

## REPORTED CHINA MAY HELP JAPS

Story Circulated at St. Petersburg That Negotiations to This End Are Now On in Far East.

Japanese Successes Have Created Feeling of Boldness Among Chinese Officials.

## RUSSIANS ARE NOT FEARFUL

Leading Journal Declares Such Combination Would Not Operate to Their Disadvantage.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 17.—Important developments regarding China's attitude toward the belligerents is anticipated in well informed quarters. There are rumors of closer relations between China and Japan, of the possibility of the Japanese turning over Port Arthur, when captured, to China, of their restoring Manchuria to the Chinese, etc. Although these reports are not confirmed, they lead to quite a general belief that some sort of negotiations are going on behind the scenes, of which the outside world has little cognizance. The Russ says it believes the Japanese successes are emboldening the Chinese government more and more and that they are prompting such diplomatic steps as China never dreamed of before. Since the Japanese occupation of New Chwang and direct contact between the Chinese and Japanese they have seemed to quickly reach an understanding, the occupation of neutral territory evoking no protest.

The Russ expects the war to take one phase, as Chinese neutrality vanishes, which the powers in their agreement to preserve China's neutrality cannot ignore. Moreover, the Russ believes the situation will call for deeds and not words. It concludes:

"We need not be unduly alarmed, however. The interference of China will scarcely be to our disadvantage."

Ambassador McCormick, as custodian of Japanese interests, has made inquiries regarding the two suspected Japanese spies, Constantin Sarator, and Mamachi Tokaki, recently arrested here. He ascertains that the authorities only contemplate deporting them.

The Novoe Vremya bitterly denounces the suggestion of peace advanced by M. Meshshersky, in the Gazetadanin, as a means of "defeating the selfish ends of Great Britain and Germany," both of whom, M. Meshshersky asserts, are interested in weakening Russia in the far east.

The Novoe Vremya announces that the Russian people would not tolerate the self-humiliation of the empire before Japan.

The emperor's congratulatory message to General Kuropatkin is regarded as effectively putting an end to the stories of imperial displeasure with Kuropatkin's generalship at the battle of Liao Yang.

Telegraphic reports from the Red Cross show the following proportion of patients suffering from wounds or disease out of the total sent to the hospitals in the area of the military operations—cases of severe illness, 10 per cent; slight illness, 54 per cent; wounded, 34 per cent. The only epidemic disease noted is dysentery, with 6 per cent of cases.

Upon his promotion to the rank of general of the division, announced last night, General Samsonoff gets the Siberian Cossack division.

General Skugarevskii is promoted to the command of the Sixth army corps. He formerly commanded the Twenty-seventh infantry division.

## WOULD REINSTATE MAYOR.

Havana Moderates Ask Reasons for Removal of Gener.

Havana, Sept. 17.—The house of representatives today voted to request President Palma for the record and reasons for removal by Governor General Wood of Miguel Gener from the mayoralty of Havana and the appointment of Senor Oyarzun, incumbent.

This is considered the first move of the moderates, who have small majorities in congress, to take control of Havana from the nationalists by reinstating Gener.

In January, 1902, pending an investigation by Senor Nunez, the civil governor of Havana, General Wood suspended Gener, 23 out of 28 councilmen in Havana having petitioned for the mayor's removal.

## WAS ENJOYING THE SPOIL.

German Count Forged U. S. Pay Checks and Was Caught.

New York, Sept. 17.—Gerhardt Von Progen, who was arrested recently and charged with forging pay checks which he acquired while serving as a clerk in the quartermaster's office at Governor's Island, has pleaded guilty to forgery. He was remanded for sentence.

Von Progen claims to be a German count and was having a good time with the sojourners at the beach when the hotel proprietor had him arrested on account of checks which had been cashed and came back later from the banks.

## GUN PRACTICE AT NIGHT.

Remarkable Results Attained by Vessels of North Atlantic Fleet.

Washington, Sept. 17.—Remarkable results have already been obtained in the naval target practice now going on in Menemsha Light. The vessels of the North Atlantic squadron in last spring's target practice broke all the world's records for rapidity and accuracy of fire both with big and little guns, but this was daylight work under favorable conditions for good shooting.

The big ships are now doing some extraordinary night shooting. The experience of the Russo-Japanese war has convinced the general board that in the future the great naval battles may be fought at night, and it is certain that most of the torpedo work will be done in the hours of darkness. Hence it is believed to be essential to develop the gun-pointers in night work, and already surprising results have been obtained in the practice in the night. Using her eight-inch guns, one of the battleships made eight hits out of nine shots at night. The target, distant about a mile, was illuminated by a searchlight, and the gunners used a special night sight. The ship from which this shooting was done was forging ahead in the open sea at 10 knots.

## THEIR STRANGE MEETING.

Husbands of Murdered Woman Introduced at Her Bier.

Spokane, Wash., Sept. 17.—Over the bier of Mrs. Henry Hoff, bride of a day, who was murdered at Meed by her discarded lover, J. L. Hoffman, who then shot himself, Henry Hoff and L. Markham, her former husband, were introduced by the undertaker yesterday. Neither knew of the existence of the other until the double tragedy brought the secrets of life to light. Hoffman left a letter that he had lived with the woman as her husband for two years. She was married under the name of Miss Emma Light.

Mr. Markham, for whom Markham Idaho, was named, was wedded to her 14 years, during which time they conducted a hotel. She became tired of Markham who is an elderly man, three years ago, and secured a divorce and part of his property. Both husbands loved the woman, and over her remains none but kindly words were spoken and copious tears were shed.

## AGROUND NEAR MILWAUKEE.

Lake Steamer Lost Her Course in a Fog.

Milwaukee, Wis., Sept. 17.—The Union Line steamer Rumapo went aground near the Milwaukee Country Club early today, having lost her course during a fog. Two passengers aboard were brought ashore. The vessel probably will be saved.

## LEARNED DOCTORS DECIDE.

That They Do Not Know Much About It.

New York, Sept. 17.—A lively debate has been held in the Dermatological congress on the subject of cancer, says a Times dispatch from Berlin. Conclusions eventually were reached that: in curable cases the pain can be lessened and life prolonged and that the bacillus of cancer is still unknown.

## BIG BATTLE NEAR MUKDEN, RUSSIAN OFFICIALS AVER, UNLIKELY FOR SOME TIME

Impression Prevails at St. Petersburg That Japs' Next Attack Will Be Directed Against Tie Pass.

Public Interest Is Now Centered in Port Arthur, for Decisive Assault Upon Which Japanese Said to Be Now Making Preparations by Making Strong Enforcements Near Little News From Front.

Official news from the seat of war is still lacking, but the war office at St. Petersburg appears not to anticipate a great battle in the immediate future. The officials believe the next movement of the Japanese will be directed against Tie pass. Public interest is again apparently centered in Port Arthur and the reports that the Japanese are tunneling the fortifications there are received at the Russian capital with some credulity.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 17.—There has been an entire absence of official news from the front today. The war office is displaying no special concern over the continual skirmishing, regarding it as the natural desire of the Japanese to keep in touch with the Russian forces rather than a premonitory symptom of a forward movement of Oyama's army. The Japanese having been unable to follow up the victory at Liao Yang when the time was ripe, the war office sees no reason for a feverish desire on their part to come in touch with Kuropatkin now that he has had time to recuperate.

The question of whether or not a big battle will be fought in the vicinity of Mukden is considered here to be dependent upon Kuropatkin, as it is believed the Japanese will not be able to force a fight at Mukden unless he so elects. As far as the public is concerned, interest is again gravitating on Port Arthur, where the gallant fight is being watched anxiously. The report that the garrison was forced to fall back on the use of homemade powder is considered discouraging. More importance is attached to the reports that the Japanese have abandoned the idea of a direct assault and are tunneling the fortifications.

## TO MAKE DECISIVE ATTACK.

Japs Landing More Men for Assault on Port Arthur.

Paris, Sept. 17.—The Chefoo correspondent of Matin says he learns from an official source that the Japanese are preparing for a decisive attack on Port Arthur, and that troops are daily being landed at Dalny, with powerful cannon.

## MUST OBEY THE RULES.

Japanese Chief of Staff Gives Warning to Correspondents.

Tokio, Sept. 17.—Owing to the friction between the military authorities and the field attaches and correspondents, Field Marshal Yamagata, chief of staff, today telegraphed General Oyama, commander of the Japanese forces: "The sole object of the war is to insure the safety of the empire, to guarantee the peace of the orient, and promote the interests of all nations. Therefore, it is hoped these principles will find expression in the treatment of foreign officers and correspondents so long as the rule of military secrecy is not infringed."

## JAPS ARE AGAIN ACTIVE.

Reported to Have Bombarded Works at Port Arthur.

Chefoo, Sept. 17.—A Japanese who arrived here today reports that the citizens of Dalny on September 16 expected that the general attack upon Port Arthur would be renewed upon the following day. He has reliable information to the effect that the Japanese siege works at Rihlungshan and Kikwanshan were completed on September 15. Both Chinese and Japanese recent arrivals agree that the bombardment of Port Arthur became terrific at dawn of September 15 and continued the forenoon of September 16. The Japanese fired from Shushiyuan and

been ordered to remain at Bremerton in readiness for the same duty.

The department has no information that there are other Russian cruisers bound for the Pacific coast, but there is talk to the effect around San Francisco, and it was thought advisable to be ready for any emergency.

## STILL NEGOTIATING.

Russia and America Not Agreed Regarding Lena's Crew.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 17.—The negotiations between the United States and Russia relative to the disposition of the crew of the Russian auxiliary cruiser Lena at San Francisco have not yet been completed. The request of the United States that the crew be interned at Mare Island until the end of the war has been transmitted through the Russian embassy at Washington, and it is being considered by the admiralty, where it is desired that the crew be allowed to return home under an agreement that the officers and men are not to fight again during the war. The admiralty has no confirmation of the reports that the Lena had been engaged in a fight in the Pacific.

## EXPLOSION OF OIL OCCURS ON THE OIL TANK LOOMIS

Second Engineer W. H. Whalen Probably Fatally Injured in Accident at Portland Yesterday.

Portland, Sept. 17.—An explosion of oil occurred on the oil tank steamer George W. Loomis late this afternoon, while she was lying at the Standard Oil Company's dock here, as a result of which Second Engineer W. H. Whalen was fatally burned and the wood-work of the vessel destroyed.

The Loomis is an oil-burner, and the feed pipe leading to the tanks sprang a leak near the firebox, causing the explosion. Whalen, who was standing near, received the flames directly in the face, and was burned badly. Hardly any portion of his body escaped. The Loomis is constructed of steel, which prevented her destruction.

## HAD HIS HANDS ON FORTUNE.

San Francisco Robber Comes Close to Stealing \$20,000.

San Francisco, Sept. 17.—At the close of banking hours today, a man in the lobby of the First National bank, observing that the cage of the door leading behind the counter was ajar, pushed inside and walked in, helping himself to a bag containing \$20,000 in gold coin, then made a rapid exit. He walked into the Brooklyn hotel, followed by C. K. Macintosh, an employe of the bank. He was overtaken and seized at the hotel office, and the bag was taken from him. The contents were undisturbed. The robber escaped.

## THREE NEW RECORDS.

Lou Dillon and Other Horses in Fine Form at Glenville.

Cleveland, Sept. 17.—At the matinee of the Gentlemen's Driving Club at Glenville track this afternoon, Lou Dillon was driven half a mile by Millard Sanders in 58 1/2 seconds, breaking the world's record for the distance. The mare was paced by a runner. The wind shift was not used.

C. K. G. Billings drove Prince Direct and Hontas Crook half a mile in 1:06 1/2, breaking the world's team record. Billings drove Charlie Mac under the saddle a mile in 2:13 1/2, clipping a second off the world's record.

## TWELVE WERE INJURED.

Serious Accident Occurs to Lake Shore Passenger Train.

Chicago, Sept. 17.—A passenger train on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern was wrecked this afternoon while crossing the tracks at Root street. Accounts of the cause differ, some claiming the train ran into an open switch and others that the locomotive jumped the track because of a broken flange. Twelve were injured; some of whom may die.

## ASSESSMENT RATES GO UP.

Ancient Order of Pyramids Growing, Especially in Death Losses.

Wichita, Kan., Sept. 17.—At the closing session of the Ancient Order of Pyramids the president's report showed a membership of 11,079 as against 12,200 two years ago. Death losses exceeded the income by \$31,852. A new assessment table was adopted which doubles the rates of the older members.

## OPPONENT SHALL NOT BE ABUSED

Judge Parker Makes Known His Views With Respect to the Democratic Textbook to Be Prepared.

Does Not Want Any Reflection Upon the Honor and Integrity of the President.

## INSTRUCTS LITERARY HEAD

Says He Would Deplore Rejoinder to Republicans—Other Political Happenings of the Day.

New York, Sept. 17.—The following letter concerning the democratic textbook was received by George F. Parker, chief of the democratic literary department, tonight from Judge Parker:

"Rosemount, Sept. 17.—The Times this morning says the party textbook is about to be prepared. Therefore, I hasten to beg you to see that no word in it reflects upon the personal honor and integrity of President Roosevelt.

"An Evening Post editorial indicates that little care was taken in that direction toward myself by the compiler of the republican textbook, but let there be no rejoinder in kind or otherwise."

## Session Will Be Brief.

Saratoga, Sept. 17.—Arrangements for the state democratic convention are practically completed and the leaders are arriving.

Several leaders say the convention will probably finish its work Wednesday night. The convention will be called to order Tuesday noon. William B. Hornblower of New York will be temporary chairman.

## Chicago Republicans Rally.

Chicago, Sept. 17.—The republican party of Chicago formally opened the political campaign tonight by a grand rally under the auspices of the Hamilton Club. Senator Foraker was the principal speaker, and his address aroused great enthusiasm.

## Populist Campaign Opened.

Paducah, Ky., Sept. 17.—The populist campaign in Kentucky was opened today by Thomas E. Watson, the candidate for president.

## HUNTINGTON'S MAY ASSIST.

Probably Will Help in Building Western Pacific Railroad.

San Francisco, Sept. 17.—At a special meeting today of the board of directors of the Western Pacific railway, Henry F. Fortmann resigned as director and Edwin Hawley of New York was elected in his stead. Local financiers think the election an indication that the Goulds do not feel like bearing the entire burden of carrying out the new transcontinental road.

The fact that Hawley is identified with the interests of Henry E. Huntington and was a close friend of the late C. P. Huntington, arouses the suspicion that H. E. Huntington and possibly Mrs. C. P. Huntington agreed to furnish some of the funds for construction of the new road. It is also reasonable to suppose that George Crocker is interested, inasmuch as he is a partner of Hawley in many of the latter's enterprises.

## CAPTAIN WAS AT FAULT.

Adjudged Responsible for Wreck of Drumburton.

San Francisco, Sept. 17.—Captain William K. Thomas, captain of the ill-fated Drumburton, the British ship which was wrecked on the rocks below the Cliff house on September 2, was found guilty of being responsible for the wreck and was suspended for a term of three months by a naval court of inquiry.

## Today's Weather.

Portland, Sept. 17.—Oregon and Washington: Sunday, fair.