

EUROPE PREPARES FOR WAR; ALL THE NATIONS ARMING

French Gov't. Warns Spain Britain Is About to Seize Spanish Territory--Sweden and Denmark Preparing.

COSSACKS DEFEAT A JAP DETACHMENT IN KOREA

Later Reports From Lake Baikal Say But One Soldier Was Killed in Accident--Russia to Use Political Suspects in Her Armies--Chinese Pirates Create Favor Along Coasts.

New York, Feb. 20.—A special cable from Berlin to the Herald says: According to a telegram from the Madrid correspondent of the Berliner Tageblatt, the French Government has confidentially given warning to the Spanish cabinet of the secret plans of the British Government to seize parts of Spanish territory in case of war.

This is the reason why Spain is sending troops to the Canary Islands, Ceuta, Galicia and the neighborhood of the Straits of Gibraltar. The French Government has also advised strengthening of the fortifications on certain parts of the Spanish coast.

Baron Richthofen, the minister of foreign affairs, says that in view of the outbreak of war it is impossible for Germany to withdraw the 2,600 men she has in China and at Kado Tehan. The troops in China are the backbone of the maintenance of order in the East.

Sweden is now following the example of Denmark and is also arming.

COSSACKS FIGHT JAPS. An Engagement in Korea in Which Japs Are Defeated.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 20.—A dispatch from Port Arthur today says the first land encounter occurred yesterday. A detachment of Japanese troops on Korean territory. The Cossacks captured some Japanese rifles and papers, whom they found maps and papers.

UNITED STATES AND RUSSIA. Russian Nobleman Fails to Comprehend the Change of Sentiment.

Chicago, Feb. 20.—"Russia will look on the present attitude of the United States toward her as a visitation of divine justice because she did not heed the appeals from the Boreas for help during their struggle against Great Britain," said Baron Eugene De Persson, a Russian nobleman, cousin of Baron A. A. Schillingbach, 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 refuse to do so. In the contest of the Philippines by the United States, no note of protest was heard from Russia. But when Russia peacefully occupied Manchuria, pouring millions of rubles into the development of the country and its great resources, does the United States hold aloof from the Boreas? No. There is developed in the United States a great interest in the preservation of the integrity of China, and an incomprehensible to us Russians why the United States, whom we have always looked upon as our friend, should so turn upon us."

WILL USE POLITICAL SUSPECTS. St. Petersburg, Feb. 20.—According to the terms of an imperial order just issued, political suspects under police surveillance are permitted to enter the army in the field as privates, after which the Minister of the Interior and the Minister of War are to see to the withdrawal of police supervision over such persons.

Another decree appoints a special commission under the direction of hereditary Grand Duke Michael Alexanderovich, brother of the Czar, to arrange for the most speedy construction of submarine boats, cruisers and other vessels, to meet the expense of which a public subscription has been started by the press.

LAKE BAIKAL DISASTER. News From Russian Source Say but One Man Was Killed.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 20.—With reference to the sensational stories of a disaster to Russian troops at Lake Baikal (one report saying that three regiments were drowned while attempting to cross the ice-covered lake), it is explained that a train leaving the line was blocked at the Baikal station during the night of Feb. 18 by an avalanche of snow which fell from a neighboring mountain. A train loaded with troops on board rushed into the obstruction, the locomotive was derailed. One soldier was killed, five were severely injured, and fourteen were slightly hurt. Traffic was said to be resumed the following day. Further advices from Port Arthur today say that all the women and children and most of the male civilians have left that place and that practically only the garrison remains.

The hope that the Russian army will over the empire seems to be swamping racial feeling, even the wild tribes to a large congregation, which included Finns and Sullen Foles forgetting their grievances and coming forward to volunteer their services to the common fatherland. An instance of devotion among the Czar's Hebrew subjects is afforded by the act of 45 Jewish doctors in throwing up their practices to go to the front. Before leaving they extended a service held in a synagogue here, Rabbi Drabkin made a fervid address to the congregation, which included Baron Ginzburg and other Jewish notables. He said "Our fatherland is passing through a difficult epoch. The moment has come when you, my brothers, must show the whole world that you are not unworthy sons of your country, and that although standing apart before the altar of religion you are united with other citizens before the altar of patriotism and are ready with all the Czar's faithful to sacrifice yourself for the fatherland. Remember that Russia is strong, not only in arms, but in God's blessing."

THE KAISER'S HOLIDAY. Berlin, Feb. 20.—Emperor William starts on his winter holiday on March 3, joining the imperial yacht Hohenzollern at Messina, Sicily. When the first part of the holiday is over, the Emperor will go to the island of Capri, where he will be accompanied by his family. It is announced that the Emperor's health prevents him from accompanying the Emperor to the Mediterranean.

THE SACRED TOMBS. China Says Belligerents Must Not Disturb Them. London, Feb. 20, 5 a.m.—The Washington correspondent of the Morning Post says a communication of the utmost importance, which may add fresh complications to the present situation, has been made by the Chinese minister to Secretary of State Hay, and similar representations have been made by the Chinese ministers to other European capitals. The Chinese Government has addressed both Russia and Japan, reiterating its intention to maintain strict neutrality, but declaring the sanctity of the tombs of the ancestors of the Chinese dynasty at Mukden, and elsewhere must be respected by the belligerents.

RUSSIA CLAIMS JAPAN. A Statement Issued of Events Preceding the Rupture. 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 made elsewhere. The account in this account it is stated that on receipt of the late Japanese proposals, Jan. 16, the Government immediately

The Spaniards in a Panic; Fear a Seizure by Britain

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The uneasiness exhibited on the continent in regard to the possibility that a European war may ensue from the struggle in the far east, is not shared by Great Britain. No power has made any attempt to connect it with rumors that every contingency, and yet now there is confidence greater that the hostilities will be confined to Russia and Japan than it is in London. The naval and military preparations announced from continental capitals, which any country would be expected to make in the contingency of their employment may appear a little milder in nearly all portions of the country, but fairly low temperatures were registered during the night. Another cold wave has appeared over Alberta, and the general outlook is unfavorable for much change in the present existing wintry conditions.

The following is the highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory during the 24 hours ended at 3 p.m. yesterday: Highest, 18° above; lowest, 8° above.

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