Edward VII Loses Yukon Claim

Mine Was Deeded to Him But He Failed to do Assessment Work.

Claim-jumpers Can Now Grab the Unworked Land of the King.

Had he but preserved the life of a mining claim that was deeded to him two years ago, His Majesty King Edward VII. would now be on a fair road to increase his private fortune by the addition of a considerable quantity of virgin gold taken fresh from the auriferous gravels of the Yukon. The claim was thought to be barren and by reason of its non-representation was allowed to lapse to the crown, which is King Edward himself, and it is a question now, paradoxical as it may seem, whether the loss in one instance may not likewise be a gain in another, though it is quite likely that before a representative of His Majesty could make a claim to the ground some horny-handed miner will have planted his relocation stakes at the upper and lower boundaries and received a grant to the same.

This is how it happened the King came to be a mine owner in the Klondike, though the records of the gold commissioner's office failed to disclose the date of his miner's license: On July 2, 1902, a number of mining claims were sold at auction by the government, among them being a fraction designated at 1A on a tributary of Eureka creek at No. 18 on the left fork. It was supposed to be 250 feet long, and in the competition for its possession it was finally knocked down to J. K. Sparling. Things in those days were booming and it was not known but that Eureka would develop into a second Eldorado. At any rate there were those who were willing to take a chance.

Nothing was done with the ground the first year beyond the payment of $200 in lieu of the representation work required by the regulations, and it was renewed to July 2, 1902. About the same time the renewal was taken out an agreement was entered into to sell the claim to W. E. Carlin and others for $3,200, but the option was not taken up. Then came the grouping for the working in common of claims 1, 1A, 2, 3, 4 and 4A. The work was done and the fraction that was destined to become famous as the private property of King Edward was again renewed.

Within a year afterward, the making of history as pertaining to 250 feet of ground on a tributary of Eureka was begun. It was on Feb. 10, 1903, that Mr. Sparling, in a spirit of loyalty and generosity to the King, determined to deed to His Majesty the claim upon which the depth, breadth, extent and richness of the paystreak was yet to be ascertained. So a quit-claim deed was made wherein J. K. Sparling was nominated as the party of the first part and His Majesty King Edward VII. as the party of the second part. It was duly signed, sealed and acknowledged, $2 was paid for the recording of the same, though the regulations were violated in not demanding the date and number of His Majesty's licence, and today the book of records for Eureka creek shows the transaction to have been made in due form and in perfectly proper manner.

That is the last entry in the book. The work required by the regulations had not been performed, and the claim is open to relocation. In other words, any old sort of a man may jump His Majesty's ground, and he will have no more redress than the commonest, most itinerant of his subjects, and posterity might have forgotten the fact that their sovereign was at one time their neighbor had it not been for the persistent prospecting of those who own the adjoining land.

During the past year Eureka creek has been regarded with more favor than since the boom days, and no section of the stream has been thought more promising than Eighteen Pup on the left fork. The pay has been rather spotted, but where it has been located it has proven to be quite good. Recently a paystreak on No. 2 was uncovered, and there is every reason to believe that it extends through the fraction and into No. 1, which, had His Majesty retained possession of the claim, reminds one of the old saw, slightly paraphrased, "it might not have been." Some are born rich, others miss it by allowing their claims to lapse.

MYSTERIOUS FIRM BUYS SHIPS.

London, Feb. 17.—The Daily Express says that the Union-Castle line steamships Rosslyn Castle, Raglan Castle and Dunolly Castle, and the Clan liner Clan Macpherson have been sold to a mysterious German firm. The names of the vessels, the paper adds, have been changed, and it is supposed they are destined for one of the Far Eastern combatants.

FIGHTING LINE OF 280,000.

But Russia Has Force of 450,000 in the Field.

Tokio, Feb. 16.—Reports from Liaoyang place the total Russian force between the Shakhe river and Harbin at 450,000 of which 280,000 are on the fighting line. The condition of the prisoners and of the bodies of the dead indicate that the Russians are short of winter clothes and shoes. Some of the officers are wearing Chinese shoes. It is believed that the cold weather is greatly increasing sickness among the Russians.

Later estimates of the Russian losses at Heikoutai place the number at 25,000.

GEN. STAKELBERG WOUNDED.

London, Feb. 17.—The Daily Telegraph's Shanghai correspondent reports that General Stakelberg and three Russian infantry colonels were wounded in the fighting on the Hun river.

NEW RAILROAD EQUIPMENT.

Philadelphia, Feb. 16.—The Pennsylvania railroad will buy new equipment costing not less than $23,000,000 this year for its lines east and west of Pittsburg, and if the entire programme is carried out as originated, the cost will be $27,000,000.

Remarkable Resuscitation

Wounded Russian Left For Dead Three Days — The Correspondents Saved Him.

James H. Hare, Collier's Photographer Now Returning Tells of Incident.

James H. Hare, the famous war photographer who, as Collier's representative with the Japanese army, has seen probably more of the fighting in the Far East than any other civilian, returned yesterday on the liner Coptic, says the San Francisco Call of February 13. With the aid of his camera, Hare has done more than all the correspondents to convey to the outside world some adequate idea of the great Oriental drama which he passed.

Hare was assigned to the first army and followed its fortunes from April 3 until December 31. He had the good fortune to be in many engagements and the nerve to get more than a few good pictures while under fire. His good fortune, he says, deserted him at the last moment. When things ceased to stir in Manchuria he proceeded to Port Arthur, hoping to photograph the scenes attending the fall and evacuation of that fortress. He waited patiently. On December 31, after a heart-to-heart talk with the Japanese military authorities, he came to the conclusion that Port Arthur's fall was still far away. He packed up his cameras and other paraphernalia and started for Dalny on his way home. The day after he left the first negotiations for surrender took place and January 2 the siege was all over.

"And when I heard it I felt more like blubbering since I doffed knee pants."

Hare, with Donohue and Maxwell, two other correspondents, saved the life of a Russian soldier on the battlefield of the Shakhe under rather unusual circumstances. It was three days after the end of the big fight. The three men were walking over the corpse-strewn field in company with a Japanese officer, and were examining a heap of dead Russians piled in a trench. One big Slav, his skin shrivelled tight on his shrunken features, attracted their attention as he lay in the full glare of the blazing sun. A bullet had plowed a deep furrow across the top of his head and the blood-stained face presented a peculiar ghastly appearance.

Fascinated by the horror of it, the three men stared at the soldier's face. Suddenly an eyelid seemed to move.

"He's alive," said one of the newspaper men.

"Nonsense," said the Japanese officer. "He's been lying in that heap and under that sun for three days. If he had been a well man when he lay down the sun would have killed him."

"But I saw his eye move," persisted Donohue, of the London Daily Chronicle. "Dead men do not bat there eyelids. Let's take another look at him."

Two Chinese servants were ordered to pull the body away from the pile of slain. As they raised the burden the Russian's eyes opened and closed, and, with a shriek of fear, the Chinese dropped their load and ran. Other Chinese were impressed, the Russian taken to the hospital, and in two days his saviors visited him and found him sitting up in bed drinking tea and smoking cigarettes. He subsequently recovered.

Hare expects to return to the Orient in a few months. He is now on his way to New York to visit his family.

Brinkburn Owners Save Steamer

Think Japanese Warships All Too Active to Attempt to Return to Vladivostok.

Olympia's Trip Is Also Cancelled —New Freighters to Be Built.

(From Friday's Daily.)

The British steamer Brinkburn, formerly the Tottenham, which loaded a contrabrand cargo of oats and other feedstuffs at San Francisco and cleared for Vladivostok via Comox, being painted lead color after the manner of warships that she might elude patrolling warships is not to be a blockade runner after all. She goes back to San Francisco to discharge the cargo she loaded there.

The Brinkburn, in command of Capt. Peters, has been lying in the Royal Roads for a week past. After filling her bunkers at Comox for the voyage to Vladivostok she came to this port and Capt. Peters communicated with the owners of the vessel, Messrs. Harris, Dickson, of London, asking if they wished him to continue. The charterers did, but the owners were wary. So were the underwriters. The percentage of the blockade runners that were captured by the Japanese warships were great. As stated yesterday no less than 37 were taken up to January 31st, and the insurance rates crept upward until they became almost prohibitory. The underwriters had been badly bitten by the many seizures and they were not anxious to continue policies on the blockade runners. Therefore the Brinkburn will not run contrabrand. She returns to San Francisco to tramp again with peaceful cargoes to peaceable ports.

The underwriters are becoming alarmed for the steamer Tacoma, which is carrying a contrabrand cargo of beef for Russia to Vladivostok, though she cleared for Shanghai instead of clearing direct for the Russian port as the Brinkburn did. The Tacoma has been posted as overdue and reinsurance is quoted at twenty per cent on her. In Victoria little interest is displayed in the speculation, the chances being too great against the vessel.

The Tacoma sailed from the Sound January 6, ostensibly for Shanghai, and is out 42 days today without a word having been heard from her. She is a well known vessel having been for years operated between Tacoma and China and Japan by the Northern Pacific Steamship Company, by whom she was sold to the Northwestern Steamship Co. of which John Rosene is at the head.

The steamer Olympia, a sister vessel of the Tacoma will probably, like the Brinkburn, cancel her voyage to Vladivostok. The Olympia is now loading at Seattle, having been obliged to return owing to an accident on board—her boiler blew up and two engineers were injured, Van Tassel, afterward dying—Steps are now being taken looking to a cancelation of the charter and war risks by the parties interested. The steamer is loaded to her capacity with oats and feedstuffs loaded at Portland, and, if satisfactory arrangements can be reached, she will be discharged and the blockade running voyage off.

CRUSADER NOT COMING

Big British Tramp Will Not Come to Esquimalt Dock.

Word was received here yesterday that the steamer Crusader which was injured as a result of a collision with the coal bunkers at Tacoma on Sunday last, will not come to Esquimalt for repairs, as was expected. The steamer left Tacoma yesterday for Port Blakley to finish loading her cargo of lumber for Taku, part of which had already been loaded at Bellingham, and it is probable that the steamer will be allowed to proceed without repairs being affected on this side. The damage was to her propeller and it was said at the time that a new screw would be necessary. The Crusader was on the dock at Esquimalt three years ago, being repaired there after bringing a cargo of sugar from Sourabaya for the British Columbia Sugar Refinery at Vancouver.

FOUND THREE ANCHORS.

Maude Gets Some Mudhooks, But Not That Which She Seeks.

Steamer Maude of the B. C. Salvage Co., has been searching diligently for some time in Royal Roads for the big anchor of the steamer Minnesota, which with its chain is worth $2,500. Although the big anchor has not yet been located with the magnets, drags, etc., of the wreckers, three anchors have been found to date. Two were found within the last few days. One of these was lost three years ago by the C. P. R. liner Empress of Japan, the other was lost five years ago by the British ship Borrowdale. The search for the Minnesota's mudhook and chain is still going on.

THE LINERS

Empress of Japan Reached Hongkong Tartar Due From Orient

Steamer Empress of Japan reached Hongkong on Wednesday from this port. She reached Yokohama six and a half days in advance of the big steamer Minnesota which was nineteen days on the voyage and will probably increase her lead considerably at Hongkong, in fact it is believed that the Empress will have started back before the Minnesota arrives. The steamer Keemun arrived at Yokohama on Wednesday, sixteen days on the way. She took naval stores from Esquimalt for Hongkong. The Tartar of the C. P. R. line is due today from the Orient being now thirteen days out from Yokohama. The steamer Empress of India leaves Yokohama today for this port, being due at the end of the month. Steamer Empress of China now loading at Vancouver, will sail for Yokohama and the usual Chinese ports Monday. Steamer Lyra left Yokahama on Wednesday for Victoria, and the steamer Tydeus of the Ocean S. S. Co., left on the same day. The latter boat, being faster, will probably arrive first. Steamer Shawmut, which has nearly completed her repairs at Seattle, will go to Tacoma tomorrow or next day to commence loading for the Orient. Capt. Barwise of the Peleus and Capt. Roberts of the Shawmut are now fraternizing at Tacoma. They have not met for 26 years, when they served together.

NEW FREIGHTERS

Captain Stromgren and Associates May Build Another Vessel

Capt. Stromgren, of the steamer Oscar, and associates, are considering the building of a new steam freighter for use in British Columbia waters. Plans have been secured and it is probable that the new vessel will be built this summer. She will be about 170 feet long and 37 feet beam, carrying between six and seven hundred tons. As stated some days ago a new steam freighter will also be built for Capt. Otto Buckholtz and associates, plans for which were prepared long since. It has not yet been decided where she will be built, the matter having been deferred until tenders are received for the supply of machinery for the new steamer. She will be used for the northern trade.

A ROYAL ENGAGEMENT.

Rome, Feb. 16.—The vatican has been approached on the advisability of tendering its good offices in the matter of the proposed marriage of Prince Victor Napoleon with Princess Clementine of Belgium, but has refused to interfere on the ground that Prince Victor Napoleon never was favorable to the church. Prince Louis Napoleon, who is at Turin, was congratulated today on the approaching marriage of his brother with Princess Clementine, but replied that, up to the present time, nothing had been decided.

LORD MINTO ON FISCAL QUESTION

Regrets Rebuff Given to Canadian Resolution Offering a Preference.

Canadian Press Cable.

London, Feb. 17.—Lord Minto, entertained at a banquet at the Hotel Cecil, referred to Canada's great possibilities as a wheat-growing country.

He said, according to Professor Sanders, it would be the greatest in the world. He thought this fact gave Canada intense national pride. Down in the bottom of every heart was an admiration for the history of Great Britain, pride in the Empire and an intense love for the flag which is difficult to explain to those who had not an acquaintance with that great Imperial outpost. Mr. Chamberlain's speech and preference and the South African war had intensified that feeling. The leading statesmen of both parties of the Dominion were absolutely at one on the question of British preference. Both recognized that in a new country there must be a certain amount of protection, but both had expressed surprise that the Canadian resolution offering a preference on British goods could not be made more public in the mother country. The inevitable price of that would have to be paid for the apparent coldness of the rebuff on the part of the mother country was the loss of Imperial trade, and above all, the loss of touch with blood relations beyond the seas, the value of which it was impossible to estimate.

Robert D. Craig lectured in Paris on the recent Anglo-French arrangement relating to Newfoundland. The lecturer dwelt upon the necessity of fair indemnities to fishermen, to whom the new regime would prevent the plying of their industry. As a solution of the bait difficulty he recommended refrigeration.

The Canadian Press understands that the Grand Trunk Pacific issue, to which reference has been made, will be on the market about the middle of next week.

To Create Two New Provinces

Prime Minister Gives Notice of Bills For Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Gross Partizanship of Yukon Returning Officer Roundly Condemned.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Feb. 17.—The partizan conduct of returning officer Ledieu in the Yukon election called forth another excited protest from Mr. Borden today. Fortified by returns which had just been presented to the House, Mr. Borden read the telegrams which had passed between the secretary of state and the returning officer and others in Dawson, from which it appears that Ledieu strained the law to the utmost limit in order to prevent Mr. Thompson from taking his seat. Public opinion evidently is greatly worked up over the matter in Dawson, as one telegram received by Hon. Mr. Scott hinted as possibilities of bloodshed. The opposition leader demanded that this be investigated. The prime minister in reply entered a rather lame defence for Ledieu, but promised when the election return was received to see if further explanation was necessary.

That the government has definitely decided to propose the establishment of two provinces in the Northwest is shown by two bills of which Sir Wilfrid Laurier gives notice tonight. They are to create respectively the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Mr. Campbell, Attorney General, and Mr. Rogers, commissioner of public works for Manitoba, had a conference with Premier Laurier today respecting the resolution of the Manitoba legislature asking for an increase in the area of the province both westerly and northerly. This resolution was adopted in expectation that the Territories be created in two provinces and Manitoba thinks the time opportune to put in its claim for territory to make it equal to that of the provinces about to be created. Manitoba desires her northerly boundary to be carried north so as to include a portion of the Hudson's Bay shore line in order to give Manitoba a port on Hudson's Bay.

The standing orders committee today adopted the somewhat unusual course of rejecting the petition for a private bill, that of the Ottawa Valley Railway Co. Hence the bill will not pass the house. The petition was rejected by seven to four on the ground that the application had not been advertised properly.

The grievances of the municipalities against the Bell Telephone Co. for violating municipal rights were ventilated in the House today. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the government would consider the matter.

RECRUDESCENCE OF STRIKE.

Iron Workers at St. Petersburg Again Walk Out.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 16.—The employees of the Putiloff iron works appeared at the works this morning, but instead of resuming their tasks demanded, as a condition of going to work, the release of their comrades who are under arrest. Similar action was taken by the men of the Neva works. Upon other grounds the workmen again went out at the France-Russian works, the Russo-American rubber works and the St. Petersburg car works and the Nicholas railroad shops. Considerable mystery surrounds the recrudescence of the strike movement, it being rumored that Father Gopon is again directing operations through his lieutenants.

RUSSIAN MINISTERS DISAGREE.

Report That M. Witte Has Resigned Presidency of Committee.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 16.—M. Witte, according to the latest report, has resigned his position as president of the committee of ministers on account of differences with Minister of Agriculture Yermoloff over the conduct of the proceedings of that body. Yermoloff is probably the most liberal of Emperor Nicholas' ministers enjoying now, according to the story, the complete favor of His Majesty, he openly advocates summoning a Zemsky Zabor. The report is not confirmable at this hour, but receives credence in some usually well-informed quarters.

CANADA AT PORTLAND.

Second Attempt Will Be Made to Induce Ottawa to Take Part.

Another effort is to be made by the Canadians of Portland, through Mr. Wm. R. Mackenzie, vice-president of the Canadian Society in Portland, to interest the Dominion government in the exhibition to be held in Portland during the present year.

As the representation sought for at the exposition is something which will be symbolic of the Dominion as a whole, in regard to its characteristics and resources, some diffidence seems to be felt locally at the idea of encroaching upon an undertaking which peculiarly belongs to the federal government.

As already reported, Mr. William R. Mackenzie, vice-president of the Canadian Society of Portland, visited the city for the purpose of enlisting the interest of the municipal and provincial governments in the great exhibition to be held in Portland during the coming summer and fall. Mr. Mackenzie saw representatives of the local government yesterday in regard to this subject, and after discussion, it was agreed that if a Canadian exhibit was undertaken by the Ottawa government, as seemed fitting and proper in the nature of things, the local government would be only too glad to co-operate in making it the great success that such an enterprise should be, and suggestion was also made that if such a proposition should materialize it was not improbable that the cities of Victoria and Vancouver might be very easily persuaded to join in making it a crowning success.

Mr. Mackenzie left for Portland yesterday, and it was suggested that he would represent to the fair management the desirability of bringing this proposition to the serious attention of the Dominion government.

In conversation with a Colonist reporter, Mr. Mackenzie intimated that no very serious effort had yet been made to enlist the interest of the Dominion government in the exhibition, discussion of the matter having been restricted to one department, namely, that presided over by Mr. Fisher, the minister of agriculture. Mr. Mackenzie said that the fair people would probably make another visit to Ottawa in connection with the matter.

PEACE TALK REVIVES.

St. Petersburg Reports Increased Activity of Rumors of War's Ending.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—(2 a. m.)—There has been a noticeable revival of the peace talk here. It is even intimated that Prince Frederick Leopold of Prussia is the bearer of personal representations from Emperor William on this subject. While it is known positively that the question of peace was discussed between Emperor Nicholas and Prince Leopold yesterday, it is impossible to ascertain what if any conclusion was reached.

AGREEMENT REACHED.

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 16.—The executive committee of the Great Lakes dredge and tug owners protective association today effected a wage agreement with the firemen and linesmen. Yesterday the representatives of the owners and employees seemed on the verge of a deadlock. In the agreement for 1905 wages for firemen remains at $60 per month and for linesmen $50 per month. Incidental conditions as to hours and overtime are said to be equivalent to an eight and a half per cent increase for the men. Last week the dredge and crane men secured a similar seven and a half increase.

A VERDICT OF MURDER.

Boise, Idaho, Feb. 16.—A verdict of murder in the first degree has been returned by the jury against Fred Bond, on trial for the murder of Charles Daly in this city last October. Bond was a boarder at the house of Daly, and appears to have been in love with the latter's wife. Daly was shot and struck with a hatchet. Mrs. Daly at first represented that she had killed her husband, but it developed that she was persuaded by Bond to tell that story. She is held as an accomplice and was the principal witness against Bond.

News Notes Of The Dominion

Parent and His Recalcitrant Nest of Traitors Are Still at Outs.

Nelson Board of Trade Raises Voice In Protest Against Smelter Bill.

Montreal, Feb. 17.—The Parent cabinet concluded its sessions today and the premier left for Quebec this evening to give information as to his intentions, it is, however, rumored that some of his colleagues who have remained loyal to him so far have come to the conclusion that as he will have to go and that it will be better for him if he goes at once and leaves him in a position to negotiate with the Gouin faction for the retention of their places in a reconstructed ministry. The report therefore is that some of the most loyal of the ministers have served notice upon the premier that he must retire and at once, otherwise he will find himself short two more members of his cabinet.

Sleighing Party Overturned.

A sleighing party under the auspices of St. James' Methodist church Bible class upset on Park avenue last night. The injured are: Mrs. Allen, back injured; George Salter, leg broken; Miss McDonald, injured elbow; Mrs. Harum, Mrs. Best and Miss Murphy and others of party bruised and shaken up. A quantity of snow had been thrown off a roof and was lying piled up on the road. The sleigh in going over this slipped into the car tracks and toppled over.

A Pugnacious Latin.

"The Latin republics may not be so mighty as the United States, but they are not the weaklings which they are represented to be, and they can fight for their independence if put to it." This was the statement made today by Don Emmanuel Carameneo, ex-minister of education in the Argentine republic, who was seen this forenoon at the Windsor street station. The remark was brought forth by the recent attitude of President Roosevelt in respect to Monroe doctrine, which, according to this interpretation simply meant that all South American republics would be under tutelage to the United States.

R. C. Jamieson, the well-known paint and brush manufacturer died this morning.

Freak Legislation Condemned.

Nelson, B. C., Feb. 17.—At a special meeting of the Nelson Board of Trade the following was carried unanimously after a protracted debate: "Whereas it has been reported through the public press that a bill has been introduced in the legislature of British Columbia to prohibit the employment of any person at smelting works for more than eight hours in any twenty-four; and whereas, this (Nelson) Board of Trade views with alarm the effect which the enactment of such proposed bill may have upon the mining industry and the general business of the community, therefore be it resolved, That this board expresses its disapproval of such legislative proposal, and further be it resolved that, notwithstanding assurances given to certain members of this board that the bill will not become law, this board urge the members for Nelson and Ymir to continue to use their influence in opposition to such legislation."

GUTTED BY FIRE.

New York, Feb. 16.—For the second time within six months a fire gutted the four-storey brick building at 38 Cortlandt street tonight. For the first fifteen minutes the fire was beyond the control of the department and three alarms were sent in, but the combined efforts of the various engines confined the flames to the building. The loss is estimated at $20,000.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE

Presents Itself in a New Phase With the Dominican Protocol.

Washington, Feb. 16. — President Roosevelt's message transmitting to the Senate the new Dominican protocol of an agreement providing for the collection and disbursement by the United States of the customs revenues of San Domingo for the adjustment of all the obligations of that government, today was made public by order of the Senate in advance session. The document includes the new agreement as well as the original protocol and award of the commission of arbitration for the settlement of the claims of the San Domingo Improvement Company, under which agents of the United States are already collecting the revenues at certain of the ports of the Dominican government. Few documents that have come to the Senate in relation to any of the South Central, American or West Indian Republics have attracted so much attention because of the controversy that has arisen as to the right of the executive to enter into treaty arrangements with any foreign government without the advice and consent of the Senate. The documents came to the Senate yesterday at an hour past the usual time for most senators to leave the chamber, and therefore it was brought up soon after the Senate convened today. The message of the president outlined the policy of the administration in relation to the Monroe doctrine, holding that it demanded that the American government take charge of the customs of American states, when it is manifest that they are unable to maintain their own integrity. In addition the president's discussion of the Monroe doctrine in the case of San Domingo, the protocol itself makes a specific declaration of its application and in that respect is unusual in treaty making. The declaration occurs in the second paragraph, which recites that the government of the United States "views any attempt on the part of governments outside of this hemisphere, to oppress the destiny of the Dominican republic as a manifestation of an unfriendly disposition towards the United States."

To Transform Unofficial Council

Czar and His Ministers Consider Formation of a Regular Cabinet.

M. Witte's Retirement Sought by Those Opposed to Peace.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 16.—Emperor Nicholas today presided over a council at Tzarskoe-Selo. All the ministers, including M. Witte, had been summoned for the purpose of discussing the advisability of transforming the present unofficial council of ministers, which is called at irregular intervals by the Emperor, into a cohesive cabinet, meeting regularly as an advisory and responsible body under the presidency of the Emperor or the minister presiding. Intimations find their way to the public that one of the main factors in the present situation tending to influence the government to convene the Zemsky Zabor is the increasing difficulty of mobilizing reserves to replace the troops bound for the front, the belief being that if the Zemsky Zabor were assembled either it would arouse a wave of patriotism in the country and itself facilitate the government's task, or if it declared in favor of peace the responsibility therefor, however disadvantageously the terms might be, would rest with the national representatives and not with the rulers.

M. Witte's Resignation.

The report of M. Witte's resignation from the presidency of the committee of ministers is still in circulation but cannot be confirmed. M. Witte, however, was busily engaged tonight in routine work with the director of the tax department, as if no change were certain. It is well known, however, that a campaign is being waged against him by men of influence, who fear that his will may become dominant in the present crisis. It is claimed that his voice will be for peace. It also is asserted that M. Witte has incurred the enmity, on account of his intervention in favor of the liberals who have been arrested. M. Witte has been going a straight course in order to avoid entanglements. Evidently he will be the man of the hour if sweeping reforms must be granted.

MANY FACTORIES SHUT DOWN.

Forty Thousand Hands Paid Off and Works Closed at Lodz.

Lodz, Feb. 16.—The manufacturers tonight resolved to telegraph full details of the situation to the Minister of Finance. Twenty-five factories, among them some of the largest in Lodz, today paid off their men, numbering 40,000 and closed indefinitely. Some other mills, which previously had closed down refused to pay the strikers, who demanded money claimed to be due them. At one mill, which thus refused, yesterday, the strikers spent the entire night around the office.

RUSSIAN CAVALRY ACTIVE.

Gen. Oku's Headquarters, Feb. 14, via Fusan.—(Delayed.)—A group of Russian cavalry apparently has again begun activity on the Japanese left. Details regarding the strength and movements of the cavalry have not yet been obtained, yet the utter failure of the last raid gives rise to the belief that nothing is to be feared from the present attempt. The weather is rapidly moderating and the snow is almost gone.

Could Not Walk Ten Yards Without Resting.

Mrs. D. Herkimer, Hall's Bridge, Ont., was Troubled with Weak Heart and Sleeplessness.

How many women are troubled with a weak heart? How many lie, night after night, trying to sleep, and can't? Perhaps you are one of them? If so, read what Mrs. Herkimer says. It may save you years of suffering if you take her advice:—

"I am now enjoying the best of health, after having used Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. I was troubled with a weak heart, and was afraid to draw a long breath, for the pain it would cause me. I could not sleep at night, and it was impossible for me to walk ten yards without resting myself. I cannot speak too highly of your Heart and Nerve Pills; they are the greatest pill I have ever used, and can recommend them to all sufferers."

The price of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills is 50 cents per box, or 3 boxes for $1.25. For sale by all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price.

THE T. MILBURN CO., LIMITED, TORONTO, ONT.

Why a Torpid Liver Makes the Temper Bad

The Real Cause of Indigestion, Biliousness and Constipation Due to Inactivity of the Liver—Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills a Great Liver Regulator.

"Oh, it's his liver is bad," you say when you find a person cross and disagreeable without apparent cause.

This is a common saying which is founded on scientific facts.

The liver, when in health, filters bile from the blood—where it is poison—and pours it into the intestines—where it is necessary to digestion and a proper working of the bowels.

Once the liver becomes torpid and sluggish in action the "bile poison" is left in the blood, where it causes biliousness, jaundice and headache.

The flow of bile to the intestines being cut off, the food is delayed in the canal, and fermentation instead of digestion takes place.

The result is sour stomach, flatulency, feelings of weight and oppression, smothering sensations in the chest, dizziness, loss of appetite, drowsiness after meals, despondency and bad temper.

Symptoms

Coated Tongue.
Headache and Indigestion
Sour Stomach.
Muddy Complexion.
Wind in the Stomach.
Feelings of Weight and Oppression.
Smothering Sensations in the Chest.
Pains Under Left Shoulder Blade.
Drowsiness After Meals.
Despondency, Bad Temper
Biliousness, Constipation.

By setting the liver right Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills positively overcome these symptoms and bring about a thorough and lasting cure.

It is a common mistake to dose the stomach and overlook the liver—the real cause of such troubles.

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills are made to act directly on the liver because the liver really controls the digestive organs as well as influences the kidneys and bowels.

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