

PRESIDENT FOR COAST DEFENSES.

Sends Special Message to Congress Urging Carrying Out of Plans Submitted.

MILLIONS WANTED FOR ISLES

Navy Can Only Act to Advantage on The Offensive, so Coasts Must Be Safe.

Washington, March 5.—President Roosevelt sent a message to Congress today accompanying plans for coast defense prepared by a joint board of army and navy officers, in which he emphasized the necessity for further defense and reviews the history of the defensive works in this country.

The president calls special attention to the recommendation of the board that the entrance to Chesapeake be added to the list of places in the United States to be defended. He says that the insular possessions cannot be longer neglected if the United States desires to hold them.

Defenses are recommended for Manila bay, Pearl harbor, Honolulu, Guantanamo, Cuba, Guam and San Juan, Porto Rico, because of their strategic location. Defenses are recommended for entrances to the Panama canal.

"Our coast defenses, as they existed in 1890, were not surpassed in efficiency by those of any country, but within a few years an introduction of the modern cannon and armor to the navies of the world, against which the smoothbore guns were practically useless, rendered them obsolete. For many years no attempt was made to remedy the deficiencies of these sea coast fortifications. There was no establishment in the country equipped for the manufacture of high-power rifled guns. There were no definite adopted policy of coast defense and Congress was reluctant to undertake a work, the cost of which could not be stated even approximately and the details had not advanced so far as could be ascertained beyond the experimental stages."

The president gives a review of the history and work of the "gun foundry board" and of the "Endicott board," which considered coast defenses and dwells upon the value of the Endicott board's report, which "sets forth a definite and intelligible plan of policy upon which the very important work of coast defense should proceed and which is as applicable as when formulated."

Improvements in the art of war, however, have rendered some of the plans of the board obsolete, and the board's report omitted the cost of land that must be purchased for fortifications and the cost of reserve ammunition. The president continues:

"The omissions in the estimates of the Endicott board and the changes in the details of its plans have caused doubts in the minds of many as to the money that will be necessary to defend completely our coasts by guns, mines and their adjuncts."

"New localities are pressing their claims for defense. The insular possessions cannot be held unless the principal ports, naval bases and coaling stations are fortified before the outbreak of war. These considerations have led me to appoint a joint board of the army and navy to recommend the armament, fixed and floating, mobile torpedoes, submarine mines and all other defensive appliances that may be necessary to complete the defense of our coasts with the most economical and advantageous expenditure of money."

"The board was further instructed to extend its examinations so as to include estimates and recommendations relative to the defenses of the insular possessions, and to recommend the order in which the proposed defense shall be completed so that all the elements of harbor defense may be properly and effectively co-ordinated."

"The board has completed its labors and its report, together with a letter of transmittal by the secretary of war, herewith transmitted for the information of the Congress. It is to be noted that the entrance to Chesapeake bay, not heretofore recommended or authorized by Congress, is added to the list of ports in the United States to be defended, with the important reasons therefor clearly stated, that the gun defense proper is well advanced toward completion, and that the greater part of the estimate is for new work or gun defense, for the accessories now so necessary for efficiency and for an allowance of ammunition which, added to that already on hand, will give the minimum supply that should be kept in reserve to successfully meet any sudden attack."

"The letter of the secretary of war contains a comparison of the estimates of the Endicott board with the amounts already appropriated for the defenses and the estimates of the new board, from which it appears that a complete defense of our coasts, omitting cost of ammunition and sites, can be accomplished for less than the amount stated by the Endicott board, and including the additional localities not recommended by it."

"In the insular possessions the great naval bases at Guantanamo, Subig bay

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and Pearl harbor, the coaling stations of Guam and San Juan require protection, and in addition defenses are recommended for Manila bay, Honolulu, because of their strategic importance of these localities.

"Defenses are recommended for the entrances to the Panama canal, as contemplated by the act of June 28, 1902 (sponsor act) and under the terms of this act the cost of such fortifications would probably be paid from appropriation for the construction and defense of the canal."

"The necessity for a complete and adequate system of coast defense is greater today than 20 years ago, for the increased wealth of the country, the more tempting inducements to attack, and a hostile fleet can reach our coast in a much shorter period of time. The fact that we now have a navy does not in any way diminish this importance of the coast defenses; on the contrary, that fact emphasizes their value and necessity for their construction. It is an accepted naval maxim that a navy can be used to strategic advantage only when acting on the offensive, and it can be free to operate only after our coast defense is really secure and so recognized by the country."

"It was due to the security of the Japanese fleet was free to seek out and watch its proper objective—the Russian fleet—without fear of interruption or recall to guard its home ports against the Japanese fleet. This is one of the most valuable lessons of the late war in the east, and is worthy of serious consideration by our country with its extensive coast line, its many harbors and its many wealthy manufacturing coast cities."

"The security and protection of our interests require the completion of the defense of our coast, and the act of the board estimates the cost of completing the defenses at \$50,759,390, or \$25,556,606 less than the sum proposed by the Endicott board. The secretary says the growing of the country, the improvement of the ordinance and the increase of the navy in the past 20 years have brought about a rearrangement of and additions to the board's estimate of the cost of the defense of our ports made by the Endicott board."

The estimates for the ports added since the Endicott board made its report, including Chesapeake bay, are as follows:

Entrance to Long Island sound, including \$2,945,557 already expended, \$3,261,263; Port Royal, already expended \$132,101; Tampa, including \$794,487 already expended, \$1,120,375; Puget sound, including \$4,293,915 already expended, \$9,890,241; Chesapeake bay, \$1,027,871.

The amount so far appropriated and allotted is \$22,759,583. He estimates the cost for the defense of the insular possessions, including the naval bases and coaling stations, at \$19,873,895, in addition to the \$2,254,320 already appropriated.

The estimated cost for the defense of the insular possessions, exclusive of the cost of land, is \$4,887,632. The recommendations of the Endicott board for the defenses of home ports have been revised and the following ports recommended:

Kennebec river, Portland, Portsmouth, Boston, New Bedford, Narragansett bay, eastern entrance to Long Island sound, eastern and southern entrance to New York, Delaware bay, Baltimore, entrance to Chesapeake bay, Hampton Roads, Potomac river, Cape Fear river, Charleston, Savannah, Key West, Pensacola, Mobile bay, Mississippi river, Galveston, San Diego, Columbia river, Puget sound, lake ports, Kleka island.

A large part of the report is devoted to the question of guns and projectiles to be used for defenses.

SANTA FE TRAIN WRECKED. Albuquerque, N. M., March 5.—Santa Fe passenger train No. 1, westbound, was wrecked at Toltec, N. M., today, 50 miles west of here. Eleven persons were injured, several of them seriously. Five cars, including one tourist car, left the rails.

The private car of Mrs. Paul Morton, wife of the president of the Equitable Life Assurance society, was in the train, but it did not leave the rails and Mrs. Morton escaped with a severe shaking up.

J. A. Summers of Albuquerque is the most seriously injured and may die. Others injured are Mexicans. Traffic was delayed 12 hours. Spreading rails caused the accident.

GERMANY'S POLICY TOWARDS MOROCCO

Is For the Open Door First. Last And All the Time.

SEEKS NO PRETENSE FOR WAR

Ambassador Baron Spee Von Sternberg Defines His Country's Position.

Washington, March 5.—Criticism of Germany's course at Algiers and charges that the German emperor is seeking there an excuse for trouble with France, rather than any agreement about Morocco, which have been current in Washington for some time, received an emphatic reply this afternoon from Baron Spee von Sternberg, the German ambassador. The ambassador denied in the most emphatic terms the charge that Germany wanted war.

"That Germany stands for the open door in Morocco is clearly shown," he continued, "by the proposals she has made regarding the international police system and the international bank. Germany believes that the control of the bank is placed in the hands of France the equity of economic rights will be forfeited and the open door will soon be closed. Africa today shows enough examples of the consequences of this centralized nations which have gradually vanished, leaving in their place a European protectorate."

"The position of Germany and the other signatory powers is on the defensive. Germany has already recognized that France has a preferential position in her frontier regions in spite of the specific provision of the treaty of Madrid stipulating that all powers have equal rights in Morocco. This concession by Germany was only made because of her earnest desire to do everything consistent with the national honor of the world as a whole, but what is the arrangement of the question, and is an other evidence of Germany's desire for an agreement. Should Germany now recede further she would appear in the eyes of the world as weak, but what is of paramount importance, she would be buying peace at the cost of a great international principle, which in the future would prove to be poor economy."

"Nor is it true, as I have frequently seen it stated, that Germany's commercial interests in Morocco amount to little. While this question is for the time overshadowed by the threatened attack on the principle of equal rights of all nations interested in Morocco, it is of vital concern to Germany. While not as large as that of France, Germany's commerce with Morocco is rapidly increasing, while that of France, according to the statistics is apparently at a standstill. The statistics of 1904 value the German trade with Morocco at 10,000,000 marks. These are, however, misleading, as a large part of the German exports to Morocco reach that country via England, Belgium or France and are therefore counted in the trade of those countries. It is evident that what might be termed the indirect commerce between Germany and Morocco amounts to 2,000,000 marks. Then we must take into consideration the German coasting trade of 10,000,000 marks. German funds invested in Morocco amounting to 15,000,000 marks; real estate owned by German firms amounting to 1,000,000 marks, and finally the value of German shipping interests."

"In 1905 German ships containing 426,000 tons register entered the ports of Morocco, against 628 French ships containing 49,000 tons. About 40 German commercial houses of some importance are scattered over the country at important places."

"The official French statistics for 1903 show a value of 21,000,000 francs of French trade with Morocco. The latter has constantly diminished during the last four years and is now only about two-thirds of what it once was. The imports from France have slightly improved in the meantime. The trade between Algiers and Morocco has also diminished, as shown by the French official figures."

"As the German trade with Morocco, evidence can be produced showing that it has nearly tripled in the last 10 years. All of which leads to the conclusion that, while the French trade with Morocco exceeds that of Germany the one is at a standstill while the other is rapidly increasing. Indeed, Morocco is one of the few countries open to the further development of German trade."

"Important, however, as are these facts, the main question at Algiers is that of the equal rights of all and of the open door. Germany proposes that the French should give up the police in Morocco; that the money for this purpose shall be furnished him by the Bank of Morocco, and that a force of international police, composed of officers chosen from the major powers, such as Switzerland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark, shall be entrusted the organization and drill of the entire police force. The police would be under the supervision of the diplomatic corps and Targier, and an officer of high rank should be appointed whose duty would be to watch the development of the new force and report on its efficiency to the diplomatic corps. The acceptance of his proposal would give the police a distinctly international character and make it impossible for any power to exercise special advantages. Moreover, organization of such a force would guarantee the independence of the sultan. Germany firmly believes the above plan furnishes the fairest solution of the question."

"France, on the other hand, declares that she does not object to the organization of the police by the sultan in the port towns of Morocco or to the cost of the force being paid out of the Bank of Morocco. She insists, however, that the foreign officers of the force shall be chosen from the armies of France and Spain."

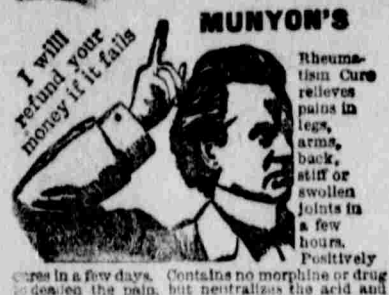
"The adoption of this proposition is opposed by Germany on the ground that such a scheme would strip the police system of its international guaranty, which is the guaranty of the sultan's powers and to the sultan of the maintenance of the open door and of the sultan's independence. If the sultan were forced to select the officers of the police from French and Spanish armies he would soon become dependent upon these two countries."

"Germany is convinced that the officers so chosen would regard their mission from the national rather than the international standpoint. In short, the plan would be tantamount to a double mandate to the exclusion of the other powers interested."

"Germany's proposals with regard to the organization of the bank follow the lines of those suggested for the police, in that they have for their object the preservation of the international character of the bank by placing it under the control of representatives of the powers. The adoption of the French plan regarding this question would, in Germany's opinion turn the bank into a French institution."

"In brief, the acceptance of the

RHEUMATISM



French proposal with regard to the Bank of Morocco and the police system, it is Germany's firm belief, would give economic, financial and military matters thereby closing the door to the rest of the world and destroying rights acquired by treaty."

A DANCE FATALITY.

Fire Starts, Floor Gives Way and Sixteen Are Killed.

Florence, Italy, March 5.—At the village of Fucecchio, 23 miles west of Florence, a house where a dance was in progress tonight took fire. In the panic which ensued, the floor gave way and 16 persons perished while many others were injured.

CLOSING UP STANFORD ESTATE.

San Jose, Cal., March 5.—Judge Hyland of the superior court today granted the Jane Stanford estate permission to sell \$2,000,000 worth of securities, the disposal of which will about close up the estate.

SUIT COMMENCED AGAINST HIRAM TYREE.

San Francisco, March 5.—In the superior court today suit was commenced against Hiram Tyree and the Western Securities company. The suit contains allegations of misuse of moneys collected.

It is stated in the complaint that the Western Agency company was incorporated under the laws of Arizona, with a capital stock of only \$10,000 and that only \$500 was paid in on the stock. C. B. Bates subscribed for some of the stock, and it is said that he did this for Tyree, who at first wanted to conceal his connection with this company. He made F. M. Raliff president of the Western Agency company and



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