

The Evening Star

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FOG SAVED SQUADRON

Elements Thought to Have Aided Ships' Escape.

JAPS ARE IN PURSUIT

REPORT THAT ONE VESSEL WAS SUNK OFF SHIMANE.

Details of Sinking of Jap Transport—Terroric Fire From Russians—Bloody Casualties.

TOKYO, June 17, 11 a.m.—It is probable that the fog has again saved the Vladivostok squadron. Many rumors are extant as to an attack, but they are not confirmed. The Russian ships were first sighted off Okino Island at 8:30 a.m. June 15 by a patrol boat, which reported the fact to Vice Admiral Kamimura at an unknown base, who left in pursuit with his whole squadron. At 9:30 a.m. on the same date Vice Admiral Tsunoda, commanding the Takeshiki naval station, received the information of the enemy's appearance off shore and immediately dispatched a flotilla of torpedo boats in chase, but the wind, rain and fog which prevailed prevented them from doing effective work.

During the afternoon the storm increased. Vice Admiral Kamimura, with his squadron, is still chasing the enemy. The fate of the transport Izumi is still unknown. There were no foreigners on board the destroyed transports except their officers.

REPORT RUSSIAN SHIP SUNK

Jap Admiral is Pursuing the Vladivostok Squadron.

NEW YORK, June 17.—A cablegram from Tokyo says: It is reported in Moji that Admiral Kamimura is in pursuit of the Russian Vladivostok squadron and has sunk one of the enemy's vessels off Shimane.

A cablegram from Paris says: The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Matin reports that a naval battle is in progress near Tsushima in Korea straits.

Details of Sinking of Transports.

TOKYO, June 17, 9 a.m.—Details in connection with the sinking of the Japanese transport Hitachi by Russian warships are being furnished by survivors. The Russian ships were sighted at 5:30 in the morning, and in response to a signal the Hitachi was ordered to stop. At 6 o'clock the enemy again attempted to escape.

The Russians followed and opened a heavy fire directed about the water line with evident intention of destroying the transport. The fire was terrific, and in a few minutes the decks were covered with corpses and a wash of blood. One shell which struck the engine room killed 20 men.

The ship began to fill and sunk gradually by the stern. At 6 o'clock in the evening she was completely submerged. Captain Campbell, the English master of the transport, jumped overboard at 2 o'clock with the intention of saving himself, but was missing. The chief engineer was killed on the bridge. The commander of the transport ordered the flag to be burned and then killed himself. The second in command committed suicide. Many of the crew and troops escaped in the boats.

The transport Sado is still afloat, but is badly damaged. She is being towed into the nearest port. She sighted the Russian ships thirty-five miles west of Shiro Island. The signal to stop was given, but the Russians opened fire and signalled for those on board the Sado to leave the ship. Upon that the crew took to the boats and in this way many escaped before the ship was eventually fired by the enemy.

The number of men on board the two transports and the list of casualties are not as yet obtainable.

Details Confirmed.

The officers of the steamer Tosa, which rescued many survivors of the Japanese transport Hitachi, confirm the details of her disastrous encounter with the Russian warships so far as already announced.

The steamer Ise has arrived at Kokura carrying more of the crew and troops from the transport Sado. The Sado is safe and is being towed into port by the Higo.

Hit Sixty Times and Caught Fire.

It is impossible to ascertain accurately the figures of the losses sustained by the Japanese as a result of the sinking of the transport Hitachi and the shelling of the transport Sado.

A survivor reports to Vice Admiral Tsunoda that the Hitachi was hit sixty times and caught fire. A boat from the Sado was sent to the Russians for the purpose of a parley. The Russians agreed to give the Sado forty minutes to clear ship and said they would take the non-combatants on board.

Russians' Promise Failed.

The Russians, later, it is declared, refused to receive the non-combatants, except an Englishman, the chief mate, and before the forty minutes expired the Russians, it is further said, torpedoes the ship on both sides.

Col. Luchi, commanding the troops on the Hitachi, and many others, committed suicide. Luchi was educated in France. The majority of the passengers of the Sado were rescued. The greater number of those who were on board the Hitachi were annihilated.

The Sado subsequently grounded on the coast of Okino Island. It is expected that she can be saved.

The Japanese Legation has received the following cablegram from Tokyo, dated today:

"On the morning of June 15 the Vladivostok squadron, consisting of Rionda, Grombol and Rurik, made an appearance in the sea of Genkal and attacked our transports. The Hitachi was sunk and there are only a few survivors. The Sado was torpedoed, but not sunk, and the majority of the men are expected to have been saved. The fate of the Izumi is yet unknown. The Russian transport was sighted off Okino Island on the 16th."

"Admiral Kamimura's fleet started on the morning of the 15th in pursuit of the enemy's squadron."

"Gen. Kuroki reports that on June 12 a detachment of our troops occupied Hualken, sixty miles northeast of Kuantung. The detachment consisted of 300 Russians and 300 Hungtuses. There were no casualties on our side. The enemy's casualties are unknown. One Russian who was made prisoner bears the epaulettes of the 15th East Siberian Regiment."

CHINESE ORDERED OUT

Directed to Keep Seven Miles From Port Arthur.

CHE FOO, June 17, 2 p.m.—It is reported that the Russians have ordered the Chinese to keep out of a zone having a radius of seven miles from Port Arthur. A great many Chinese are arriving here. They say they were unable to obtain supplies in Port Arthur, but that the Russians had sufficient for full rations for a period of six months. It is stated that during the bombardment of Shaoningtao June 15 the Japanese destroyed the light house.

Jap Landing Reported

NITUCHANG, June 17, 6 a.m.—Two Greek refugees report a landing of Japanese in a few miles south of Kal Chou and a stiff fight southeast of that place yesterday (Thursday) afternoon. Chinese report that some wounded Russians have been sent towards Mukden by train.

Looking Into Etzel's Death

The investigation of the death of Lewis Etzel, correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph, who was killed by Chinese soldiers on the coast of the Liao Tung peninsula June 7, when cruising in a junk between Shwantsai and Erdekho, in company with Ernest Brande, correspondent of the London Daily Mail, is finished.

The jury finds that there was not the slightest cause for attacking the correspondents, and makes several recommendations which United States Consul Miller does not wish made public now. Consul Miller is expected to prepare a report on the affair to the United States Minister in Peking.

Precautions at Vladivostok

ST. PETERSBURG, June 17.—A dispatch received from Vladivostok today showing that the commander there is getting rid of the remaining civilian population. It strengthens the belief here that preparations are being made at Vladivostok for the reception of Rear Admiral Witthof's squadron, when it comes out of Port Arthur and that active operations against the city are imminent. The dispatch does not mention the knowledge of the whereabouts of the Vladivostok squadron.

Civilians Are Warned

VLADIVOSTOK, June 17.—The commander of the fortress, General Lavroff, has issued an order warning all civilians to make immediate provision to send their families into the interior, as an attack is expected at a moment of sudden necessity. There are 3,000 women and children here.

Squadron Sighted

LONDON, June 17.—The Japanese legation has received a dispatch from Tokyo announcing that the Russian Vladivostok squadron was sighted off Okino Island yesterday.

Mutual Understanding Welcome

ST. PETERSBURG, June 17.—The No. 10, referring to the statement of Earl Percy, British under foreign secretary, that peace parleys are already proceeding between Great Britain and Russia, says: "This recognition of the necessity for a mutual understanding is extremely welcome, especially coming, as it did, before the conclusion of the war with Japan. It is true that Great Britain and Russia already have a preliminary agreement respecting Tibet, but that is secondary to the possible clash of their immense commercial interests in the far east."

"The danger of the 'yellow peril' in the orient is very real, but Great Britain and Russia together will be able to settle it. Great Britain has already shown an understanding of the subject and ability to safeguard the predominance of the whites by the system followed out in India."

Cannoning Heard

TOKYO, June 17, 3:30 p.m.—A report has been received from the police station at Sanga, near Sasebo, saying that sounds of cannoning have been heard off the coast.

It is possible that a Japanese fleet has met the Russians.

FOUGHT ALL DAY

Details of June 15 Engagement at Vafangow.

LIAO-YANG, Thursday, June 16.—During the night of June 14 the Russian forces under Gen. Stakelberg, which had been engaged with the Japanese for two days, slept in their position four miles south of Vafangow.

(Continued on Second Page.)

M. P. TRAIN HELD UP AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Masked Men Stop the North Coast Limited.

BOARDED THE ENGINE

DYNAMITED THE EXPRESS CAR AND BLEW OPEN THE SAFE.

Amount of Booty Secured Unknown—Authorities Alarmed by Brakeman—Posse on the Track.

BEAR MOUTH, Mont., June 17.—Two masked men have held up the North Coast Limited Northern Pacific passenger train, east bound, at about a mile and a half east of this station. After bringing the train to a stop they dynamited the express car, blew open the safe and secured its contents. The amount secured is not known, but it is believed to be large. After blowing out the rear lights of the train the two men disappeared.

The hold-up was similar to the one which occurred two years ago at nearly the same spot, and in which Engineer Oneal lost his life.

The hold-ups boarded the tender of the engine at the water tank at Bear Mouth, and after having remained quiet until the train had gone a mile and a half they crawled up over the coal and covered Engineer Wade and Fireman Reed with their guns, and told them to throw up their hands.

Engineer Wade was then commanded to bring the train to a standstill, and immediately complied. The engineer and fireman were ordered from their engine, and, with the hold-ups, were taken to the engine car. Before making an effort to gain an entrance they forced the engineer to light a cigar.

The express messenger was commanded to open the door, but refused. The engineer was next commanded to light a stick of dynamite, which he did, and the dynamite exploded, blowing open the door and placing a large quantity, and he placed the lighted stick against the car door. The force of the explosion completely wrecked the door, and the engineer and fireman were compelled to precede the hold-ups into the car.

Dynamited the Strong Box

When admission was gained the hold-ups at once directed their attention to the strong box. Five sticks of dynamite were placed on top of the safe and ignited, and the force of the charge was insufficient, and another one with a larger cap was used. The second charge exploded with terrific force, blowing out the side of the car and throwing the safe a distance of forty feet.

After rifling the safe of its valuables the robbers commanded the train crew to remain quiet and no harm would be done them. While this conversation was going on one of the hold-ups, who had a revolver, apologized called him by name indicating a possibility that the robber may be a railroad man.

The party then left the express car and the men were ordered back to the engine under cover of the guns. The robbers then left the train, and after putting out the train lights, disappeared in the darkness. Meanwhile the passengers were terror-stricken and hid under every available cover that offered a hiding.

Rear Brakeman Escapes to Alarm

The rear brakeman, the moment he understood what had happened slipped off the rear of the train and ran back to Bear Mouth, where communication was had with the superintendent and the sheriff's office at Missoula. A posse was immediately summoned and an engine, a car of horses and Superintendent Thalmers' private car were soon on the way to the scene. The posse was headed by Sheriff Campbell.

The posse, referring to the Deer Lodge prison have been wired for.

It is believed there are four of the hold-ups, all told. Four men have been in Bear Mouth for the past two or three days, and it is said have been laying in a large supply of groceries, and especially canned goods.

The theory is that they have a rendezvous not far from the scene of the hold-up. A light engine was sent to the scene, and eight deputies were immediately started, and it is thought the men cannot escape. Two deputies are on their way from Missoula to the scene, and it is believed they will be able to intercept them, while two other officers were let off the train at McCarthy's bridge to hold off escape there. It is also believed that the robbers are expecting the hold-up of the past two days, but looked for in the Phillipsburg branch.

Two boys, Ralph Daly and Albert Horton, who were riding on the blind baggage, and both say they can identify the men.

Supt. Thalmers is co-operating with Sheriff Campbell in pursuing the robbers, and an early today started out on their hunt for the two desperadoes. Daly, one of the blind baggage passengers, got down as soon as possible after the safe was robbed, looking for loose money. All he could find was a stack of worthless money orders, which he turned over to Supt. Thalmers. The train was in charge of Conductor Gray, and the wrecked express car was brought to Bear Mouth.

Booty of Small Value

ST. PAUL, Minn., June 17.—A report of the Northern Pacific train hold-up by robbers near Burmouthe, Mont., was received at the general offices of the road here today, and, according to the statements made to the Associated Press at General Manager Horn's office the report of the hold-up as carried in the Associated Press dispatches was correct, except as to the amount of booty secured by the robbers. The officials said that nothing of great value was taken from the express safe.

CAPTURED BY RUSSIANS

American Correspondent Carried Blindfolded to Port Arthur Prison.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., June 17.—A cablegram to the Indianapolis News from Stanley Washburn, special correspondent of the Chicago News at Che Foo, says that Hector Fuller, staff war correspondent of the Indianapolis News has been captured by four Russian soldiers and taken to Port Arthur, where he was blindfolded and placed in prison.

The State Department at Washington was notified Wednesday last that Mr. Fuller, who started from Che Foo in an open boat with the intention of going to Port Arthur, had landed in the vicinity of the latter city about June 12.

TWO SHEIKS ARRESTED

Another Demand of Bandit Chief Met—Ransom Ready.

TANGIER, June 17.—Mohammed L. Torres, the representative of the Sultan Mohammed V, has caused the arrest of Sheik Benim and Bahuer, as demanded by Raisuli. The amount of the ransom demanded by the bandit chief for the release of Messrs. Percicaris and Farley is ready. Raisuli's answer is expected at the end of the week.

WARSHIPS GO TO EUROPE

The battle ship Illinois and the cruiser Mayflower arrived at Newport yesterday from target practice off the coast of Massachusetts, and will be at once fitted out for their cruise to the Mediterranean and join Admiral Baker's battle ship squadron.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Only Four Members at Today's Cabinet Meeting.

THE COMING CHANGES

ATTORNEY GENERAL KNOX TO RETIRE JULY 1.

Then Mr. Moody Will Succeed Him—Delegation of Pattern Makers Calls About Wages.

At the cabinet meeting today just four members were present—Secretary Hay, Attorney General Knox, Secretary Moody and Secretary Hitchcock. All the other cabinet members are out of the city. As the four members finished up the work in which they were interested they departed, Secretary Moody remaining with the President until nearly 1 o'clock. There was about as much politics as government business gone over.

THE COMING CABINET CHANGE

Attorney General Knox and Secretary Moody both discussed with the President the time of the former's retirement from the cabinet and the accession of Mr. Moody to the Department of Justice portfolio. July 1 is the date that has been agreed upon. Mr. Knox, it is stated, desires to close up some details of the department before leaving and he cannot get away to accept his new appointment until after the 1st of July. He will enter upon his new duties the day Mr. Knox goes out. Representative Doyener of West Virginia, introduced some candid remarks to the President. Mr. Doyener returned a few days ago from Europe, where he traveled extensively. "I did not go anywhere," said Mr. Doyener, "that I did not see President Roosevelt well known by reputation and greatly respected. The fact is that in Europe he is regarded as one of the wisest and greatest rulers in the world, and his widespread regard and esteem for him. In Germany, England, France and small countries as well President Roosevelt is regarded as a typical American citizen, who allows nothing to stand in the way of his devotion to duty."

WAGES IN THE WASHINGTON NAVY YARD

John J. Pallas, John J. Lung and James L. Gernon, directors of the National Pattern Makers' League of America, called on the President today to talk with him about the Washington navy yard. They represented the wages of these workmen in Washington are much below the wages of workmen doing similar work in the other navy yards of the country. They stated that the difference between the wages in Washington and Brooklyn navy yards is 75 per cent a day, and claimed that living here is higher than in Brooklyn. The President turned them over to Admiral Greer, who is in charge of the yard, and in later years he will be able to make an investigation and report to him all the facts, with his recommendations.

Mr. Day Going to Alaska

James S. Young, district attorney for the western district of Pennsylvania, who was recently appointed special assistant attorney general to investigate the judiciary scandals in Alaska, has informed Attorney General Knox that he will be unable to leave the business of the Washington and Alaska investigation. He has, therefore, been relieved from this duty, and William H. Taft, Jr., has been appointed in his place. Judge Day will leave Washington for Alaska on the 20th of this month, and will be gone about three months. The President desires a thorough investigation of the various charges against judicial officers in the territory, and he expects Judge Day to thoroughly sift all the facts before him, and his report. Upon the report will depend whether three or four of the judges of the territory are to be removed, as the terms of three have expired.

MUST STAND SAME TESTS

Government-Built Warships Must Equal Those From Private Yards.

With a view to affording a fair basis of comparison between warships built at government navy yards and those constructed by private ship builders, Acting Secretary Darling has decided to require all the government-built vessels to undergo the same tests imposed upon the private-built warships before they are finally accepted by the government. This will apply to the big battle ship Connecticut, now building at the New York navy yard, in competition with the Louisiana, under construction at the Newport News shipyard, and to the cruiser Chattanooga, New York, and her sister ship, the Galveston, being finished at the Norfolk navy yard, both of the latter having been taken over half finished from the contractors, who had failed to carry out their engagements. These ships will all have speed trials, their screws will be standardized and their machinery, boilers and equipment will all be tested according to the severe tests imposed upon the private-built vessels. It is understood that the government will reject its own ships if they fall short of the standards, and it is believed that the new rule will make for a better quality of work and will be just to the private shipbuilders.

PERSONAL MENTION

Mr. E. P. Wilson of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Mr. Paul Geipi of New Orleans are at the New Willard.

Representative W. B. Lamar of Florida and Mr. J. T. Clark of Boston are at the Raleigh.

Adolf G. Wolf, the newly appointed associate justice of the supreme court of Porto Rico, leaves for New York today, whence, on July 2, he will sail for his post of duty.

Mr. Meyer Cohen left for Chicago today in charge of Conductor Gray, and the wrecked express car was brought to Bear Mouth.

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ADMIRAL GREER DEAD

Passing of Distinguished Officer of the Navy.

PLACED ON THE RETIRED LIST IN FEBRUARY, 1895.

Deceased Officer Had Resided in Washington Since His Retirement—Long Service on Sea.

Rear Admiral James A. Greer, United States navy, retired, died at 6 o'clock this morning at his home, 200 Hillyer place, in this city, in his seventy-second year. Since last December he had been in poor health, and for the past three months had been confined to his bed. He had resided in this city since 1882, and was retired on his sixty-second birthday in 1895.

The funeral will take place Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, from his late residence. It will be under military auspices and interment will be made at Arlington. Rev.

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