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PER YEAR, TO OTHER COUNTRIES, POSTAGE PREFAIL, 52.00 PAYABLE INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

will not fight for what she conceives be her greatest interests does not know the Japanese people. Mr. Uchida has always advocated war, f necessary, to secure the evacuation of Sir Robert Hart, director of Chinese

Imperial maritime customs, shid to-day that he feared China would be the chief sufferer should war occur, for she might be ground between the millstones. The decadency of the Chinese govern-

The decadency of the Ennistenses. The decadency of the Chinese govern-ment was never more completely dis-played than in these times when her ministers go from legation to legation imploring governments to help China, without any thought of China helping herself. There is absolutely no strong max 3 ging the ruling ministers. Prince Chung, Marquis Tsing, like Li Hung Chang, Te all venerable conservatives like Prince Ching. Wu Ting Fang, the well known ex-minister to the United States tells his official friends that he despairs of Ghina's future. "I see no hope," he said, "for China. The partition of the Empire sooner or later, is inevitable." He is disgusted with official life at Pekin and proposes to resign his present posi-tion at the first opportunity. Will Not Discuss Message.

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NO. 77.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SECURING PREMISES

## Prominent Bank Manager Will Act as General Manager of New Financial Institution.

During the last session of the Domin-ion House an act was passed incorporat-ing the Pacific Bank of Canada, with a capital of \$2,000,000. It was stated that the head office of the company would be in Victoria, and that the finan-cial backing of the institution would be primarily in Hritish Columbia. Since that time the promoters of the new institution have been actively per-fecting their plans and the gratifying announcement was made to-day by the

Induding three belonging to the Nippor Yusen Kaisha, a Japanese steamship company.
At the London office of the Nippor Yusen Kaisha, in response to inquiries, it was declared that there had been to intimition any of its steamers.
The Daily Mail's Tientsin correspondend authority, that in the event of was extraordinary in its between Russia and Japan, the Chinese multer of Japanese warships are coordent. It is said, in Tientsin that a the vicinity of Port Arthur.
TWO NEGROES SHOT.
Killed by Marshal and Deputy While Resisting Arrest.
Hoffman, N. C., Dec. 22. — Two fortiers, Galloway and John Blue vicinity of Port Arthur.
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MASSAULTED HIS TEACHER.
Hamilton, Ont. Dec. 21. —Ernest J. Driver, a school teacher, of Grimsbr, in the hospital here suffering from seven injuries to his face by a pult.
MATTERVIEW MINISTER.
MATTERVIEW MINISTER.

FISCAL QUESTION.

Ottawa, Dec. 23 .- E. S. Montague and H Ottawa, Dec. 25. - E. S. atoming of and r. Harbert are registered here from England. They are studying the fiscal question and have letters from Lord Rosebery and others to Lord Minto, Sir Wilfrid Laurier , and other ministers of the crown.