week's illness with pneumonia.

Mrs. Bille was one of the early settlers of this county, coming here from Denmark with her husband in 1844, to join their children who had preceded them from the old country several years previous. In 1887 her husband died, and since she and her son John have lived together, residing on a farm in Omad precinct until a couple of years ago, when they removed to this place. She leaves two sons and one daughter. John C. and ex-County Clerk George C. Bille and Mrs. John Johnson, all residents of this place. The deceased was a good Christian woman and a faithful member of the Lutheran church. The funeral will be held at 10:30 Sunday morning from her late home, Rev. S. M. Leaser conducting the services. Interment will be in Green Valley cemetery, southwest of Homer.

Dr. Adolph Oppermann.

AUBURN, Neb., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—News has been received of the death of Dr. Adolph Oppermann at Cordell, Okl. Dr. Oppermann was the pioneer physician of Sheridan, now Auburn. He located here thirty years ago, and for twenty-five years was the leading physician of this place. Some three years ago he removed from here to Cordell, Okl. He leaves a wife and two grown daughters. His remains will be brought here for interment.

Mrs. C. S. Johnson.

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Mrs. Clara, the wife of C. S. Johnson, the Burlington yardmaster, died at her home in this city last evening, aged 30 years. The funeral services will be conducted by Dr. J. T. Baird in the First Presbyterian church Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Johnson had been sick only a few weeks.

Mrs. Eliza Zade.

RED CLOUD, Neb., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Mrs. Eliza Zade died at her home west of this city today from pneumonia. The deceased had been afflicted but a short time before her death. The funeral services were held from the late home this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Funeral of Mrs. Daniel Spence.

HASTINGS, Neb., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—The remains of Mrs. Daniel Spence, who was formerly Miss Minnie Lloyd of this city, were brought here from Hanover, Kan., where she died Wednesday, last night and will be interred in Parkview cemetery tomorrow.

Mrs. Elizabeth Wells.

BEAVER, Neb., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Mrs. Elizabeth Wells died yesterday at her home in this city, after a prolonged illness of stomach trouble, aged 55 years. She leaves only a daughter.

A YOUNG LADY Sat by the sea shore watching the silver-tipped waves as they chased each other and were finally dashed into snow white foam on the sand at her feet. A young man who was a musician came walking by, who made his living by whistling tunes upon an instrument which he carried in his hand, and seeing the young lady, he fell upon his knees and said: "O fairest maiden, if you will permit me to plant one kiss upon those lips, I will whistle my most beautiful tune." The young lady said: "O fool that you are, you stand around and whistle for that which you might take." Don't stand around whistling and waiting when we are showing the finest selection of Spring Woolens ever brought to the city—far superior in quality and style than has ever been offered before at popular prices. We are better prepared than ever to turn out stylish, perfect-fitting garments and guarantee better tailoring for less money than any house in the business. Every garment cut, fitted and made by skilled Omaha tailors in our own shop—Suits to Order, \$20.00 to \$35.00. Our \$25.00 suits are fit for a king and can't be equaled any where. We invite you to call and inspect our stock at once and order now, before everybody comes in and says "Can I have my suit by Easter." Paris Woolen Co., "Omaha's Busiest Tailors" D. H. Beck, Manager. 1415 Douglas Street.

Orchard & Wilhelm Carpet Co. ORIENTAL RUG SALE WE have just received a very large collection of Oriental Rugs. These goods were bought direct from the importers and by taking the entire lot we secured them at about two-thirds of their regular value. In view of the extremely low price at which these goods were purchased and their superior grades and qualities, many of them real gems, we have marked them at a price to move them quickly as the amount is too large to carry in our regular stock. Beautiful rugs from the Orient and anyone interested will be doubly paid by inspecting this superb showing. SOME OF OUR SPECIAL PRICES 25 Hamadams, size about 3x4 40 Khivas, the most desirable for very suitable for halls, dining room or library, sizes 2x5, 7x9, 8x10, prices ranging \$4 to \$8 75 Belouchistan Rugs in beautiful soft colorings, sizes ranging 2-6x3-6 to 4x8, prices \$9-\$15 100 Anatolian or Ladik Mats, generally used as door mats or between large rugs, will be sold in our sale at \$3, \$4 and \$6 100 Large Persian, Turkish and Indian Carpets—Among these will be found rugs suitable for the lightest and most delicate parlor effect, to deep, heavy colorings for the library and dining room. This entire line will be sold in our sale at about two-thirds regular value Sale Commences Monday Morning, Feb. 21.

A Week of Remnants in Our Upholstering Department Everything must be cleared up to give room for new stock. In our upholstering section we have sorted over goods that have been sold down to 1, 2 and 3 yard lengths, which will be sold at exactly HALF PRICE. Other remnants for chair seats and pillow tops, at... Velour—Plain and figured, tapestry goods in small remnants, 24x24 inches, worth up to \$1.00 each, in our remnant sale, 50c each. Damaged Lace Bed Sets—We have 15 lace bed sets, worth from \$6.75 to \$15 each, bobbinet with lace edge and insertion. These are to be sold for 95c, \$1.50 and \$2.50 each. The best have battenberg center. Large pieces of upholstery goods, 24 to 36 inches square, high grade imported goods, worth up to \$5 per yard, in squares, 50c each. Silk damask squares, silk velour squares, Oriental stripe squares and hundreds of other useful goods, for upholstery, 25c each. All 24x24 inches square. Net, Silkolne, Swiss and Denim. Pairs Lace Curtains, Portieres, in fact everything in our Drapery Department that has been cut. Half Price.

Some Furniture Specials Just received a carload of steel, sanitary folding bed couches fitted with the link wire supported fabric, finely finished steel frame, folds to make a couch or bed. The kind that sells regularly at \$6.00. \$4.85 special, each. Closing out the remaining lot of sideboards which were bought from a prominent maker who discontinued the manufacture of same. These are all quarter-sawed oak. An exceptional opportunity to secure a high grade, finely finished, latest design sideboard at a saving of 1-4 to 1-3. Closing out prices on this lot of sideboards, of which there are only eight distinct and different designs, at— \$27.50, \$29.50, \$30.75, \$31.50, \$33.00, \$34.50, \$35.50 and \$37.50

Dr. BURKHART'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND OMAHA THE LIQUOR HABIT DENVER CURED in 3 DAYS... PAY WHEN CURED. NO HARMFUL AFTER EFFECTS. 220 So. 14th St. THE GATLIN CURE, Omaha, Neb. TWENTIETH CENTURY FARMER Fine Photographic Illustrations. The Bee—For all the News