JAPAN AGAIN PROTESTS

Which May Involve Great Britain in the War.

JAPAN AND FRANCE.

A despatch from Tokio says:—It is stated that Japan has made a strong protest to France against the Baltic fleet staying at Kamranh Bay. It is strongly felt here that France is actively assisting the Russians within what is practically the zone of hostilities. The expected advent of the third Russian squadron into the China Sea in about a week strengthens the opinion that the situation is one of exceeding gravity so far as French neutrality is concerned, and that it may force Japan to avail herself of her alliance with Great Britain, which provides in the event of Japan being attacked by any two powers Great Britain is bound to assist her. The elder statesmen and the members of the Cabinet held a conference on Wednesday, which lasted five hours.

Subscriptions to the fifth domestic loan of $50,000,000, which is part of the war fund provided for in the budget, will be opened on May 1. The terms will be generally the same as those of the fourth domestic loan.

BITTERNESS IN TOKIO.

The Japanese regard the Kamranh Bay incident with growing feelings of resentment and bitterness towards France. It is popularly believed that the Russian fleet is still at Kamranh Bay, and is making the freest possible use of the port. The demands for strong action on the part of Japan are daily growing louder. Political parties and other organizations are passing resolutions condemning France's alleged violation of neutraility. It is proposed to hold a great popular demonstration.

The Nichi Nichi asserts that the evidence is conclusive that Admiral Rojestvensky is using Kamranh Bay as an actual naval base for belligerent action.

The Jiji discusses France's historical attitude on the question of neutrality and insists that the use of Kamranh Bay enhances Admiral Rojestvensky's fighting capacity, and offers facilities for warlike preparation. Continuing, it says if from the complication grave consequences result to Russia, France will be responsible.

A former Cabinet Minister, discussing the incident to-day, said:

"We are keenly anxious to avoid involving others, but we are bound to protect our rights. If France gives Russia the use of Kamranh Bay, why cannot England allow us to use Hong Kong?"

INVADING COREA.

Eight hundred Russian troops have crossed the River Tumen, invading Northern Corea.

The road from Vladivostock was widened recently, and a large bridge has been constructed over the Tumen.

TO DISARM THE DIANA.

Orders have been given for the disarmament of the Russian cruiser Diana, which took refuge under one of the coast forts in August, 1904. She has undergone important repairs to essential portions of her machinery, which now will be handed over to the French authorities at Saigon.

CONTRABAND ON BOARD.

A despatch from Port Louis, Mauritius, says:—The authorities here refused to supply the German steamer Juliette with enough coal to enable her to get to Batavia, believing that she was carrying contraband. Half of the crew, who are British, thereupon refused to continue the voyage, despite the fact that they were offered double wages. They sent a deputation to inform the Government that they would rather go to prison for breaking their contract than to sail on the Juliette. The German Consul is bringing pressure on the Governor, Sir Cavendish Boyle, to induce him to compel the men to continue the voyage. The Governor is communicating with Mr. Lyttelton, Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the subject. There are indications that the Juliette is bound for Kamranh Bay with provisions for the Russian fleet.

JUNKS BLOWN UP.

A despatch from Shanghai to The London Morning Post says: "Two junks have been blown up by mines near Chusan. The appearance of mines south of Shanghai is causing great apprehension for the safety of European mail vessels."

FIGHTING IN COREA.

A despatch from Tokio says: Headquarters reports the occupation Saturday by a Japanese force of the town of Tungwa, near the Corean frontier, about fifty miles east of Hingking.

It is learned from other sources that there has been some severe skirmishing at Kilju, in Northern Corea, where numerous Cossack detachments are scouting. Large Russian forces are stationed along the Northern Corean frontier.

RETREATING TO THE NORTH.

A despatch from Tokio says: An official report from Manchurian headquarters says:—"A Japanese force advanced toward Tunghus, 50 miles east of Hsicheng, and occupied that place on April 15. The enemy retreated to the north."

JAPAN RUSSIAN SUPPLIES.

A despatch from Yinkow, via Tientsin, says: Few transports are now arriving at Newchwang. This contrast with the rush of traffic since the opening of the Liao River indicates that precautions are being taken against possible interference by the Russian Pacific squadron.

Vast accumulations of stores have already been made along the Japanese lines of communication, assuring full supplies to the armies in the field, even if the transport service is interrupted.

FUMIGATE THEIR BEARDS.

Sanitary Whiskers Insisted Upon in Pittsburg.

A despatch from Pittsburg, Penn., says: When Captain James McLaughlin of the Allegheny Bureau of Health, in starting his campaign to cleanse the city of lurking germs, ordered that all long beards must be fumigated, as they were excellent propogating grounds for the germs, it was looked upon in the nature of a joke by those who do not wear beards and as an insult by those who do.

"The matter was neither intended as an insult not a joke," declared Superintendent McLaughlin. "A great number of cases of scarlet fever last summer were found in families where one or more of the members wore beards. These cases were mostly in the slum districts. Most of the men wear long beards to avoid shaving, and they seldom if ever take a bath. A glance at their beards is convincing proof that they are liable to breed scarlet fever or most any other kind of infectious germs. It was therefore decided that this class of people must keep their beards as well as their places of abode clean.

"It has been found that a solution of bichloride of mercury will destroy any lurking germs that may be propagating in these unclean beards. Where the inspectors find a filthy house presided over by a man who will not keep his beard clean, they will provide him with a bottle of this solution of bichloride of mercury and request that he use it. The inspectors will call at later dates to see that the order is put into force."

USED POISONED BULLETS.

Polish Assassins Adopt This Deadly Method.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: In all recent attacks on the police and administrative officers in Poland their assailants have used poisoned bullets and daggers. At the theatres and music halls performers are arousing great demonstrations by singing and reciting revolutionary verses. These are introduced as encores, as the regular programmes must be passed on by the theatrical censor. Recently the performers did not hesitate to lampoon the Imperial family. Rigid instructions have been issued to the police not to allow encores which have not been approved by the censor.

BURNED TO A CINDER.

Farmer Near Ottawa Meets Death in Midnight Fire.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—James McBride, a farmer, who had been living alone in a frame house about a mile and a half south of Bell's Corners, was burned to death in his home, which was destroyed by fire during Tuesday night. The discovery was made by Mr. Patrick Hammill, who lives about a quarter of a mile from McBride's home. He got up at 5 o'clock, and saw smoke issuing from the direction of McBride's farm. He, however, thought it was from his chimney, and did not know the house was burned until he went outside. He then walked over, and in the smoldering ruins saw the charred remains of McBride.

HAMBURG LINER MISSING.

Steamer Castilia Supposed to Have Gone Down.

A despatch from London says:—The underwriters are anxious concerning the safety of the Hamburg-American Line steamer Castilia, which was due to arrive at Vera Cruz at the end of March. She was reinsured on Wednesday at the rate of 90 per cent. She carries about a dozen passengers and a crew of 30.

Robert Proctor, a negro accused of murdering a companion by throwing him from a circus train last July, was committed for trial on Saturday in London. He defended himself.

LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, April 25.—Wheat—Ontario—The market is dull, with No. 2 red and white quoted at $1.03 to $1.05, spring, 95c, and goose 89c. Manitoba unchanged, for delivery at lake ports on the opening of navigation; No. 1 northern, 99½c; No. 2, 95½c, No. 3, 89½c.

Flour—90 per cent, patents are quoted at $4.35 to $4.45, buyers' sacks, east and west; 15c to 20c higher for choice. Manitoba steady at $5.50 to $5.60 for first patents, $5.10 to $5.40 for second patents, and $5 to $5.30 for bakers'.

Millfeed—$17 for bran and $18.50 to $19 for shorts. Manitoba, $21 for shorts and $19 for bran.

Barley—Dull; 46c to 47c for No. 2, 44c to 45c for No. 3 extra, and 43c for No. 3 malting outside, Toronto freights.

Rye—69c to 70c for No. 2 f.o.b. outside.

Corn—Canadian firm, 47c to 48c for yellow and 46c to 47c for mixed f.o.b. Chatham freights; American unchanged; No. 3 yellow, 55c to 55½c; mixed, 54¾c to 55c on track, Toronto.

Oats—Firm; 40c to 41c for No. 2 white west, 41c to 42c east.

Rolled Oats—$4.35 for cars of bags and $4.60 for barrels on track here; 25c more for broken lots here and 40c outside.

Peas—68c to 69c for No. 2 west and east and 70c for milling.

Buckwheat—59c to 60c east and west.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—The market holds fairly steady.

Creamery, prints	23c	to 25c
do solids	22c	23c
Dairy tubs, medium	16c	17c
do inferior	14c	15c
Dairy lb. rolls, good to choice	21c	22c
do large rolls	19c	20c
do medium	17c	18c

Cheese—Firm in tone and unchanged at 12c for large and 12½c for twins.

Eggs—Are steady at 14½c to 15c.

Potatoes—Ontario, 60c on track and 65c to 70c out of store; eastern, 60c to 65c on track, and 70c to 75c out of store.

Baled Hay—Is quoted unchanged at $8 per ton for No. 1 timothy and $7 for mixed or clover in car lots on track here.

Baled Straw—Offerings are fairly large and the market has an easy tone, and is quoted unchanged at $6 per ton for car lots on track here.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, April 25.—There does not seem to be much change, and buyers could secure No. 2 oats at about 45½c in store, and No. 3 at 44½c. and Peterboro's at 42½c on track. No. 2 peas are quoted at 76c afloat May.

Millfeed—Millers have seen fit to advance their prices $1 per ton each on bran and shorts. Manitoba bran in bags, $19; shorts, $21. Very little Ontario feed is to be had, and prices are about $1 a ton higher than Manitoba.

Hay—Prices are easier at $9 to $9.25 for No. 1, $8 to $8.25 for No. 2, and $7 to $7.50 for shipping hay.

Flour—Manitoba strong bakers', $5.30 to $5.50, and patents $5.60 to $5.80. Ontario straight rollers in bags, $2.50 to $2.55; in barrels, $5.35 to $5.45; patents, $5.70 to $5.80.

Beans—Choice primes, $1.70 to $1.75 per bushel, $1.50 to $1.60 in car lots.

Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, $16.50 to $17.50; light short cut, $16.50 to $17; American cut clear fat backs, $20; compound lard, 6½c to 7c; Canadian lard, 6¾c to 7½c; kettle rendered, 8½c to 9½c according to quality; hams, 12c to 13c; bacon, 13c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, $5.95 to $9.50; mixed, $6.75 to $7; select, $7.25 off cars.

Cheese—Ontario fall white, 12¼c; colored, 12¼c.

Eggs—New laid, 15c.

Butter—Finest creamery, 24c to 24½c; mottled, 22c to 23c.

BUFFALO MARKET.

Buffalo, N.Y., April 25.—Flour—Firm. Wheat, Spring, dull; No. 1 Northern, in carloads, $1.13½; Winter dull; No. 3 red, $1.08. Corn—Firm; No. 2 yellow, 54½c; No. 3 corn, 52½c. Oats—Steady; No. 2 white, 34¾c; No. 3 mixed, 32c.

RIOT OVER A GRAVE.

Police Charge Russian Mob With Sabres, Injuring Many.

A St. Petersburg despatch says:—After a service on Tuesday at the grave of one of the victims of the crane accident at the Putiloff Iron Works on April 13, 300 Putiloff workmen were joined by a small band of men carrying red flags, and shouting "Long live liberty and Anarchy! Down with autocracy!" Mounted police attempted to disperse the procession, but were met with a fire from revolvers. When reinforcements had arrived the police charged the crowd with sabres, striking with the flats of their swords, and injuring several of the workmen. They soon overpowered the rioters, who defended themselves with sticks only. A large number of arrests were made.

FIFTEEN LIVES WERE LOST

Convent at St. Genevieve, Quebec, Destroyed by Fire.

A despatch from Montreal says:—The picturesque little Village of St. Genevieve, on the Riviere des Prairies, in the County of Jacques Cartier, distance about fifteen miles from Montreal, was the scene during the night of April 20th, of a fire which destroyed the beautiful Roman Catholic Convent of St. Anne's, and resulted in the loss of fifteen lives. One of the sisters, ten of the pupils, all girls ranging from 12 to 17 years of age, and four old women boarders of the institution, perished in the flames, while a number of the inmates were injured in escaping from the burning building.

Owing to the lack of communication between the village and outside points, it was impossible to secure any help from Montreal, and the news of the terrible fatality was not received in the city until Friday. The people of St. Genevieve were helpless to prevent the destruction of the building, and the consequent loss of life.

The convent was a stone building, built in old-fashioned style, with solid walls and heavily timbered. It was four storeys high and built in an L-shape. It was used as a school, and was the property of the teaching Order of the Sisters of Ste. Anne. The order controls about 20 establishments in the Province of Quebec, and also has institutions in the New England States. At the time of the fire there were 10 sisters in the convent. There were 37 pupils boarding in the building, a total of 58 pupils receiving instruction at the convent. The sisters also maintained a small hospice for old women. There were five old women in the hospice, all of great age, none being less than 80 years, while one had attained the venerable age of 99 years. The old people were sleeping on the first floor and had two means of egress, but, as the fire originated in their quarters, they must have been overcome early, or else became so confused that they could not find the exit. The sisters and the pupils slept in two dormitories, one being on the third and the other on the fourth floor, and it was among the pupils in this part of the building that the great loss of life occurred. The monetary loss will be about $25,000.

The origin of the fire which brought such devastation and sorrow in its path is unknown, and probably could only be told by lips now sealed in death. Sister Marie Adrienne, who was superioress of the convent at Ste. Genevieve, confessed her utter ignorance of the cause, nor could any of the other sisters who had been rescued from the building tell anything that would throw any light on the mystery. Madame Lavigne, one of the five old ladies who existed upon the bounty of the good sisters, was the only one alive yesterday, and she told an incoherent story that old Madame Potvin had arisen from bed in search of pipe and tobacco, and then threw away the match she had used. The sisters think the old woman's story rather improbable.

AWAKENED BY SMOKE.

One of the elder sisters was first to notice that there was something wrong. About 11 o'clock she was awakened by some then unknown cause. She noticed that the room was heavy with smoke and arose to seek the cause of this. When she reached the hallway she was met by a volume of smoke and at once realized that there was fire in the building. Her cries awakened other sisters, and presently all in the building were aroused.

The sleeping quarters of the convent were divided. Some were downstairs and others were located on the upper floor, the convent being three storeys in height. Those on the lower floor attempted to ascend the stairs to the floors above, but were met by such a rush of smoke that it was beyond physical capacity to mount the stairs in face of it. Those sisters who were on the upper floors appear to have been made quickly aware of the danger. Sister Marie de Jesu spread the alarm. With a bell she sounded a warning, and calling upon the pupils who slept in the dormitories to arise, she went among the beds, saying, "Children get up. Dress quickly, there is a fire in the house."

This sister then warned the pupils in the other dormitories. She then realized the great danger that confronted the children, and hastened to send them down the stairs. But now thick streams of choking smoke poured from below, rendering the passageway difficult and hazardous. Some ran down the stairs, others went half way and then retreated. The sister went part of the way downstairs, and then turned back to the second floor. Here she found her retreat cut off. Making her way to one of the windows she found one of the pupils, Miss Paiement. Breaking the glass the pair took the only chance that remained, and jumped to the ground. Sister Therese broke an arm and was bruised and shaken up. Miss Paiment escaped without serious injury. In the upper floon there remained Sister Marie Adrienne and with her fell the pupils whose lives were sacrificed in the holocaust.

FLASHES FROM THE WIRE

The Very Latest Items From All Parts of the Globe.

DOMINION.

The British Columbia Electric Railway Company has declared a dividend of 6 per cent.

Hamilton Board of Education is for compulsory vaccination of all school children.

Civil service promotion examinations will be held at Winnipeg, Toronto and Ottawa on May 10th.

A million whitefish fry were deposited in the Bay of Quinte at Belleville by Mr. Parker, from the Sandwich hatchery.

The Northern Elevator Company will erect a flour mill at Winnipeg with a capacity of 3,000 barrels daily, it is said.

Purse snatchers are becoming bold in Hamilton. Two ladies while walking in different parts of the city Saturday night were relieved of their cash bags.

Benjamin Pipe of Wapella, Assiniboia, is on the way to England to induce fifty healthy, good-looking girls to accompany him back to the prairie, with the object of marrying them to prosperous young farmers.

FOREIGN.

Grand Duke Sergius' assassin, a Russian named Kaleieff, has been sentenced to death.

The niece of Andrew Carnegie secretly married her riding master about a year ago.

The building of the Western Pacific Railway will give the Goulds a railway from ocean to ocean.

Lord Strathcona predicts that there will soon be a demand in Canada for munitions and weapons of defence.

EPIDEMIC THREATENED.

Ottawa Threatened With the Hull Disease.

A despatch from London, Ont., says:—The Medical Health Officer here says Ottawa is threatened with an outbreak of a peculiar dysentery similar to that which proved fatal in Hull. Numbers of cases have already occurred.

A BRUTAL MURDER.

Tramp Dragged Miss Lowrey Into Yard and Killed Her.

A London despatch says:—Miss Eliza Lowery, sister of a well known resident of Rodney, was brutally murdered at an early hour on Wednesday morning at the home of Benjamin Coville, a railway section employe, one mile north of Rodney, and about forty miles west of this city.

The perpetrator of the crime was a heavily masked man supposed to be a tramp who called at the house and demanded money. Mr. Coville was away at the time, and his wife being an invalid Miss Lowery answered the door when admission was sought by an unknown man about one o'clock in the morning.

The stranger asked for money and when he was refused he seized Miss Lowery and dragged her into the yard where he beat her to death with a heavy club. He then entered the house and secured what money was on hand and left. Mrs. Coville was unable to raise an alarm, and news of the crime did not reach the neighbors until about eight o'clock in the morning.

The victim of the crime was about sixty-five years of age and was in the habit of spending considerable of her time as companion to Mrs. Coville, whose husband, owing to the nature of his occupation, frequently had to be away from home over night.

Mrs. Coville was able to give the police a partial description of the murderer. He had the appearance of a tramp about forty years of age.

SHOT HIS BROTHER.

Robert Fraser Accidentally Killed at Craik, N. W. T.

A Craik, N.W.T., despatch says:—A sad shooting fatality occurred here on Saturday morning. Two brothers, Robert and Earl Fraser, were practising shooting with a revolver, when the weapon accidently discharged in Earl's hand, and the charge lodged in his brother's stomach, death resulting in about thirty minutes. What makes the occurrence doubly sad is the fact that the deceased's brother had sold his homestead on Friday and was leaving on Monday to join his mother at Chatham, Ont., to assist her on the old farm.