

\$1.50 PER ANNUM \$1.50

VOL. 17.

MORE TALK OF WAR

United States Sounds Foreign Governments as to Their Attitude in Case of War.

All the Replies Are Favorable Except Those From Germany and Austria.

New York, March 10.—The Tribune publishes the following under a Washington correspondent of the Tribune in a position to announce that the administration with the last few days past itself in communication with other governments as to their attitude in case of war.

Washington, March 10.—Senator Chandler has introduced a bill providing for the remission of duties on war materials that may be imported.

The Queen Journeying.

Windsor, Eng., March 10.—Queen Victoria started for Portsmouth this afternoon on the way to the south of France. She will sleep on board the royal yacht at Portsmouth to-night.

Spain Purchasing Steamers.

Berlin, March 10.—Senator Sandovall, the Spanish military agent in Germany, Austria, and Scandinavia, who returned here yesterday from a trip, has made three conditional purchases of coasting steamers of France and two of Spain.

Two exceptions to the general tenor of these replies were the answers given by Germany and Austria.

Germany and Austria certainly not hostile in tone, yet they were coldly non-committal, and to that extent produced a feeling of dissatisfaction among state department officials.

The government of Germany contents itself by saying, in substance, that as definite policy has yet been announced by the United States on the Cuban question, and as an outbreak of hostilities between Spain and the United States is a contingency for the present and nothing more, it did not feel itself called upon to declare what its attitude would be in the event of such a contingency.

In sounding foreign governments on these points the administration followed the precedent set by the late General Grant's administration by Secretary Fish. It is true that Secretary Fish did not instruct American ministers abroad to sound foreign governments on these points.

Warm Press for McKinley.

London, March 10.—The Daily Chronicle, editorially, this morning on the Cuban situation, describes President McKinley's action throughout the crisis as "a model of statesmanship." It declares that the action of the Washington government, in connection with the Maine, deserves the highest recognition.

The Situation in Cuba.

Madrid, March 10.—At yesterday's meeting of the Spanish cabinet, the minister for the colonies, read a despatch from Captain General Blanco, saying that the situation in Cuba was improving.

Italian Gun Factories Busy.

New York, March 10.—The following despatch from Rome is in the World: "There is feverish activity displayed by the Italian government. Manufacture of shells is being pushed forward at Turin, Florence and Naples, after idleness since the end of the African campaign, are running overtime. Large quantities of shells have been received from Spain, and the Italian government is willing to fill them in an indirect way by the means of new contracts with the Italian troops and sending the old ones to intermediary traders, who would hand them over to the Spanish authorities in Spain."

British Government Questioned.

London, March 10.—In the house of commons to-day, Hon. Herbert Valentine Duncome, third son of the Earl of Feversham, Conservative member of parliament, in a speech, inquired of the British government, whether, with a view of recognizing the identity of interests of all English speaking people, and the advisability of placing the services of the United States fleet at the disposal of the United States in the event of complications between the United States and any foreign power.

London, March 10.—Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. George N. Curzon, replying in the House of Commons to-day to Mr. Ronald Munro Ferguson, Liberal, representing the district of Leith, said on communications on the Cuban question had been exchanged between the British ambassador at Washington and the government of the United States.

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VICTORIA, B. C. MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1898

AND RUSSIA, TOO!

Ninety Million Roubles Voted as an Extraordinary Expenditure to Build Warships.

Emperor Nicholas Explains Why This Is Done—No Loan Will Be Raised.

St. Petersburg, March 10.—An imperial ukase just issued orders the disbursement of ninety million roubles as an extraordinary expenditure for the construction of warships. It is added that no loan will be raised to provide the money.

In an imperial rescript to the minister of finance, accompanying the ukase, the Emperor says:

"In considering the possibility of assigning so large a sum at one time without recourse to loan, I am induced to point out that the disbursement now contemplated has been preceded by very considerable payments from unlocated cash in the treasury for other items of extraordinary expenditure.

"During your administration the ordinary receipts were exceeded by the ordinary expenditures by more than six hundred million roubles. Consequently the greater part of the extraordinary expenditure is covered without an appeal to the imperial treasury.

"The state of affairs, however, which you will follow both the instructions of my order, resting in the ground, and mine, regarding the ordinary course of the administration of the empire.

"While enjoying you to constantly exercise economy in the future for the consolidation of the empire, and the well-being of the people, I remain your unalterably well disposed sovereign.

(Signed) "NICHOLAS."

THE BELGIAN PRINCE.

Will Be Entertained at Washington by the President.

Washington, March 10.—Prince Albert, the Belgian prince, whose arrival in Washington has been the subject of so much interest ever since the announcement of his coming, was to be entertained by the president at a grand dinner to-day.

The president and Mrs. McKinley and the members of the cabinet are looking forward with more than a usual degree of interest to the visit. Although his arrival in this city will be brief, it will be a most interesting one.

The president and Mrs. McKinley will lead off in the matter, as should be the case with all distinguished guests who are entertained by the president.

Those who remember the time when the prince was in the city, will be glad to see him again. He came to Washington and was the guest of President Buchanan at the white house, and he has since been a member of the cabinet.

View of the subject has been well talked over by the president and the cabinet, it has been definitely decided not to ask the prince to stay at the white house.

As soon after the arrival in Washington of the prince as possible he will make a formal visit to the government buildings. This call will be returned within three hours by the president, who will not be accompanied by Mrs. McKinley.

Lieutenant Langhorne, U. S. A. has been detailed to attend the prince as military escort during his stay in the city.

ENGLISH ADVICE TO SPAIN.

Her Honor Might Be Saved in Granting Cuba Freedom.

London, March 10.—The Daily Chronicle's article on the Cuban question, "Cuba's Freedom," set forth the views of the British government on the crisis as a model of statesmanship.

It is interesting to note that the action of the president in connection with the Maine disaster deserves the highest recognition.

"There is every indication," says the Daily Chronicle, "that the United States is preparing for the inevitable struggle. Soon it will be necessary for Great Britain to show on which side its sympathies lie."

Arguing at considerable length upon the selfishness of American motives in desiring to put an end to the hell upon earth in Cuba, and insisting that "America has a better right to interfere than has been put forward as a justification in two out of every three wars in history," the Daily Chronicle says:

"We hope Great Britain, not only as far officially as the limits of international law permits, but that public opinion will declare itself openly, unmistakably and in the teeth of all Europe. If necessary, as sympathizing heartily with the motives, impelling America at last to take a step so natural and yet so she has long hesitated to take.

"At the same time, we wish it were possible to persuade Spain even at the eleventh hour, that her honor and Cuba might be saved by the recognition of inevitable facts. To bid Cuba be free would be a hard task, but it would be the wisest and the most humane thing that the Daily News says, editorially, this morning:

"While exulting the United States with the prospect of giving the world a noble example of sacrifice for peace by unpreparedness for war, we are glad to see that she has shown themselves wise in time."

For some time I have suffered with rheumatism and tried every imaginable remedy, without effect. Mr. F. G. S. Wells advised me to try Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, and I have used five bottles and feel sure that I am cured. My name is J. M. McPherson, and I am a resident of Victoria, British Columbia.

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Springfield arsenal, where all the Krags-Jorgensen improved rifles are manufactured, as well as the quantity of Springfield rifles with which most of the state national guards are now armed.

Should the present serious condition of affairs come to the doubling of the capacity of the arsenal will be ordered.

"Similar steps will also be taken in case of emergency with regard to Rock island arsenal, which manufactures gun cartridges, cavalry and artillery harness etc., and the Waterville and Waterville arsenals."

"Mr. Charles S. Hales, of the ordnance department, met several representatives of ordnance manufacturers and supply firms and secured from their assurance and guns of various calibre."

FRIENDLY TO AMERICA.

The English Press Comment Favours the United States.

New York, March 9.—A dispatch from London says:

"The stock market is very feverish, but with any delayed return of confidence to the American list. The situation in America was regarded in the street as more favorable than it really is."

The demand for the recall of General Lee removed the most alarming menace of war.

National defence bills are always considered in England as peace measures, and this interpretation is placed here on the vote of a credit of \$50,000,000.

The rumored purchase by Spain of six ships now in English and French yards is repeated by a series of denials from all the legations interested. It is probable that the refusal of these vessels has been obtained but there is still some uncertainty respecting their delivery.

The Manchester Guardian announces that Mr. Good may announce the purchase of several of these ships for England. The Spanish government undoubtedly will not buy the Spanish ships for buying war vessels, if she can get them. Agents will find few warships in the European market ready for early delivery, and the Spanish options are given up.

The text of the neutral act passed by parliament in 1880 as a sequence to the Alabama arbitration, provides explicitly for any emergency which may arise. If either the United States or Spain buys unfinished ships, the duty on them will be removed and fitting out of war vessels after the outbreak of hostilities is prohibited, and they will be forfeited to the British government.

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hours. Inasmuch as the new fortifications are not provided with barracks it will be necessary for troops to go into camp and live just as they would in case of active military operations against an enemy.

The Yacht Anita Fined.

Havana, March 11.—The American yacht Anita, which brought the congressional party here yesterday, has been fined \$500 for not having her papers in proper order. The Anita is one of the New York Journal's fleet of "war dispatch boats."

French Investors Alarmed.

New York, March 11.—A special to the World from Madrid says:

Senior Leon Castillo, the Spanish ambassador at Paris, has returned to Madrid, ostensibly on a short leave of absence to look after his personal private affairs, but in official and diplomatic circles it is generally believed that he is generally believed that the Spanish government of the present disposition of Paris banks and financiers to those financial interests, which by French diplomacy and the French cabinet, seem much embarrassed and have more advanced in the hands of the French government.

The rise of foreign exchanges, the decline of trade and other circumstances consequent upon colonial wars, affect the condition of Spanish finances. French capital is largely invested in the colonies, and the Spanish government is unable to meet the demands of the colonies.

The torpedo squadron, unless plans are altered, will start on Friday of this week for the Canaries, while two torpedo destroyers leave England direct for Cuba. A strong sentiment is growing that peace or war should come without delay.

Whaleback's as Fighting Machines.

Cleveland, Ohio, March 11.—It is stated that the United States navy has a plan whereby the big fleet of whaleback vessels on the lakes can be turned into fighting machines in case of war.

The whaleback vessels are of great value for coast defence purposes. An important feature is that they can be submerged so that only one foot of the upper works appear above the water. Spanish whalers are being converted into whalebacks.

There are 35 whaleback steamers on the lakes.

From all over the country, come words of praise for Chamberlain's Colic Remedy. Here is a simple letter from G. S. Little, Little Rock, Ark. I was suffering from a severe cold, when I read of the cures that had been effected by Chamberlain's Colic Remedy. I concluded to give it a trial and accordingly procured a bottle. It gave me prompt relief, and I have the best reason for recommending it, which I do with pleasure. For sale by Langley & Henderson Bros., wholesale agents, Victoria and Vancouver.

FROM THE CAPITAL.

An Important Meeting of the British Empire League at Ottawa To-Day.

Resolution Passed in Favor of the Establishment of a Naval Reserve.

Ottawa, March 10.—There was a meeting of the British Empire League to-day. Lieut. Col. Denison, of Toronto, presided, and there was a large attendance of ministers and members of parliament. Resolutions were passed in favor of the British Empire League, reduced postage and the establishing of a naval reserve for Canadian sailors of the merchant service and also to be used in time of war. A resolution was also adopted regarding the danger of British food supplies in time of war. Mr. Tarte made a good speech, showing that he had been a member of the league for many years. Sir Charles Dupper and Sir Herbert Tupper also spoke. Mr. Tarte thought that it looked well for reduced postage.

The old officers were re-elected at the annual meeting in the tower room of the Canadian Press Association, which was well attended.

An important government announcement was made in the railway committee when the bill amending the Hudson Bay and Pacific Railway company act came up. The company are already authorized to build from Port Churchill on Hudson Bay, to Prince Albert, and westward to Edmonton. The minister of railways objected to this extension because the government wanted to be free to construct a route to the Yukon from Edmonton.

The Kettle River Railway bill was laid over by agreement until next week. Three Yukon railway bills, the Canadian railway, the White Horse tramway and the Lewis river tramway were referred to a sub-committee to report on the facts.

In the house to-day Sir Wilfrid Laurier confirmed the truth of the report that about 200 members of the permanent force were to be sent to the Yukon. Lieut. Col. Lake was now making arrangements as to their outfitting and equipping into the route they would go by Messrs. Morrison and Maxwell made excellent speeches in the house last night on the subject of the Yukon railway. The member for Victoria was sitting beside these Conservatives, who were cheering Mr. Oliver's attacks on British Columbia, yet he had nothing to say in defence of his constituents. Mr. Maxwell pointed to the fact that when a soldier is supporting the Conservatives in the house, the Conservatives had nothing to say against British Columbia or nothing to do for it, but that the present administration was legislating for the benefit of the province the Tories were loud in their denunciation.

Mr. McPherson introduced a bill in the house to-day, respecting the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern railway, which was read a first time.

Twice-a-Week.

Twice-a-Week.

Twice-a-Week.

Twice-a-Week.

PROVINCIAL HOUSE

The Great Speech that Premier Turner Never Delivered Oreated a Sensation Yesterday.

In Order to Help Out the Cabinet of Incapables the Colonial Doctored Reports.

The Trick Exposed and Premier Turner Admits the Published Speech Was Not Delivered.

He Makes an Explanation to the Effect that Somebody Had Made a Mistake.

On the house assembling to-day (Thurs.) Mr. Collier, of the house, read the following resignation from Speaker Higgins: "Speaker of the House, March 8th, 1898. To the Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia."

"Gentlemen, I have the honor to place in the hands of the clerk of your honorable assembly as Speaker of your honorable house."

"I beg to assure you that I highly appreciate the distinction which on three occasions you have been unanimously conferred upon me, and while I feel that I have fallen far short of the expectations that have been formed of my ability, I think I may with confidence say that I have done my best."

"I have ever exercised toward my duties the consideration and forbearance which I hope in a less excited, but equally honorable, position on the floor of the house to continue to work with you for the advancement and progress of the province."

"With sentiments of respect and esteem, I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant. D. W. HIGGINS."

Hon. Mr. Turner then announced the authority of the resignation of Speaker Higgins, and said that he had waited upon the lieutenant-governor and invited him to sign his consent for the house to take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.

"I am surprised at myself and at the house for not having done so long ago. I have accomplished what I have undertaken. REV. J. N. McCRADY, Elkhart, Mich."

DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS FOR PALE PEOPLE. Question often asked is: "Can Dr. Williams' Pink Pills be given to children?"

Yes, they can. Young children the dose is one-third of a pill. Children over ten may take a half pill. The pill can be cut with a knife, and may be dissolved in water if necessary.

Several questions were answered concerning the Yukon. Blair stated that the government had no intention of building a railway from a sea port in British Columbia to Telegraph Creek, but the government had authorized the Yukon Exploration Company to make a geodetic exploration for a route from the coast to the interior.

Mr. Monks was informed that the speech of Mr. Ogilvie's book on the Yukon, at the expense of Messrs. Hunter, Rose & Co., was on the second reading of the Yukon Railway bill was resumed at 4 o'clock on Monday.

Mr. Moore, of Stansand, who spoke for an hour, when he sat down no one spoke, and there were cries of "order!"

Speaker began to put the question, "Is the house ready, will the yeas and nays be taken?"

Mr. Craig, of East Durham, was seen making his way from where he was sitting to the speaker's desk, and taking a key out of his pocket, unlocked his desk, and took out some notes for a speech, which he handed to Mr. Speaker, who was sitting to the right of the speaker's desk.

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theirs that the honorable member who had fulfilled the duties of the office of Speaker so well had taken the action which he had in resigning.

Mr. Speaker elect was then conducted to the throne by Messrs. Walkem and Smith, and upon reaching the top of the steps returned his thanks to the house for the honor conferred upon him, and promised to do his best to deserve the confidence reposed in him.

He asked the indulgence of the house in case of any mistakes he might make, and hoped that they would consider the trying position he was placed in being called upon to resign at so short a notice to take the chair in the middle of the session, after the house had been presided over by such an able Speaker as the late Speaker, who had just vacated the chair.

He felt, however, that he could count upon the support of that gentleman and of all the members of the house in his efforts to perform his duty.

Hon. Mr. Turner then addressed the new Speaker. He said that he had great pleasure in having the honor of addressing the new Speaker, and he sincerely congratulated him. He felt that the house made a good choice, and that the members of the house could depend upon the new Speaker giving fair decisions.

He was also confident that all members of the house would support their aid to sustain the new Speaker. He read the address of the late Speaker, and said that he had read it with interest and admiration.

He felt that at the end of the new Speaker's term he would be as qualified as the honorable gentleman who had preceded him in feeling that he had the full respect of the house.

He would move the adjournment of the house for an hour in order to present the new Speaker to the lieutenant-governor.

The house then adjourned and premier Turner presented the newly elected Speaker to the lieutenant-governor.

When the house resumed Mr. Semlin called the attention of the house to what he considered as a gross breach of privileges of the house.

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by the circumstance that the honorable member knew that the matter was under the consideration of the government, and that his action in bringing the matter up in the way in which he had, looked like an attempt at stealing the show from the government.

With respect to the present resolution of the finance minister said that he quite agreed with it. He thought it was a very good resolution, and with a business-like man to it. The members named as a committee could investigate the matter very well.

As for the references made to the colony of New Zealand, he had some books upon that subject himself, and he fancied that some members had quite a good knowledge of the position of this province in their comparisons with New Zealand. They seemed to fancy that it would be a very easy thing to raise a revenue of \$5,000,000 or \$6,000,000.

They would find that there would be a great deal of trouble in doing so. Compared with this province the case of New Zealand was just as different as it was possible to be. New Zealand had a population of over 1,000,000 people, and there was in that part of the colony that was good agricultural land, and it also had an immense sheep raising business.

Zealand also raised a very large revenue by a tariff. It was true that there were other sources of revenue but the annual production of the tar was about \$2,000,000. The conditions were, therefore, such that if the colony at any time required an extra amount of revenue it could secure it by a re-arrangement of the tariff.

If this province had a tariff it would be much easier for it to undertake the work of the province than necessary. When a country went into the market to borrow money, those who advanced the money always required the country to show that it was able to pay against the loan. In such a case the natural production and wealth of the country was not regarded favorably, as against a tariff revenue.

British Columbia not having so elastic a source of revenue as the tariff afforded, was not in a good position to borrow money. It would be a colony which had a tariff. Had the province a tariff there would be no difficulty in its way to borrowing as much as \$1,000,000 or \$2,000,000, as it is a very different thing in the present case, when the province could only raise money by direct taxation.

In the case of New Zealand the tariff revenue was about \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 out of a total revenue of \$4,000,000 or \$2,000,000. The excess of the tariff revenue over the taxes, and strange to say, by a mortgage tax. They taxed the farmers but they exempted the mortgage indebtedness and the interest on the mortgage.

This was received with opposition applause. The finance minister repeated that if the province had the power of raising a large revenue by means of a tariff the government would be enabled to secure money for the railway without any interest. He thought that in view of the different conditions, the province would have to adopt a different scheme from that of New Zealand.

It was very probable that something of this nature would come before the committee, and the minister would be very strongly supported. It was very questionable, however, whether any province such as British Columbia could go into the money market and borrow the amount of money involved in the proposed scheme without affecting seriously the market price of its securities.

The members of the house should be aware of the effect of cutting down the securities of the province from 104 to possibly 75 per cent. It was necessary for the members of the house that some arrangement very different from that adopted in New Zealand would require to be adopted in this province.

It was not required to borrow such an enormous sum. Mr. Semlin in reply to Hon. Mr. Turner complimented him upon his change of front with respect to the grievances of the farmers as expressed upon a former occasion. He said that the farmers should work harder and live poorer.

After some further talk between Mr. Semlin and Hon. Mr. Turner, in which the latter said that the farmers should work harder and live poorer, the speaker called the members to order and said that he would not be permitted to speak in the house of imputing motives to members, and putting fallacious arguments in their mouths for the purpose of answering them should be stopped.

Mr. Graham in reply to the finance

