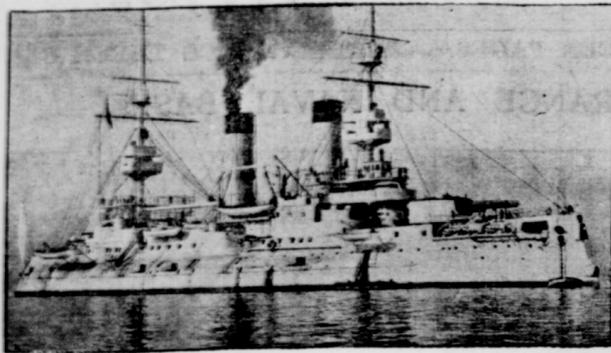
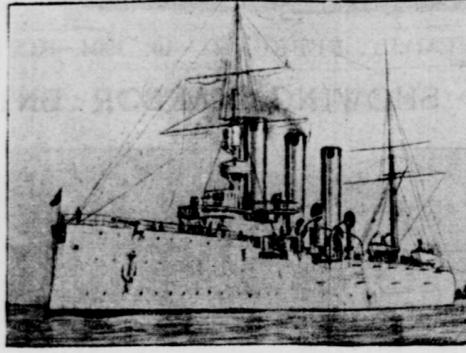


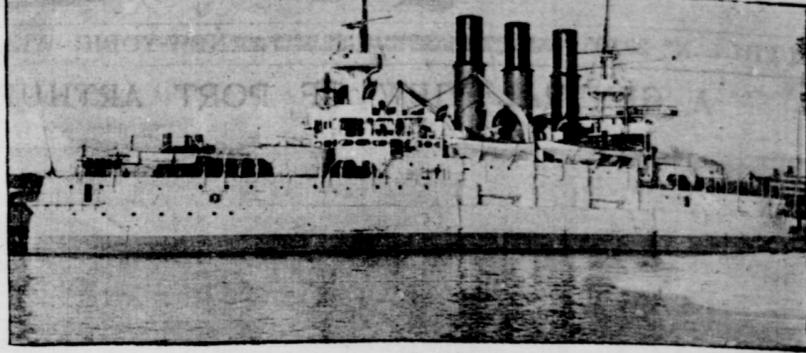
THE THREE RUSSIAN WARSHIPS WHICH WERE BEACHED AT PORT ARTHUR.



The battleship Czarevitch.



The cruiser Pallada.



The battleship Retvizan.

the guns of Port Arthur, while the world waits to find out whether Aboukir or Santiago has been repeated.

When a decisive battle of sea power has been fought, the Japanese can choose between marching through Seoul to the Yalu, or menacing the railway between New-Chwang and Liao-Yang. The Russian forces are massed at three points—Port Arthur, the railway south of Moukden and the mouth of the Yalu, where the chief road to Seoul is commanded.

Sensational accounts of the burning of Port Arthur and the destruction of the Russian fleet are discredited at both the Russian Embassy and Japanese Legation here. Many contradictory reports are published, but little doubt remains that three Russian vessels have been disabled with serious loss, and that the Japanese have acquired at the outset the supremacy of the sea.

BRITISH SATISFACTION.

Japanese Praised—Guarded Comment on Mr. Hay's Note.

London, Feb. 10.—The dispatch from Major General Fling, issued at St. Petersburg on the engagement of Port Arthur, has not yet reached the English newspapers, and the various accounts of the Port Arthur fight published this morning leave much to be desired on the point of exactitude. It is the general opinion of the British press, however, that Viceroy Alexieff's dispatches conceal the extent of the damage that the Japanese onset inflicted upon the Russian fleet, and that when the actual facts become known it will be seen that Japan, by her pluck and energy, has practically secured command of the sea.

In an editorial "The Daily Telegraph" says that unless all signs are astray, "the Far Eastern fleet which Russia built up with extraordinary exertions during the last five years is in its death agony."

"The Times" says the moral effect of the blow which Japan suddenly delivered can hardly be exaggerated, and that the immediate strategic consequences are scarcely second in importance to the moral effect.

All the daily papers express the greatest satisfaction at such a complete and unexpected initial success on the part of the Japanese.

Secretary Hay's note to the powers on the integrity of China created great interest at the Japanese Legation here, where it was characterized as "a serious blow to Russia." Beyond this statement, however, the legation officials refused to be quoted. The daily papers publish the note with great prominence, but while admitting its extreme importance and urging the most careful consideration of the proposal, they comment upon it in a tone of considerable caution.

"The Times" says it hopes it will meet with general support, as it would limit the danger of the disturbance of the world's peace.

"The Morning Post" points out that the difficulty is to define what is meant by "China," but says it thinks Great Britain would readily assent to Secretary Hay's proposal.

"The Daily Chronicle" and "The Standard" are equally in favor of the idea if it can be put into execution, but these papers think the proposal requires close scrutiny, owing to the difficulty of carrying it into effect.

A TUMULT IN RUSSIA.

Censorship Stops Details of Battle—Czar at Service.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 9.—A rigid censorship is exercised on all telegrams from Port Arthur, and the public is still completely in the dark as to the result of the fighting there.

The report given out by the Admiralty this afternoon of the sinking of eleven Japanese warships in the Far East travelled over Russia and Europe, and St. Petersburg was besieged by telegrams asking for confirmation. Later in the day, when doubt was cast on the accuracy of this report, public anxiety became most acute. Inquiries for an official statement were met

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with the response that, in accordance with the circular issued last Sunday, all official reports would first appear in the "Official Messenger."

The news that Japan had duplicated her tactics at the opening of the Chino-Japanese war by a torpedo attack on the Russian ships off Port Arthur created intense excitement. The bare announcement arrived from Viceroy Alexieff at 8 o'clock this morning.

Stocks fell enormously here to-day. Four per cent consols dropped from 144 to 139, Imperial rentes from 95 to 94, the Russian Bank of Foreign Trade from 320 to 300, International lost 20 points, Mantasheff petroleum went down 30, Nobel shares lost 45 points, First Premium State Loan lost 43, Second Premium State Loan 58 and Third Premium State Loan 34. These losses are typical.

A manifesto declaring the existence of a state of war will be issued to-night.

The vast square in front of the Winter Palace is crowded this evening with an immense assemblage of people, carriages and sleighs. Among the excited, cheering crowds the wildest reports of happenings in the Far East were circulating.

RUSSIAN RULERS ASK DIVINE HELP.

There was an unprecedented scene at the religious service held in the Winter Palace at 4 o'clock this afternoon. At the command of the Czar a great concourse of ministers, court officials, high State functionaries, women of rank and military men assembled in St. George's Hall, all the men arrayed in full uniform. After some delay, which became almost oppressive because of the feeling of solemnity plainly apparent, the doors of the imperial apartments were opened and the Czar entered, wearing the uniform of the 1st Guard Regiment of Russia, with the Czarina Dowager on his arm. The Dowager wore a costume of pearl gray and no jewels. The young Czarina, wearing white and silver, followed, escorted by the Grand Duke Michael, the heir presumptive. The entire imperial family followed in order of precedence.

Approaching a group of naval and military officers, his majesty turned gravely and greeted them with customary Russian phrase: "I wish you good health, gentlemen."

The officers responded with vigorous hurrahs. The scene became one of wild enthusiasm, amid which the imperial procession moved forward, entered the chapel, advanced to the altar and stood with bowed heads, while the choir and clergy intoned an impressive intercessory service of the Greek Church. An intensely religious spirit pervaded the entire assemblage, which crowded the little palace chapel to its utmost capacity. During the recital of the Litany many knelt and bowed their heads to the chapel floor.

The court chaplain, attended by the deacon, reverently approached the Czar and sprinkled him with holy water from the chalice and presented a crucifix, which the Czar kissed fervently.

At the conclusion of the service the imperial party slowly retired. As they re-entered the palace another burst of enthusiasm greeted them. The Czar made no address. Darkness had fallen before the service was finished.

NAVAL RESERVES CALLED OUT. Fervish activity reigned at all the Ministries, and war preparations were pushed in all directions. The Naval Reserves have been called out. The Russian Red Cross already has sent 2,000 beds to the Far East and Sisters of Mercy are leaving.

The temper of the people, which was indicated in the great personal demonstration accorded to their majesties at the Imperial Opera House yesterday evening, the audience rising and singing "God, Save the Czar and Give Him Victory," was further manifested this morning after the arrival of the news from Port Arthur in the crowds of volunteers who besieged the general staff offices.

The action of the Japanese in attacking the Russian fleet without a declaration of war is denounced as an outrage by the Russians generally, and the result, instead of discouraging them, seems to have been to furnish the spark necessary to fire Russian patriotism. From the larger centres through European Russia comes information that the country is roused by the Japanese action.

Commenting on the address of loyalty from the Provincial Council of the government of Yaroslavl, the "Novoe Vremya" says it indicates the sentiments of the whole Russian people, adding: "Woe betide Japan."

The effect on the Bourse, where, it was rumored, the full extent of the fighting at Port Arthur had not been made public, and that the engagement was still going on, was that a resumption of the panic seemed absolutely inevitable. The market had no support, Imperial 4s falling another point. Lottery bonds were quoted at 30 rubles, and bank stools at 26.

The United States Ambassador, Mr. McCormick, was informed this morning that Russia had no objection to the United States looking after Japanese interests in Russia. Mr. McCormick's principal duties will be to protect the few Japanese subjects in European Russia. There are only twenty of them in St. Petersburg and five in Moscow. There may be difficulties in Asiatic Russia.

It is learned that M. Kurino recommended his

government, instead of the action taken, to suspend negotiations with Russia and to offer to submit the controversy to the Hague Arbitration Tribunal, but it is believed here that the Japanese feared that on account of the excitement of the people the masses would not support the government in such a course.

The Russian authorities declare that the Russian response was in Baron de Rosen's hands, at Tokio, and was being translated when Japan's notification of the severance of diplomatic relations arrived.

The express train service between Irkutsk and Manchuria has been suspended.

DISSENSIONS IN ARMY.

Russian Generals Opposed to Alexieff's Full Control.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 9.—Serious differences have arisen in high quarters over the command of the Russian land forces in the Far East. One faction favors placing both land and sea forces under Viceroy Alexieff. The generals and other high officers of the army believe that the prestige of General Kuropatkin, the War Minister, is essential to achieving success with the land forces, and they therefore urge a division of authority. In any event, it is understood that Viceroy Alexieff, as the Czar's representative in the Far East, will have general direction of the operations.

As the passage of Lake Baikal by train across the ice appears to be too dangerous, the Russian reinforcements will cross the ice on foot, and the war material will be transported over a temporary line.

A dispatch to the "Novoe Vremya" from Port Arthur says:

In consequence of Corea's neutrality it is assumed here that Japan will be obliged to withdraw her infantry and artillery from Seoul.

Much uneasiness is reported at Seoul, owing to the arrival there of Japanese soldiers, who intend to build barracks.

The Korean noblemen who have been residing in Japan have received permission to return home.

JAPAN FREES VESSELS.

Three Russian Steamers Stopped, but Released.

London, Feb. 10.—In a dispatch from Shanghai, dated February 9, a correspondent of "The Daily Telegraph" says the Japanese have stopped and released three Russian steamers, the Moukden, the Amour and the Schulka.

"One Russian warship, an obsolete sloop named the Mandjur, the correspondent continues "is here, and Captain Crown, who commands her, is evidently retained as an intelligence officer. He is assisting the Russian military agent, General Dessino.

"The Russians expect that Japan will be too punctilious to begin naval hostilities until the alien crews have been discharged from the Japanese cruisers Niasin and Kazaga."

FRENCH FAVOR RUSSIA.

Popular Feeling Strong Against Japan—Neutrality Assured.

Paris, Feb. 9.—A great wave of popular sympathy for Russia was brought out by the news of the engagement off Port Arthur. The newspapers, without exception, severely arraigned Japan. The "Temps" semi-officially said: "Japan's brutality in making a night attack before a declaration of war is her second offense against the rules of international law.

The "Journal des Debats" declared Japan's action was contrary to the accepted rules of international law, giving promise that Japan proposes to conduct the war without regard to modern usages of warfare.

The "Patrie" gives sensational prominence to its assertion that Japan committed an act of international treason, compares the attack on the Russian fleet off Port Arthur with the blowing up of the Maine, and asserts that Europe will "hold Japan responsible for this treason."

The authorities on international law who gave their opinions on the subject expressed the belief that Japan committed a breach of international law.

Notwithstanding this bitterness, however, universal recognition was given to Japan's naval prestige had been materially increased.

In Russian diplomatic circles the success of Japan last night naturally aroused the greatest regret. It was frankly admitted that Russia expected to be defeated upon the sea, but it was added that she would certainly conquer on land.

The attitude of the French government in view of the war is now definitely determined upon. France will maintain neutrality under any and all circumstances, the Franco-Russian alliance being construed as not requiring France to intervene in behalf of Russia even should Great Britain or any other third power intervene in behalf of Japan.

Information has been received here showing that the British government will issue a declaration of neutrality within a few days, perhaps immediately, and that France will take the same course within a day or two.

At a council of ministers held at the Elysee

Palace to-day under the Presidency of M. Loubet, the Foreign Minister, M. Delcasse, communicated the news of the first Japanese attack with torpedo boats on the Russian fleet off Port Arthur, and announced that the French Minister at Tokio had been instructed to assume the protection of Russian subjects and their interests in Japan.

The naval engagement is understood to have mainly occupied the attention of the council of ministers. The impression prevailed that the three Russian ships torpedoed are so disabled as to be unserviceable for the remainder of the war, thus placing the Russian fleet in a state of manifest inferiority. It is said that members of the council of ministers expressed astonishment at the alleged negligence of the commanders of the Russian ships in permitting the Japanese to surprise them.

The Japanese Legation announces that Japan has requested China to declare coal contraband of war. The effect of this would be to cut off the main coal supply of the Russian fleet at Port Arthur. The legation officials add that China's continuance of supplying coal to the Russians would be a breach of neutrality.

OUR NEUTRALITY.

Cabinet Decides That Squadron Shall Not Go to Port Arthur.

Washington, Feb. 9.—At the Cabinet meeting to-day long and careful consideration was given to the situation developed by the Russo-Japanese war. The meeting lasted more than two hours, and nearly the entire time was devoted to a discussion of the Far Eastern situation. It is not anticipated that the United States government will be drawn into the conflict, although it will be watched closely and anxiously by this government.

Early to-day the President and Secretary Hay, as well as Secretaries Taft and Moody, were placed in possession of the news of the naval conflict near Port Arthur. Prior to the Cabinet meeting that was the only information concerning the battle which had been received by the administration. A dispatch from United States Minister Allen, at Seoul, Corea, received this morning, did not mention the naval engagement.

It was decided that the United States should preserve absolute neutrality between the combatants, but it is scarcely likely that a proclamation will be made formally of that decision until official advices of the actual beginning of hostilities have been received.

The Cabinet also discussed briefly the Panama Canal situation, but no information concerning the details of the discussion was disclosed. It is the hope of the President and his Cabinet that the canal treaty will be ratified by the Senate before the close of the present month.

Secretary Hay was present at the meeting to-day, this being the first session he has attended for several weeks. He is much improved in health and took an active part in the deliberations of the Cabinet. Secretary Taft informed the Cabinet of his action yesterday in ordering troops to Baltimore, and stated that on receiving assurances from Mayor McLean that the services of the troops were not needed, he had countermanded the orders issued yesterday and had withdrawn such of the troops as already had arrived. The Cabinet approved this action of the Secretary.

Orders will be called to Rear Admiral Evans to send his cruiser squadron, consisting of the Albany, the New-Orleans, the Raleigh and the Cincinnati, from Subig Bay to some point in Chinese waters yet to be determined, for the purpose of observing the naval operations. It is expected that the squadron can coal and get under way within two days. Admiral Evans is expected to keep the battleship squadron in Philippine waters throughout the period of hostilities between Russia and Japan. It was finally decided at the Cabinet meeting to-day, after long consideration, that the cruiser squadron should not go to Port Arthur.

Admiral Evans is not instructed regarding his own movements, but it is believed in naval circles that he will transfer his flag to the Albany and proceed northward with the squadron.

POWERS PLEASED.

Will Support Us in Asking for China's Neutrality.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Announcement may be expected from the State Department, probably to-morrow, of the hearty indorsement by the European powers of the note of Secretary Hay calling on them to take concurrent action with the United States in its efforts to insure the neutrality of China and to confine the Japanese-Russian war to those two combatants. A sufficient number of governments already have been heard from, including Great Britain, to insure the success of Secretary Hay's latest diplomatic move.

Japan, it can be stated on the highest authority, welcomes the action of this government, and, while up to a late hour to-night the Russian position had not been ascertained, officials of the State Department feel confident the representations of this government will be received with favor at St. Petersburg. It is felt that any official word on the subject would be imprudent at present, but it can be said that unofficially it was known in advance that Germany and Great Britain and France and Japan were all anxious that the neutrality of China be preserved.

OTHER POWERS TO BE NEUTRAL.

China, Italy and Norway and Sweden Announce Their Intention.

Paris, Feb. 9.—China, it is understood, has given official assurances that she will immediately issue a declaration of neutrality. This is considered highly important, in view of the possibility of Chinese, impressed by the Japanese success at Port Arthur, joining the Japanese.

anese success at Port Arthur, joining the Japanese.

Rome, Feb. 9.—Premier Giolitti announced in the Chamber of Deputies to-day that Italy would maintain the strictest neutrality during the war in the Far East, and would do all possible otherwise to bring about the re-establishment of peace.

Stockholm, Feb. 9.—The government of Sweden and Norway to-day decided to observe strict neutrality during the war between Russia and Japan.

FRANCE'S FLAG RAISED.

Republic to Garrison Forts Being Vacated by Russians.

London, Feb. 9.—A dispatch to Reuter's Telegram Company from Tien-Tsin says: "A French transport, with a battalion of troops from Tonquin, is hourly expected at Shan-Hai-Kwang, on the Gulf of Liao-Tong, to garrison the forts which are being vacated by the Russians. It is reported that the tricolor of France was hoisted there this morning, and that the British officer in charge of Shan-Hai-Kwang protested against the French occupation. At present there is only a single sentry guarding the flag.

MAIL BOAT CAPTURED.

Russian Steamer Falls into the Hands of the Japanese.

London, Feb. 9, 7:51 p. m.—A dispatch to Reuter's Telegram Company from Shanghai says it is credibly reported that the Russian mail steamer Mongolla, which sailed from Shanghai on Sunday, has been captured by the Japanese off the Shan-Tung peninsula.

"JAPS" ON COREAN COAST.

Mikado Projects Bold Military Moves, According to Takahira's Cable Dispatch.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Mr. Takahira, the Japanese Minister, received a cable dispatch from Tokio to-day informing him of certain projected military moves. It is expected that Japanese troops will be landed at several points on the Korean coast.

The Japanese Minister to-day called his Foreign Office, at Tokio, and to Mr. Kurino, the Japanese Minister at St. Petersburg, that the United States has consented to look after Japanese interests in Russian territory.

THE SHIPS DAMAGED.

Two Were the Most Powerful of the Russian Navy.

Two of the vessels which are reported damaged by the Japanese torpedoes are the most powerful battleships of the Russian navy. They are the Czarevitch and the Retvizan. They are smaller than the Japanese Mikasa, the Hatsuse, the Oosaki and the Shikishima, of the Japanese navy, but both are larger than any ship of the United States navy, and carry as heavy an armament as the Maine. The Pallada is a cruiser.

The Retvizan was built by the Krups. Its measurements are as follows: Displacement, 12,700 tons; length, 354 feet; beam, 72.2, draught, 35; twin screws; indicated horsepower, 16,000; speed, 18 knots; guns, four 12-inch, twelve 6-inch rapid fire, forty-eight various; 750 men.

The Czarevitch is of French construction. Its displacement is 13,111 tons; length, 388.8 feet; beam, 76.2; draught, 35; twin screws; indicated horsepower, 16,300; speed, 18 knots; guns, four 12-inch, twelve 6-inch quick fire, six torpedoes tubes, forty-eight various; 750 men.

The measurements of the Pallada are as follows: Displacement, 6,500 tons; length, 434 feet; beam, 65.5; draught, 21; triple screws; indicated horsepower, 11,500; speed, 23 knots; guns, six 6-inch rapid fire, twenty 2-inch, eight 1 1/2-inch, four torpedo tubes.

The Retvizan is shielded with 9-inch Krupp plates constituting an armor belt extending two-thirds her length, and terminating at the aftward bulkheads. The turrets are protected by steel from five to ten inches in thickness, with a steel deck from two to four inches thick. The slopes of the deck descend to the lower edge of the belt, and the coal bunkers occupy the space between. The normal coal capacity is 1,000 tons, but when necessary the ship can carry 2,000 tons. After she had been launched at the Krups's shipyard, Philadelphia, the Retvizan had a speed of 18 knots. The space between the two armored decks is covered by a steel sheathing 8 1/2 inches thick. Nickel steel covers the uppermost and principal armored deck.

Two 12-inch and eight 6-inch guns are available for bow and stern fire, and the ship was built to use four 12-inch, six 6-inch, and four 3-inch guns in a broadside. All the guns are trained and sighted by electrical apparatus.

The Pallada was built at St. Petersburg, where she was launched in 1899. She was built contemporaneously with the Diana, and the Aurora. All are first-class cruisers.

The Novig is in speed the crack cruiser of the Russian Navy, making 25 knots an hour. This tremendous speed is secured by the use of 14,000 horsepower to drive her 3,000 tons displacement. She has practically no armor, and throws only 180 pounds of metal in a broadside.

The Varig is—or was, before her capture by the Japanese—the best "protected" cruiser in the whole Russian Navy, for all around work. Her tonnage is 6,500, and her horsepower, 20,000, is the greatest used by any ship of any size or class under the Russian flag. Her speed is 23 knots. She has five inches of armor over her guns, and throws 500 pounds in a broadside. The acquisition of such a vessel will materially strengthen the Japanese fleet, though she belongs to a class in which Japan was already twice as strong as Russia.

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