

Progress of the War

THE fogs of doubt and uncertainty hung as heavily last week over the seat of war in the far East as at any time since the beginning of hostilities. No official news of land movements was permitted by either Russia or Japan to leak out, while the operations on sea by the Japanese, with the exception of an occasional attack on Port Arthur, were carefully screened. As a result a war correspondent in the East are forced to send out uncertain rumors, without having the time or opportunity of investigating them, and thus much that is unreliable is finding its way into the history of the present struggle.

Relative to the immunity of the Japanese vessels under Russian fire at Port Arthur, the reports do not by any means agree. Two separate reports came, from Chefoo that two Japanese warships, after the bombardment of last week Thursday, were towed in a disabled condition to Suibei for repairs, and a paper published at Tien-Tsin states that the battleship Yamashiro and the cruisers Asama and Tokiwa were damaged and that two torpedo boats were destroyed. According to a Chefoo dispatch the Russians discovered a sunken Japanese torpedo boat in the outer harbor. Later the Japanese bombarded Port Arthur again and the cruiser Askold had a gun dismounted and two men injured.

The Russians deny the loss of a torpedo boat in Pigeon bay. They state that a Japanese shot pierced the hull of a torpedo boat, but that the leak was stopped and the vessel returned to Port Arthur under her own steam. Meantime, according to reports, which neither country confirms, the Japanese have extended their sea operations to the north and are said to be blockading the Russian naval base of Vladivostok. No reports confirming the landing of the Japanese in force at Possiet bay, seventy-five miles south of Vladivostok, have been received. The object of this movement, it was said at the time, was to advance into the interior, some 220 miles to Kirin, which is a town situated on a spur of the railroad running to Port Arthur. The country between Possiet bay and Kirin is mountainous and poorly supplied with roads, so that the Japanese, if such a movement is being conducted, must have at their disposal a strong force. In pushing on to Kirin the Japanese would flank the Russian army being concentrated on the Yalu river, and they would lay their own base of communication exposed to the Russian troops at Vladivostok. At the same time they would be advancing directly into the teeth of the heavy reinforcements which Russia is pouring down the Port Arthur branch of the Manchurian railway.

There seems to be the same dearth of positive information regarding land operations as sea movements. No two reports agree as to the strength



RUSHING TROOPS TO SCENE OF WAR.

Russia has strained every nerve to get troops into Korea. Her Cossacks are the flower of her army. They are said to be the finest cavalrymen in the world. This is a sketch of a regiment of Cossacks entraining at Irkutsk for the scene of conflict.

of Japan's forces in Korea or of Russia's in Manchuria. Probably outside government circles the world does not exist, and neither government is outlining either its land strength or plans. That the Japanese are availing themselves of their temporary mastery of the sea, hastening reinforcements to Korea, is certain; that Russia is straining every nerve to hurry her troops from Europe to the East is equally so. Advance parties of the Japanese and Russians are getting glimpses of each other in Northern Korea and mounted Cossacks are reported as seizing telegraph lines wherever they penetrate. Reports state that Russian mounted cavalry (presumably Cossacks) have appeared at Anju and that a strong force has been dispatched to Eastern Korea. Both sides are apparently maneuvering for position, and it is probable that somewhere near Ping Yang the first serious engagement on land will be fought.

The Japanese are said to have landed 120,000 troops in Korea, and transports are leaving Japanese ports at regular intervals with reinforcements. Russia is moving much slower than Japan in this military movement. Gen. Kourapatkin, who will have supreme control of the land operations in the East, will not leave for the front for a couple of weeks yet, as it is his wish to have 400,000 troops at his disposal before actively entering on the campaign. That Russia does not intend to force the fighting is evidenced by the notification given to our Ambassador at St. Petersburg relative to the American officers who are to make observations with the Russian troops. They are not expected to attach themselves to the Russian army before April 15.

Meantime there seems to be a consensus of opinion among military experts that Japan is preparing for an investment of Port Arthur by sea and land. In fact, in certain quarters the belief is strong that the movement for the land investment is already under way. The Russian commander, Gen. Rossel, who directs the garrison, has issued a proclamation outlining this purpose of the Japanese, and called upon the troops to fight to a finish. "I, as commander," he said, "will never give an order to surrender."

In case of investment, it is interesting to know how well prepared Port Arthur is for such a siege. At the outbreak of the war all civilians were ordered out, so that there would be as few mouths as possible to feed. According to one report, Port Arthur is provisioned for eight months. Should it be able to hold out even for one-half of that time, Russia should be able to pour enough troops down the Liao-Tong peninsula to end the land investment. But it is the belief of military and naval experts that Port Arthur is vastly more vulnerable than it was thought to be when Russia secured a twenty-five years' lease of the place from China and began to fortify it. It is estimated that Russia has 200 guns in position in its forts.



The Whitehead torpedo, the terrible engine of destruction and terror of modern warfare, used by the Japanese navy.

ENTIRE ARMY CALLED OUT.

Czar Issues an Imperial Order Which Will Mobilize All Russia's Troops.
The Czar has issued an imperial order which practically calls out all the troops at Russia's disposal and orders them to prepare for immediate service in the event of a war. The ukase caused much comment in the capital city, not particularly among army and navy officers, but it awed civilians. It foreshadows a long war and indicates that the government is fully aware of the difficulty which will attend the expected triumph of Russian arms in the conflict with Japan.

Officially the order seemed an innocent one. It summoned the reserve subalterns and first-class reserve men of European Russia to the colors for a six weeks' course of training. A similar order was issued to the naval reserves. On the face of it this order does not seem to mean much. But military men and diplomats know it means that everything is being made ready for the mobilization of the entire Russian army.

The order was undoubtedly a shock to civilian Russia. When the war started it was fully believed that the victory over Japan was a matter of but a few weeks. As the days passed and news of Russian victories did not materialize, the public laid it simply to the supposition that the Czar's navy and troops were waiting only until they felt that they could deliver a crushing blow to the forces of the Mikado, and then to end the war in a few months at the most. But this order opened the eyes even of the civilians—the military contingent had long realized that the war would be a long and costly one.



YAMAAGATA.

There and which extend far out to sea. The floating mines in the neighborhood of Dalny are also calculated to keep the Japanese at a respectful distance from Port Arthur.

It is rumored that the Chinese generals, Chang and Ma, may have protested against the neutrality of China and have written to Peking begging the government to form an alliance with Japan.

Told in a Few Lines.

Ferocious violence, the Czar has issued a decree forbidding patriotic celebrations in the streets.

A cable to a Paris paper states that Chinese generals, Ma and Tchang, desire permission to aid Japanese.

KEEP PLANS SECRET.

Big Movement of Troops in Preparation for Decisive Fight.
A Nagasaki cablegram, via Shanghai, says that an extraordinary movement of Japanese troops to the coast is now completed. It includes the first reserves. The second reserves are now being mobilized at Tokio. The Sendai and Kwantung divisions of the army, the best fighting men in the service, already have been transported to Chemulpo, which will continue to be the principal base in Korea.



GEN. KOURPATKIN

Fusan will be made the secondary base for the dispatch of troops along the east coast and for Vladivostok. The railways have been monopolized by the transportation of these troops. The men are not permitted to leave the trains, even dining and sleeping on board. The civilian traffic between Tokio and Kobe has been reduced to a minimum. Immense activity prevails at all points of embarkation. At Kobe and other ports tons of food of all kinds and other supplies have been collected. The censorship has become increasingly strict and all correspondents have been ordered to proceed from Nagasaki to Tokio on pain of instant dismissal. The officials have made use of every device to mystify the public. They even go so far as to place wrong numbers on troop trains in order to mislead everyone as to the strength of the forces sent to the front.



MANCHURIAN RAILWAY GUARDS.

The plan of campaign is not known outside a select circle, consisting of the Emperor, minister of war and some half a dozen heads of the army staff. Even cabinet ministers are kept in the dark.

BAIKAL NOT CONQUERED.

Frozen Lake a Serious Obstacle in Way of Russian Troops.

The reassuring statements published by the chief of the Russian transport service regarding the transport of troops across Lake Baikal are entirely discredited by independent witnesses. According to a Russian informant there is no reason for doubting the reports that many hundreds of soldiers have been rendered unfit for service by the hardships endured on the march over the ice.

The casualties, this authority adds, have been vastly increased by inadequate clothing and the food supplied the soldiers. The men before setting out on the march across the lake are served early in the morning at Baikal station merely with tea and dry bread. At a half way wooden barracks they receive a basin of hot wheaten gruel cooked in salt water without the addition of any fat, and in the evening, at the end of their toilsome journey of forty-seven



RUSSIAN IMPRESSING CHINESE.

miles through wind and snow, they are again provided with tea and dry bread. Many of the men before reaching the barracks manage to sell their thick high boots of felt for bottles of vodka, with the result that their feet are frozen and cases of drunkenness on the march are by no means rare. Stragglers of this description are necessarily left to their fate unless they can be placed by compassionate comrades on pack sledges.

In view of the reported completion of the railway across Lake Baikal it is significant to learn from more than one source that an entire goods train recently sank, owing to the impossibility of suddenly bringing the locomotive to a halt. The engines have now been replaced by horses. This precaution is necessitated by the rifts in the ice.

RUSSIAN ARMY READY.

Ministry of War Declares Troops Await Invasion of Manchuria.

It is stated at the ministry of war that Russia's preparations to meet the Japanese at any point in Manchuria are sufficiently advanced to insure their completion before the enemy can effect an invasion of any consequence. It is expected the Japanese will attempt to advance along the Moutienling line toward Liao Yang. Moutienling is considered impregnable, unless the position is flanked by a force landed in the region of Newchwang.

MARCH AND RIDE BY TURNS.

The Russian Soldiers Do Not Make Through Trip by Train.

The wife of a Russian officer of high rank, who has just returned to St. Petersburg from Port Arthur, leaving that town the day after the first attack by the Japanese, says that innumerable troop trains passed her all the way, this method of transportation being supplemented, so far as possible, by the soldiers marching and entraining alternately. When an east-bound train arrives at a wayside station the soldiers detain to march to the next stage, their places being taken by men who had been marching from the last stage. The soldiers are thus kept in better condition.

WAR NEWS IN BRIEF.

About 25,000 tons of British coal are now being loaded on Japanese steamers at London for Japan.

Japanese mobilization is unaccompanied by the flaunting of banners, music or demonstrations.

Japanese officers and sailors who manned the fated transports at Port Arthur expected to meet death.

Tokio banks report the national loan of 100,000,000 yen (40,800,000), has been covered nearly four times.

All the Americans formerly at Sun-Chun, with the exception of one family, have departed at Ping-Yang.

The first complete train traversed Lake Baikal on the ice railroad Tuesday. It consisted of twenty-five cars.

A further consignment of guns and ammunition has been dispatched from St. Petersburg to the far East.

Japan, finding that she has no use for so many auxiliary cruisers, will return many of them to the merchant marine.

Russia will consider the proposed cable from Japan to Gunnar contraband of war if the United States gives consent for its construction.

Russians are advancing on Korea and troops already have penetrated south of Anzu, while a landing has been effected on the east coast.

Orders to Consul Edwin V. Morgan to proceed to Dalny were recalled by the government, the right of Russia to object being recognized.

Alexieff has issued a proclamation to the Chinese in Manchuria warning them that they must aid Russian forces or extermination will follow.

That the nations of Europe are abandoning their fear of complications growing out of the war is shown by France and England resuming work on their treaty.

A committee of Slavonic citizens of New York City, headed by Francis J. Nekarda, announced their intention of raising \$200,000 as a war fund in aid of Russia.

The Red Cross Society at St. Petersburg has ordered its Siberian agents to prepare 1,000,000 additional pounds of grain and large quantities of meat and sterilized milk.

The Czar was overcome with emotion at the friendly spirit shown in Emperor William's recent letter to him on the war in the far East. When he read it he burst into tears.

Apparently official utterance in a Berlin paper states that the policy of the German government is not to stir up strife in the war, and that peace in the Balkans is its aim.

A witness of the engagement between the Russian cruiser Novik and the Japanese fleet in the harbor at Port Arthur praises the handling of the cruiser and the daring of its crew.

Japanese have landed 20,000 troops at Chemulpo and are confining disembarkation to that of transports and supplies. Eight thousand troops believed to be marching toward Ping-Yang.

An exhibition is being arranged at St. Petersburg of all the Russian art objects which it was intended to exhibit at St. Louis. The proceeds will be devoted to the Red Cross Society.

Novoe Vremya, an important Russian newspaper, castigates Secretary of State Hay for his recent diplomatic work and charges that the Washington officials are showing hostility to the Russians.

The Russian government earnestly desires the conservation of the old friendship with the United States, and the report on the Vicksburg matter causes a reaction from the general bad feeling.

Viceroy Alexieff reports to the Czar that the Japanese attempted to send a fleet of four ships laden with inflammables into the harbor at Port Arthur. They were destroyed by the Russian guns and the convoy was driven back.

The price of horses is rising rapidly at Irkutsk in Siberia. Over \$40 is now offered, while a year ago \$20 was the price. This is explained by the demand for horses at Lake Baikal and the probable requisition for the army.

Pilgrims from various parts of Russia are arriving at Saroff to solicit the intervention of St. Seraphim in behalf of their relatives. St. Seraphim was canonized by the Czar last summer on account of his fame as a miracle worker.

Prince Lobanoff, the governor of the Russian province of Tambovo, has issued a warning to the peasants against selling horses to dealers, who are now trying to buy 3,000 horses, ostensibly for the British army, but really for the Japanese.

Seven rounded engineers arrived at Saschou from the stone-laden merchant steamers sunk off Port Arthur Feb. 24. They report that the sinking of the vessels was managed by wires connecting them with the Japanese torpedo-boat destroyers.

The Hebrew community at Grajoro, Russia, crowded the synagogue Saturday to pray for a Russian victory. The rabbi compared the Japanese to the Amalekites, "the memory of whom would be wiped out." The congregation raised a subscription for war purposes.

The railway between Samara and Zintoust, European Russia, and the Siberian lines, with all the territory appropriated by the government for the purposes of these railways, have been placed under martial law, in order to insure the regular running of military trains.

The prices of provisions at Irkutsk, Siberia, are rising by leaps and bounds. A fortune of \$10,000 was made in a few days by a man who bought up all the available felt used for lining. The government ordered the inside of railroad cars lined with felt and the authorities were forced to buy all the speculators' stock at double price.

The Nobles Club at Moscow has voted \$50,000 for the navy fund and \$25,000 for the Red Cross Society. A tobacco list named Bostanoglo has taken 2,000,000 cigarettes and a sugar refiner, M. Teveschenko has donated a car load of sugar for the Red Cross Society. Grand Duchess Serge is sending a field church to the front for the use of the army.

WHILE THE WAR GOES ON.



"Uncle Sam: 'Looks a bit stormy over there, but it will not hinder me from doing this little job of plowing.'"

CHURCH TEACHES POLYGAMY.

Mormon President Smith Admits that Fact in the Smoot Case.

Mormonism was placed on trial before the Senate committee on privileges and elections Wednesday when the taking of testimony was begun to determine whether the Reed Smoot of Utah should retain his seat in the Senate. Joseph D. Smith, president of the Mormon Church, was on the witness stand all day and in his testimony admitted that he believed polygamy to be right and that the governing bodies of the church held the same position and that the church still taught polygamy, despite the order of President Woodruff against polygamous marriages.

For those protesting against the seating of Smoot it was contended that he, being one of the church's twelve apostles, was sworn to uphold beliefs and practices in conflict with the laws of the nation and therefore was unfit to help make the nation's laws. Mr. Smoot's lawyers tried to restrict the inquiry to certain points and to court methods. The committee, however, decided to hear every bit of testimony offered and to make its own rules of procedure and this decision put the church as well as Mr. Smoot on trial.

John G. Carlisle, former Secretary of the Treasury, and ex-Congressman R. W. Taylor of Ohio are the attorneys for the protestants. A. S. Worthington of Washington and Waldemar Van Cott of Salt Lake City are the lawyers for Mr. Smoot.

Smith Gives Source of His Power. In his testimony President Smith explained that the first presidency was composed of the president of the church and two high apostles or counselors and that the twelve apostles, of whom Mr. Smoot was one, were next in authority. The presidents were elected by the council and the apostles, but he believed and it was taught that the presidents were really chosen by divine revelation and sealed with authority from the holy priesthood by authority direct from God. Mr. Smith said he was a prophet and seer and received revelations direct from God.

President Smith declared that notwithstanding a second revelation to dry effect that polygamy is not obligatory upon members of the Mormon church, he still believed polygamy was right. He was questioned closely in regard to the principles of divine revelations. He said he adhered absolutely to all the teachings of the church in that regard, and that he himself had been visited with divine inspirations from God directing him as to details in matters pertaining to the welfare of the church; though no angels had come to him, as in the case of

other prophets.

Smith's testimony was a revelation to his uncle, Joseph Smith, Jr., the founder of the church. He subscribed to the standard of authority for the church in relation to the revelation commanding polygamy as made known to the first president in a visit from "an angel in black."

The testimony was directed in a slight degree at Senator Smoot, and no attempt was made by the defense to entail the admission of testimony until President Smith was questioned in relation to polygamous cohabitation of certain officials of the church before the manifesto of 1890.

The attorneys then objected, and much time was devoted to the relevancy of such testimony. The committee went into executive session, and after a full discussion determined to allow the testimony to be taken, which means that certain contestants to seats in Congress, but never before has there been inaugurated an inquiry into creeds or political factors to determine whether an unlawful influence is being exerted in the political affairs of the nation.

Lemon Extract Still Will Give. Five young men of Stillwell, I. T., are dead and others are critically ill as a result of drinking lemon extract in large quantities as a stimulant.

JAPANESE PRONUNCIATION.

A like a in father. At as in stale. B like a in beam. Bl as in weigh. I like I in pin. U as in blue. O like o in pony. U as oo in moon.

I in the middle of a word and u in the middle or at the end of a word are sometimes almost inaudible.

The consonants are all sounded, as in English; z, however, has only the hard sound, as in "give," although the nasal ng is often heard; ch and s are always soft, as in "check" and "sin"; and z be-

fore u has the sound of dz. In the case of double consonants, each one must be given its full sound and giving warning that there are as many syllables as vowels. There is practically no accent.

Be sure to avoid the flat sound of a, which is always pronounced ah.—From "A Handbook of Modern Japan," by Ernest W. Clements.

BLIZZARDS SWEEP WEST.

Fiercest Storms of the Winter Sweep across Several States of the Northwest Wednesday and Thursday. It covered the prairies of North Dakota and Minnesota and the hills and valleys of northern Wisconsin with a deep fall of snow that tied up street cars in many places and delayed steam railway traffic.

While a 50-mile gale blowing straight for Chicago was descending from the Lake Superior region Wyoming was laboring under a blizzard that had drifted in from the Rockies, and Nebraska was suffering an unprecedented drop in temperature of sixty-three degrees within a few hours. From seventy-nine degrees the Nebraska temperature dropped to sixteen. A gale was whipping across the whole state and giving warning that the Wyoming blizzard and its cold wave was traveling eastward at a terrific gait.

Michigan and Colorado, at the same time, were experiencing all the rigors of cold, hurricane and snow. Iowa, too, was shivering, first in a sleet storm and two hours later under a fall of snow, the temperature having dropped twenty-five degrees.

The cold wave reached Chicago Thursday night, and the thermometer closely hugged the zero point. The advance agent of the cold wave arrived Thursday morning. He brought a few handfuls of snow, which he scattered about. The cold was characteristic of December rather than March.

POUR TROOPS INTO KOREA.

The Japanese Transports Load Large Force Near Ping-Yang.

A dispatch from Vladivostok says that according to private reports there are three Japanese detachments of 800 men each recently landed at Chung-Chan, Korea, about 130 miles north of Won-San, with the supposed object of reaching the valley of the Tumen river and threatening Hun-Chun, Manchuria, nine miles north of the Korean boundary and about eight miles west of Vladivostok.

The landing in force of the Japanese on the Leo-Tong peninsula and the beginning of the land investment of Port Arthur will not begin for a fortnight, according to advices received in Washington from what are believed to be reliable sources.

FROM FAR AND NEAR.

Fire at Poland, N. Y., destroyed several business houses, causing a loss of \$25,000, fully insured.

Dr. Charles St. John, a brother of ex-Gov. John P. St. John, is dead at his home in Salina, Kan., after a lingering illness of several weeks.

It is reported from Washington that President Roosevelt wants Senator Fairbanks of Indiana to accept the nomination for Vice President.

The Kansas State Bar Association has adopted a resolution forbidding the furnishing of intoxicating liquor in connection with its banquets of the future.

The Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute of Hampton, Va., is left \$100,000 by the will of Hudson Hoagland, who died in New York Jan. 30.

The Portland woolen mills, at Sellwood, a suburb of Portland, Ore., have been destroyed by fire. Loss \$150,000, insurance \$100,000.

RECORD BY CONGRESS.

LEGISLATION WELL ADVANCED MAY ADJOURN EARLY.

By the Middle of April the Session Is Likely to End—Tariff and Finance Measures Must Wait—Hopes for Pension Bill.

Washington correspondence: THE program mapped out by the Republican leaders at the opening of Congress is progressing favorably and, barring unforeseen events, is likely to result in the making of a record for the early adjournment of Congress at a long session.

Among the leaders on both sides of the Capitol the consensus of opinion seems to be that the present session will close not later than the middle of April. Strongly to say, the Democrats are in full accord with the present arrangements and are not doing anything to retard legislation and little to make political capital out of what is transpiring.

The early adjournment slogan means death to practically all pending legislation of public nature. Already the proper committees have officially declared against the introduction at this session of both rivers and harbors and a public buildings bill. Some of these items will be included in the bill for the adjournment of a record for the early adjournment of Congress at a long session.

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