SAYS RUSSIANS USED DUM-DUM BULLETS

SURGEON TELLS OF THE MALTREATMENT OF JAPS

The Note Regarding Chinese Neutrality Has Not Yet Been Received by the British Foreign Office.

San Francisco, Jan. 14.—Dr. W. D. Eastlake, who has recently been in the Japanese Red Cross service, arrived today on the steamer Doric. He declared that the Russians are using dum-dum bullets and that he had extracted a number of such missiles from wounded Japanese. Dr. Eastlake expressed great admiration for the hospital work of the Japanese surgeons and said that blood poisoning is rare.

Dr. Eastlake said four cases of maltreatment of Japanese by Russians came under his observations. In one case the eyes of a Japanese were gouged out before his death. He declared that the Russian prisoners said they had been told they would be tortured if captured. Dr. Eastlake was twice wounded, once by a spent bullet and the second time by a wounded Russian who he was about to pick up. The Russian stabbed him in the abdomen with a bayonet.

Dr. Eastlake is returning to New York, his former home. He has been in Tokio seven years.

TO FORESTALL ANY COMPLAINT BY JAPAN.

London, Jan. 14.—The Russian government's circular regarding Chinese neutrality has not reached the British foreign office, where to-day it was explained that the delay was doubtless due to the absence of Ambassador Benckendorff, such being usually submitted by him in person. Consequently the foreign office declined to give any expression of opinion concerning the matter.

In diplomatic circles the circular is regarded as a move to forestall complaints of Russian transgression of Chinese neutrality coming from the Japanese, but not as indicating any immediate or serious action on Russia's part in the near future. The very fact that there has been haste in presenting the circular to Great Britain might indicate that this is the correct view.

Baron Hayashi, the Japanese mihister, who has not received official notification of the circular, visited Foreign Secretary Lansdowne to-day, and they discussed the circular informally. Minister Hayashi, prior to his visit to Lord Lansdowne, said to the Associated Press: "The Japanese have not replied to innumerable allegations of breaches of neutrality and of international law charged by Russia since the beginning of the war, but the Japanese government probably will reply to this formal charge."

Baron Hayashi thought, however, that it was in line with other charges and similar to the "yellow peril." He said Great Britain, the United States and Germany all have great interests in China, and being well represented there know from their own agents whether it was necessary to interfere.

At the German embassy, a discussion of the Russian circular was productive of the opinion that China had had too severe a lesson in the Boxer movement to permit of another outbreak against Europeans.

At the Chinese legation it was asserted that China had maintained a neutrality such as few European powers could have kept in the face of most trying circumstances. "If China violated neutrality," it was asked, "what have Germany and France done? Why select China for such a formal charge to the powers? It is not a question of preference on the part of the Chinese population, for I assure you that a great mass of the Chinese do not favor the Japanese any more than they do the Russians."

TRIBUTE TO THE BRAVERY OF TROOPS.

Headquarters of the Japanese Army, Jan. 14, via Fusan.—Gen. Nogi, in addressing the army at a memorial service to-day presented a tribute to the soldiers who had fallen during the siege of Port Arthur. He said the splendid work of those who had given up their lives resulted in the successful capture of the fortress and he desired to share the honor with the spirits of those who died so bravely. The place of the memorial service was under the shadows of the hills where the life-blood of the heroes was spilled.

RUSSIAN WOUNDED IN TERRIBLE STATE.

Chefoo, Jan. 14.—(10 p. m.)—Midshipman Klisorich, the Russian officer who commanded a launch which reached here from Port Arthur January 3rd, in commenting to-day on Gen. Nogi's report of January 12th, giving details of the Russian property which had been transferred to the Japanese after the surrender of the fortress, said that the 2,666,800 rounds of rifle ammunition mentioned as among the booty were unloaded shells, relics of the Chinese occupation of Port Arthur and not fitted for use in Russian rifles. The 83,670 large shells, the midshipman said, were also Chinese, and were of no use to the Russian military. Midshipman Klisorich further says that the locks of the 35,252 rifles turned over to the Japanese were broken before the fortress capitulated.

Japanese who visited Port Arthur January 10th say that the Russian wounded were in a terrible state, owing to the neglect which could not be avoided when the Japanese entered Port Arthur. Everything possible, they say, is now being done for their relief.

WOMAN AMONG RUSSIAN PRISONERS.

Tokio, Jan. 16.—11 a. m.—Gen. Nogi has written to the governor of Nagasaki the following:

"As to the treatment of Gen. Stoessel you will be advised by the proper authorities, but it may not be out of place to point out that Gen. Stoessel is neither a prisoner of war nor an enemy, but a foreign gentleman who meritoriously served his country and moreover, so honorably performed, without unnecessary delay, the complicated task of transferring the forts and munitions of war of Port Arthur, that he deserves to be accorded full military honors, and I commend him to your consideration."

It is reported that a Japanes gendarme discovered a woman, about 20 years old, disguised among the prisoners brought to Japan. She was much embarrassed at the exposure, and is now locafed in special quarters.

THANKS THE KAISER FOR DECORATIONS.

Nagasaki, Japan, Jan. 16.—Gen. Stoessel has cabled his thanks to the Emperor of Germany for the decoration placed upon him.

Passage for Gen. Stoessel with his party has been booked to Port Said.

REPORTED TO BE ON WAY TO PARIS.

Naples, Italy, Jan. 16.—Lewis Nixon arrived here yesterday on board the Hamburg-American line steamer Deutschland from New York. His name is not on the passenger list. Mr. Nixon is proceeding overland to Paris, where, it is reported, he will hold a conference with a Russian agent regarding torpedo boats.

NO FURTHER TROUBLE IS ANTICIPATED.

Tokio, Jan. 14th—In military circles it is not anticipated that there will be any further difficulty with Lieut.-General Mistchenko's Cossack raiders. It is believed that the raiding troops were probably limited to those which attacked Newchwang and Ninchatiaum. There is evedence to indicate that the Cossacks were strongly supported. Steps were taken to block their retreat, but they evidently found it necessary to retire as swiftly as they came in order to avoid being captured. It is believed here that the Cossacks planned a dash on the railroad for purpose of intercepting Gen. Nogi's big guns, which were on the way to the Shakhe river, and also to upset Field Marshal Oyama's transport communications.

ACTIVITY AMONG THE JAPANESE INCREASING.

Russian Headquarters, Huan Shan, Manchuria, Jan. 16.—The activity of the Japanese is increasing along the whole front. They are attacking villages between the lines and are opening artillery fire at night.

The Japanese are putting Chinese troops in training. From an observation tower at Gaodyanzi, Russian officers watched the Japanese instructing Chinese bandits, who have been formed to regular companies to storm the heights.

The first Japanese reinforcements from the army which was besieging Port Arthur began arriving at Liao Yang on January 11th.

NOGI AND TROOPS ENTER PORT ARTHUR.

Headquarters of the third Japanese army at Port Arthur, Jan. 14, via Tientsin, Jan. 16.—The victorious Japanese army yesterday formally entered Port Arthur. Gen. Nogi with his staff entered first through the old town, and took his stand in the public square of the town.

WRESTLER HURT.

Vissar Dislocated His Shoulder and Had to Retire.

Chicago, Jan. 14.—Capt. Vissar and John Rooney each won a fall in their wrestling match here last night. Vissar dislocated his shoulder after the second fall and had to retire. The bout was contested under Graeco-Roman rules, Vissar getting the first fall in eight minutes and twenty-two seconds. It took Rooney but one minute and forty-four seconds to win the second on a three-quarters Nelson.

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RUSSIAN SHIPS IN FRENCH PORTS

PROTEST ENTERED BY THE JAPANESE PRESS

Claim France is Committing Breach of Neutrality in Allowing Warships to Remain at Madagascar.

Tokio, Jan. 14.—(Noon.)—The French are sharply criticised for permitting the ships of the second Pacific squadron of the Russian navy to make a prolonged stay at Madagascar. Heretofore the Japanese press and people, realizing the peculiar position in which France was placed, were not disposed to judge her actions too severely, but the Asahi to-day says:

"It is no longer possible to overlook the French non-observance of neutrality, nor her disregard of the obligations of a neutral. The coaling of the ships of the second Pacific squadron in French ports has culminated in allowing Rear-Admiral Rojestvensky to remain ten or twelve days waiting reinforcements, and in the use of Madagascar as a base of operations against the Japanese fleet now reported in the Indian ocean.

"Such action is little less than hostile and if France is sincere in her promise of strict neutrality the ships of the second Pacific squadron ought long ago to have been sent away or disarmed.

"Further temporizing for the purpose of rendering assistance to the Russian vessels must be considered a serious breach of neutrality."

Thanks the Germans.

Berlin, Jan. 14.—The Japanese government, taking cognizance of an impression that Germany has not observed strict neutrality, has sent a formal dispatch of thanks to the German government. It expresses the conviction that Germany has fulfilled her duties as a neutral throughout the war with exactness, and especially during the recent events in the war zone.

COASTS OF ENGLAND AGAIN SWEPT BY GALE

Number of Vessels Wrecked and Several Sailors Drowned—Ships Seek Shelter From Storm.

London, Jan. 16.—A fierce gale last night caused much havoc along the coasts of the United Kingdom. There were a number of wrecks of small craft resulting in loss of life. A French ketch was driven ashore on the Isle of Wight and her crew of five men were drowned.

All arrivals report terrific weather. The harbors are filled with vessels seeking shelter. No less than fifty steamers have sought shelter at Holyhead.

This morning the bitter cold is accompanied by a gale, and the first skating of the winter commenced in Lincolnshire.

ANOTHER FIGHT.

Scouts and Natives Engaged in the Philippine Islands.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 16.—Lieut.-General Chaffee, chief of staff, to-day received a cable message from Corbin, commanding the Philipines division at Manila, saying that he has received the following dispatch from Brigadier-General Carter, commanding the department of the Visayas, dated Tacloban, January 11th:

"Lieut. Avery, one Philippine scout and two natives employees were wounded in action at Dolores river on January 10th.

"Private Austin, hospital corps, was wounded and nine constabulary were killed in action near Maslog, Samar, on January 8th. Lieut. Avery and Private Austin arrived here to-day."

The officer referred to in the above dispatch is First Lieut. Morton Avery, of the Philippine scouts.

POLICEMEN ON TRIAL.

Two Constables Are Charged With Murder in the First Degree.

New York, Jan. 16.—Two policemen were put on trial for their lives, charged with murder in the first degree, in the court of general sessions in this city today.

Policeman Frank McLaughlin is charged with killing John Patterson, a negro night-watchman, on May 21st last.

Eugene L. Devanna is charged with the murder of George Derrick, a boilermaker, in the Morris Heights hotel on November 2nd last. It is alleged that Devanna killed Derrick while intoxicated when the latter tried to pacify him and lead him home.

BURGLARY AT LADYSMITH.

Cash Register Containing More Than $400 Carried Away From the Pretoria Hotel.

Nanaimo, Jan. 16.—Some time between Saturday midnight and 5 o'clock on Sunday morning burglars broke into the Pretoria hotel, Ladysmith, and secured over $400 in cash. Entrance was effected through a window in the barroom, and the cash register, weighing nearly 100 pounds, and containing over $400, was carried off. The burglary was the most daring in the history of Ladysmith, and was evidently the work of professionals. The police have no clue, but the theory generally accepted is that the robbers have made for the American side in a small boat.

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DIED IN ASYLUM.

Prince Carl Alexander, of Lippe-Detmold, Passed Away on Friday.

Detmold, Principality of Lippe, Jan. 14.—Prince Carl Alexander, of Lippe-Detmold, who died yesterday in his asylum near Bayreuth, was surrounded by all the form of royalty, by gentlemen-in-waiting and servants who showed him the most exaggerated respect, and kept up the illusion that he was indeed a sovereign. He took much pleasure in the maintenance of severe etiquette, read the newspapers daily, and seemingly kept track of the world's affairs and those of his own little principality, but he never permitted anyone to speak of them. He played chess often, and was fond of music and theatrical productions. The Prince was a calm-faced, handsome man, usually dressed in military uniform, and except for certain excess of stateliness, gave no outward indication that he was weak-minded.

The succession to the principality of Lippe-Detmold is in progress of adjustment by an arbitration court. The death of Prince Carl Alexander does not affect the situation unless the Lippe-Detmold diet interposes.

EXCITING SCENE IN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES

Session Was Temporarily Suspended—Premier Combes Sustained by a Majority of Ten.

Paris, Jan. 15.—(10.30 a.m.)—Premier Combes weathered another storm at a session of the Chamber of Deputies lasting until 1 o'clock this morning, and with a majority of 10 supporting the declarations of the ministers and approving the policy of the government. The result was reached after a debate in which there were frequent violent altercations. The majority, although not large, is considered sufficient to insure the retention of the ministry.

It was expected that the session of the Chamber of Deputies to-day would culminate in the overthrow of the ministry, and the floors and galleries were packed by persons who wished to witness the final struggle. The contest against the ministry has been slowly gaining ground. The principal elements of opposition were those combatting the policy of Premier Combes for the separation of church and state; second, those denouncing the government's collection of secret information regarding the lives of army officers, and those complaining of the tardiness of the ministry in passing a law creating an income tax. These various elements sapped the strength of the majority until Premier Combes today found himself confronted by rebellion in his own ranks. His speeches in closing the three days' debate on the policy of the government was a vehement defence of his ministry and a denunciation of his detractors.

"They are the same men who sought to protect Esterhazy, who glorified Col. Henry, and who now wish to arouse the army to the pitch of attempting a coup d'etat," said M. Combes.

The premier referred to the calumnies which had not been spared his white hairs. He wished time to complete the work against the religious associations, and if the ministry were retained, he said, it would proceed to consider the income tax, workingmen's pensions and the separation of church and state, but that the latter would be modified so as to avoid any spirit of intolerance. In closing, Premier Combes said: "I hope the majority will be maintained in order to carry out this policy. If there is to be another ministry, it will be one of reaction. The Chamber must choose between marching forward or lending itself to reaction."

M. Robet and M. Bos attacked the ministry, the latter declaring that M. Combes's policy was one of falsehood. An indescribable tumult followed. The Socialists endeavored to scale the benches to attack members on the opposite side of the Chamber, and amid cries of "traitor, coward, assassin," the president temporarily suspended the session.

The violent scenes were renewed when the session resumed its sitting, and a preliminary vote showed the government had a majority of 14. The decisive vote was taken on a motion of M. Martin, approving the declaration and programme of the government, and was adopted by a vote of 289 to 279.

TRAGEDY ON STEAMER.

German Coal Trimmer Is Charged With Murder.

New York, Jan. 14.—Charged with murder on the high seas, a German coal trimmer named Baumann was brought here in irons on the British steamer Cearcanse, which arrived during the night from Para and Barbados. He was given into custody of the British consul at this port and will be sent to England for trial.

According to the report made by Captain Couch, of the Cearcanse, when two days out from Barbados, Baumann got into an argument with another coal trimmer named Maguire. Hot words were followed by blows and Baumann was getting the worst of it, when it is said he drew a knife and plunged it into Maguire's stomach. The wounded man died within a few minutes. His burial took place at sea.

NARROW ESCAPE.

Man Attempted to Shoot Gen. Trepoff, Formerly Chief of Moscow Police.

Moscow, Jan. 16.—The man who attempted last night to shoot Gen. Trepoff, recently removed as chief of police, was seized by the railway station hands and quickly imprisoned. He refused to reveal his identity or make any statement. Gen. Trepoff had been bidding farewell to Grand Duke Sergius, whose train was just starting.

When the general reached the doorway and was about to alight, his assailant fired three shots at close range. Two bullets passed into the car and struck a notice board in the corridor, the third shot hit the door beside Trepoff.

NO DOMINION EXHIBITION THIS YEAR

DECISION REACHED BY FEDERAL CABINET

In 1906 the Claims of the Provinces Desiring the Grant Will Be Considered.

Ottawa, Jan. 16.—There will be no Dominion exhibition in 1905. At a meeting of the cabinet on Saturday the question of voting $50,000 in aid of a Dominion exhibition was fully considered, and the above decision was arrived at.

The government recognizes that having given grants to Ontario and Manitoba, something had to be done for the other provinces. But it is considered inadvisable to have a Dominion exhibition this year. The provinces of Nova Scotia and British Columbia are applicants for the grant, and in the year 1906 the claims of one of these provinces will be considered.

Debate on the Address.

The debate on the address commenced at the opening of the House to-day. Mr. MacDonald, Pictou, N. S., in moving the address, spoke of the cordial welcome extended to the Governor-General. He said the speech from the throne was optimistic. It was full of new things, new governor-general, new parliament, new province. Referring to Canadian trade he said all parties wished cordial relations to exist between Canada and the States, yet they agreed with the Premier, that the time had arrived when the Dominion would not send any more delegations to Washington looking for trade. The outlook for Canada was continental, not provincial. Referring to Imperial relations he said Canada was going on with the navy on proper lines, namely, that when Canada spent money she would oversee the expenditures. Canada was willing to make sacrifices, but it was proper in doing so that she should retain control of the outlay. He spoke enthusiastically of the transcontinental railway and the great development of the country under Liberal rule. Mr. Parent, Montmorency, seconded the address.

Mr. Foster followed, and was replied to by the Premier.

INVESTS IN CHINA.

J. Pierpont Morgan Buys Interests of King Leopold in the Canton-Hankow Railway.

Paris, Jan. 14.—Information from Brussels reaching the highest quarters here, shows it is the extensive interests of King Leopold in the Canton-Hankow railroad which have passed into the hands of J. Pierpont Morgan of New York.

Negotiations on the subject had been going on for some time as it was contemplated to combine French, Belgian and American interests so as to eventually carve the Franco-Belgian concession for a line from Pekin to Hankow, thus making a continuous line from Pekin to Canton, over 2,500 miles from north to south through the heart of populous China.

The extent of this project is compared by those familiar with the negotiations with the transcontinental lines connecting New York and San Francisco. That portion of the project relating to Pekin and Hankow is still in abeyance, but the French view appears to be favorable to combine the interests so as to make a continuous route from the capital to the great emporium in the south. That portion relating to the Hankow-Canton railway is considered to have been closed by the transference of the interests, of which the personal holdings of King Leopold make up the largest part, to Mr. Morgan. This branch of the negotiations was conducted at Brussels.

The concession of the Hankow-Canton railway was originally American and then passed under Belgian control. The line is about 1,200 miles long, and the extension to Pekin will be about 1,600 miles, a total of 2,800 miles without counting the extensive spurs toward the Tientsin, Kio Chu and Shanghai valleys.

Reports from China show there is much native agitation against foreign railway enterprises. The authorities here fear this may interfere with the proper development of French, Belgian and American interests. The native opposition is not confined to the ignorant classes. It includes Chinese capitalists who are interested in the earnings of the railroads. These have combined with the Portuguese on the line from Canton to Macao. They recently held a violent meeting in a Buddhist temple, Canton, for the purpose of opposing foreign control of the railroads. The official reports showing the cancellation of the British concession for a railroad from Swatow to Chao-Chou and its reissuance to Japanese is cited as another evidence of the nation's opposition to European and American railroad development.

A curious feature is that the Chinese capitalists do not wish for entire control of the railroads, desiring sufficient foreign participants to insure foreign governments preventing the extortion of Chinese officials. The French authorities are seeking to overcome the native opposition so as to permit a realization of the French branch of the extension projects.

FIRE IN HOSPITAL.

Flames Caused Damaged Estimated at One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars.

Montreal, Jan. 14.—Great excitement prevailed in the city this morning when it was discovered that the Royal Victoria hospital, situated on the brow of Mount Royal, was afire. Fortunately the firemen were able to confine the flames to the centre part of the building. The fire had broken out in the kitchen, but the flames were not under control until damage to the extent of $150,000 had been done. There was no necessity for removing the patients.

THE MISSING CHILDREN.

Japanese Says He Saw Girl on Railway Track Last Tuesday.

Nanaimo, Jan. 16.—The Japanese who saw the missing children on Tuesday last was arrested at Ladysmith this morning, having arrived there from Union Bay on the coal hulk Japan. He says he remembers passing the children on the track on Tuesday last, but beyond that knows nothing. The search party has just come in, reporting no success.

RUN ON BANK.

Officials Say They Are in Position to Pay Depositors Full Amount of Accounts.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Jan. 16.—Rumors as to the insolvency of the Bank of Suspension Bridge resulted in a run on that bank to-day, a couple of hundred depositors being on hand at the opening of the institution to withdraw their money. The officers of the bank state that they are in a position to pay every depositor the full amount of their accounts. The Power City bank deposited $200,000 with the Bank of Suspension Bridge during the morning, which had a quietening effect on the excited depositors.

It is said the origin of the rumor in reference to the bank's insolvency was the result of the institution remaining open after banking hours on Friday to cash cheques of the Lehigh Valley railroad employees who had received their month's pay late that afternoon. Attorney Cary made a statement to the depositors to the effect that President Howard, of the Bank of Niagara, with Louis Silberg and himself, as a committee, had made an examination of the bank's books and papers and had found that they were in a position to meet every demand upon them.

A RUGBY TEAM TO TOUR AUSTRALIA

ARRANGEMENTS ARE NEARLY COMPLETED

Strongest Aggregation Possible Will Be Selected—Some of Those Who Will Go.

A representative British Columbia Rugby team will make a tour of Australia this year. The negotiations between the Victoria and Vancouver clubs and the Australian Rugby unions have advanced to such an extent that the trip is now practically assured. R. W. Woodward, of the Terminal City Association, has the arrangements in hand, having been in communication with clubs of the southern colony for months. Recently he received a bona fide offer to pay all travelling expenses of a touring Canadian fifteen. Therefore the players composing the British Columbia team, who will be selected from Victoria and Vancouver, are to be put to no further expense than the loss of time necessary to make the trip.

It is understood that Mr. Woodward is waiting for final word before selecting the team, arranging a date for departure and attending to the many other preparations entailed in managing a tour of such an extent. In fact so sure are those interested that a satisfactory agreement will be reached between British Columbia and Australia that they have already commenced selecting the team. Word has been received by five Victoria players to hold themselves in readiness to join the team, when called upon. They are J. E. Cornwall, H. and A. Gillespie, K. A. Scholefield and G. C. Barnacle. All of these men, it is stated, are quite willing to become members of the British Columbia fifteen and accompany that team in a tour of the Antipodes.

Of course it is not yet possible to obtain the line-up of the fifteen or even an outline of the arrangements likely to be made in that direction. There is no doubt, however, that it will consist of the local players mentioned, and the best of the Vancouver champion team. It is understood, also, that the team will be organized at least a month before leaving for the purpose of playing a number of practice games in Vancouver and Victoria. In this way the players will become acquainted with each other and able to play a strong combination game.

All acquainted with the Victoria players referred to will acknowledge that those who selected them know their business. Each man is strong in every department of the game, and may be depended upon to do credit to Victoria in their struggles with Australian stalwarts. A faster forward or a more alert three-quarter man than J. Cornwall would be difficult to find. The Gillespies have established a reputation for speed and reliability, while Ken. Scholefield cannot be excelled as a three-quarter. While acting as Victoria's representatives on the All-Canadian team, which toured England some years ago, Messrs. Gillespie (A.) and Scholefield proved able to hold their own against Old Country cracks, and their performances were referred to by the press repeatedly. Mr. Barnacle is a comparatively new player to Victorians. He is a typical footballer, strongly built and standing over six feet. Since his arrival here he has played among the forwards, proving a decided acquisition to the Victoria team. There is no doubt that he will be a valuable addition to the British Columbia team.

Nothing is settled as to the date of the departure of the British Columbia boys for the south. According to present indications, however, it appears likely that they will leave some time during April or May. The Australian football season commences about then, and the Rugby union is anxious to make the British Columbia team a feature. No word has been received as to the cities to be visited, all these arrangements being in the hands of the management of the southern union. But, from what can be gathered, the British Columbians will call at almost every city which boasts of a team of Rugby players. Therefore, they are expected to be away all summer.

ADMIRALTY ENGAGE THE PENTHESILEA

SHIP LOADS NAVAL STORES AT ESQUIMALT

Naval Defence Will Be Discussed at Colonial Conference—Report About Canteen Sale.

Not all the stores in the Esquimalt naval yard, to be sent away, are to be forwarded to Hongkong. Probably half, if not more, will be shipped to London, Eng. The British ship Penthesilea, which has been in Esquimalt for the last few weeks awaiting a charter, has been engaged by the Imperial authorities, and towards the end of February will leave with a full cargo of naval supplies. She was chartered last week for the purpose, the rate being not announced, and will immediately commence filling her holds at the naval yard.

The freight which the ship is to carry will consist of a miscellaneous lot of goods, including considerable explosives and some ordnance of a kind not required for use at Hongkong. Three scow loads of heavy guns and other material have already gone forward to that port from Esquimalt, having been loaded on the steamship Keemun when that vessel of the Blue Funnel was last in port, and it is anticipated that there will be considerable left after the Penthesilea sails.

Apropos of the reduction of the station the Naval and Military Record of December 29th says: "A good deal of uncertainty exists as to the future of the three colonial dockyards—Halifax, Esquimalt and Jamaica. All that is sure is that that have been practically disestablished. There is some talk of Canada taking over the first two, but it is to be hoped that the admiralty will not fall in with this view at once. It will be far better, even at a slightly increased outlay, to maintain the machinery and shops and docks in fair condition until there has been time to take a complete survey of the naval situation of the units of the Empire. This cannot be done until the colonial conference which Mr. Balfour is to call has assembled and taken the whole problem of the naval defence of the Empire into consideration. If the admiralty hastily hand over these two yards to the Dominion, it may be that they will have reason to regret their haste. In the same way no hurried action should be entertained with reference to Jamaica. Strategically this yard occupies a most important position, and with the opening of the Panama canal its importance may increase. It will lie more or less on the great trade and war route between the East and West. What effect the canal will have on the disposition of naval power it would be rash to hazard, and it is as well not to attempt to arrive at any decision in advance. It will be the wisest policy for the admiralty meretimes to disestablish the yards for the time being, and then await developments."

The report in circulation, and published in this paper last week, in effect that the admiralty may dispose of the canteen grounds, appears to be incorrect. A special dispatch from London says that the admiralty has informed the press that there is nothing about such a decision or intention, but that possibly the canteen house, being private property, would be sold. The grounds, the dispatch further points out, belong to the admiralty.

The sale of the canteen house, if decided on, is probably what gave rise to the other report. This is a building that had been erected at the expense of the men of the navy stationed here, and as there appears at present to be no further call for it, there is an understanding, so it is stated, to sell the premises.

DUNCANS NOTES.

(Special Correspondence of the Times.)

The election of reeve and councillors for the municipality of Cowichan North were held here on Saturday. No changes were made. The reeve and councillors were al re-elected, namely: Reeve, S. H. Davie; Chemainus Ward, H. Bonsall; Oomiaken Ward, W. Bazett; Quamichan Ward, J. M. Campbell; Somenos Ward, A. J. Bell.

The Vancouver Island Flockmasters' Association twelfth annual dinner will take place at the Quamichan hotel, Duncans, on Wednesday next, 18th inst., at 8 p. m.

POOL CHAMPIONSHIP.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 16.—Alfred Derro and Grant Eby have commenced a six hundred point match for the pool championship here. In the opening block of two hundred points Derro out-played Eby, finishing eighty-three balls ahead. The final score was 203 to 120, the odd three balls being counted by Derro in finishing the last game. The second block will be played to-night.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Port Townsend, Jan. 14.—Seattle's wireless station was formally opened this morning and the first messages flashed between that point and this city.

The Pacific Wireless Telegraph Co. first entered the field in the summer of 1903. Port Townsend was selected as the central point, and the first station built here. Another followed at Fort Casey, and the two were thrown open on October 17th of that year. The company now has stations also at Friday Harbor and on the revenue cutter Grant, while Victoria has one building.

CUSTOMS CLERKS.

Ottawa, Jan. 14.—J. Doig, J. Roach and A. C. Garvery have been appointed to customs clerkships at Vancouver. Two are additional appointments owing to the increase of customs business, and the third replaces Mr. Maxwell.

MILLS REOPENED.

Vancouver, Jan. 16.—All the lumber mills in this city, which have been closed lately, reopened to-day.