

The Morning Astorian.

VOLUME LVIV.

ASTORIA, OREGON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28.

NUMBER 29.

COMMANDER OFFICIALLY TELLS STORY

Rojstvensky, in Dispatches to His Government, Says His Fleet Was Attacked by Two Torpedoboats.

Squadron Returned Fire and Maintained It Until Hostile Ships Disappeared.

SITUATION IS STILL DELICATE

Direct Issue Has Been Raised Between Two Countries, but Peaceable Settlement of Affair is Hoped for.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 27.—The naval staff publishes two dispatches from Rojstvensky. The first asserts that he was attacked by two torpedoboats. When the searchlight was turned on and the detachment opened fire, several small boats, resembling steam fishboats, were discovered. The detachment endeavored to spare these and ceased firing as soon as the torpedoboats were out of sight.

Then he refers to the indignation of the English press because the torpedoboot left by the detachment did not go to the aid of the trawlers. He says there was no torpedoboot in the squadron, and consequently the vessel remaining near the trawlers was one of the torpedoboats which had attacked him. He says he did not go to the aid of the fishboats because he suspected them of complicity.

The second dispatch says the squadron showed the fishboats every consideration, except when they were in company with the foreign torpedoboats, one of which disappeared, while the other, according to the fishermen's own story, remained in the neighborhood until daylight. If there were any fishermen on the spot they were imprudently dragged in the enterprise. He expresses regret for the killing of the unfortunate victims.

SITUATION STILL DELICATE.

Russian Masses Are Not Desirous of Being Intimidated.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 27.—The mystery of the trawler affair, instead of being cleared up by Rojstvensky's report, appears to be deeper than ever. The admiral's explanation is hailed with great satisfaction at the admiralty and elsewhere, but it is felt that a direct issue has been raised between the two countries, and the situation is still more delicate. Public opinion of both countries requires searching investigation and neither would be willing to accept an ex-parte

investigation. The result will probably be a mixed tribunal. The admiral has reached a pitch where confidence in the outbreak of the war. Sympathy with Rojstvensky, Russia decides to stand on his side. Without further inquiry, such course will be popular with the masses, who are willing to back the government to the utmost extremity.

It is probable, however, that the government will go to no extreme, and that a middle way will be found whereby the facts can be settled and the national pride of both countries maintained.

EIGHTY SHELLS PER MINUTE.

Russian Fleet Made Rapid Bombardment at Dogger Bank.

Berlin, Oct. 28.—A dispatch to the Lokal Anzeiger, dated Geestemunde, October, 27, says:

"The fishing vessel Sonntag, which arrived here today, reported that she had been fired upon for two and a half hours off Dogger Bank, but not hit. Following is the story of Captain Hachnor: "October 21, while we were on the Horn's reef fishing ground, on the west coast of Jutland, five large Russian ships passed, and in the evening nine more. North of us was a large freight steamer. At 8 o'clock p. m., we were lit by a reflector, and immediately afterward there fell the first shells in our neighborhood. The Russian vessels fired about 80 shots a minute in all directions. Toward 9:30 the freighter approached us, drawing the fire upon itself. In the light of the reflector we observed shells striking close to this steamer. Then we observed another reflector to the southward and shells bursting near the ship, which was firing on us. We were unhurt. After 11 o'clock there were no further shells."

VOTES FOR HIS OLD PUPILS.

President Elliot Bolts Parker for The Winners.

Boston, Oct. 27.—"Yes, it is true that President Elliot has said that he will vote for Roosevelt and Fairbanks and for the re-election of Congressman McCall," said Jerome Greene, secretary to President Elliot of Harvard university.

"The president will probably not give out any statement of the reasons that cause him to support the republican candidates."

It is understood that President Elliot, who is a great admirer of President Roosevelt of the Harvard class of 1880 has waited for Judge Parker to show wherein his ideas differ from those of President Roosevelt on the question of the currency and also on the matter of dealing with the foreign possessions of the United States.

Because Judge Parker has not given out this statement and has not said that he would do so, and because William Jennings Bryan has recently taken the stump for Judge Parker, are said to be the things that caused President Elliot to bolt Judge Parker's nomination.

DOGGER BANK BLUNDER THREATENS PEACE OF ALL GREAT EUROPEAN POWERS

Report of Rojstvensky Only Serves to Excite Indignation, as Report is Not Believed in England.

And Then, Again, if France and Germany Wouldn't Care, John Bull Would Jump at Chance to Crush Russia's Naval Power—Warlike Preparations Go on Apace and All Fleets Point Toward Baltic Squadron

London, Oct. 27.—One of the most complicated diplomatic situations in recent history, and one which threatens the peace of the whole of Europe, exists tonight, and there is no sign of immediate solution. The tension which arose when the question was simply as to whether or not Russia would guarantee the punishment of the offending officers was today modified by the introduction of new features contained in Rojstvensky's report, which states that the Baltic squadron was attacked by two torpedoboats, in repulsing which the trawlers were accidentally fired upon. Even astute diplomats, who admit temporary improvement in the situation, are puzzled by the complications which curiously cause it. Embassies of disinterested powers tonight, however, incline to the belief that settlement will be effected without recourse to war.

Russia Ignoring England.

The foreign office pursues a policy of silence, and the press is almost totally uninformed. The statement that no reply has been received adds to the implication that Russia is ignoring the British negotiations. It is this statement that is stirring popular agitation, and the government may find it hard to stand should Lansdowne withdraw the demand for Russian guarantee of punishment before an inquiry is instituted. Had Rojstvensky's report not arrived probably the dispute would have been settled one way or another tonight. Its terms generally are held to prevent an ultimatum. Although Lansdowne frankly said the circumstances as reported were almost inconceivable, the minister was not prevented from seeing that new light had been thrown on the "outrage," and diplomatic usage compels less urgent action than was first contemplated. In the present temper of the British nation it is not likely preparations for hostilities will be relaxed, but it is understood Great Britain will run the risk of forfeiting the friendship of France and Germany should she attempt warlike diplomatic steps. The attitude of France is highly important. It was said today by the representative of another great power that if France had given assurance that she would support Russia, in view of such provocation, the temptation to crush the Russian naval power would scarcely

have been refused by Great Britain. The probable attitude of France is that while not giving a final decision as to what she will do, she has given it to be understood that she will not become involved.

Baltic Fleet a Menace.

Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister, after reading Rojstvensky's report, reiterated the statement that it was impossible for the Japanese to have had torpedoboats where the admiral thought them to be. He added that Rojstvensky's own statement of indiscriminate firing proved that the Russian fleet was likely to menace the safety of all neutral seas and make international law a farce.

SERIOUS STAGE IS REACHED.

England Places No Credence Whatever in Rojstvensky's Story.

London, Oct. 28.—Notwithstanding the diplomatic check in consequence of Rojstvensky's report, it is evident England is preparing for war. There is tremendous activity at all the dockyards. At Cardiff, it is stated, the admiralty is securing great quantities of coal. The Mediterranean fleet is hastening toward Gibraltar, and it is announced that the channel squadron's ships' decks are cleared for action, and that they will leave Gibraltar this morning "for a sham attack on the rocks."

The home fleet is likewise concentrated. In fact, almost the whole navy is pointing in the direction of the Baltic squadron.

Perhaps the most significant development is the call of the cabinet for today. The meeting undoubtedly marks the reaching of the serious stage.

The fact that the Baltic squadron appears to have fired on vessels of various nationalities is regarded as proving that the officers were in a condition of nervous panic, rendering the squadron a danger to the world's commerce.

Explanation is Not True.

According to the Telegraph's St. Petersburg correspondent, Rojstvensky received from the admiralty secret instructions not only authorizing but obliging him to fire upon all ships approaching too close, but foreign governments were not notified of these instructions. At Hull Rojstvensky's

statements are dismissed as absolutely inaccurate and unworthy of the slightest consideration, the fishermen emphatically declaring that it can be proved beyond a doubt that there were no Japanese torpedoboats in the vicinity of Dogger bank.

Report Staggers England.

Rojstvensky's report seemed to stagger everyone. His statements are received with incredulity and the reply is regarded merely as a counter in order to gain time. The text of the admiral's telegrams is calculated to inflame instead of allay the resentment of the British public. The statement that he "endeavored to spare the trawlers and ceased firing as soon as the torpedoboats were out of sight," together with his virtual accusation against the fishermen of complicity with the supposed Japanese torpedoboats, is hardly likely to reconcile an angry nation to the possibility that there is another side to the case.

No Credence in Report.

"How much longer?" is the burden of editorial articles this morning. Little disposition is displayed to listen seriously for a moment to the admiral's story.

Some St. Petersburg correspondents go as far as to suggest that the explanation is "home manufactured." The most serious of the morning newspapers confess that the country is under the shadow of war with Russia.

JAPS PLANNED THE ATTACK.

Danish Minister Was Forewarned of Plot to Destroy Fleet.

Copenhagen, Oct. 27.—The Danish ministry received some time ago what it regards as positive proof that Japan outfitted 13 vessels at Hull, England, for the purpose of attacking the Baltic squadron in the North sea.

ABSURD, SAYS HAYASHI.

Japan Never Contemplated Any Attack Upon Russia's Squadron.

London, Oct. 27.—Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister, states with regard to the report from Copenhagen that the Japanese outfitted a fleet to attack the Russian squadron that no ships were chartered at Hull or elsewhere by Japan to destroy the squadron. The baron states that the arming of 13 ships in these waters would be impossible, as there are not enough Japanese. The minister pronounces the story to have been concocted to throw dust in the eyes of the Danish government.

ENGLAND ASKS TOO MUCH.

Cassini Says Russia Could Not Allow Britain to Dictate.

Washington, Oct. 27.—Count Cassini, commenting on the possibility of England demanding punishment of the officers responsible for firing on the trawlers, stated that such a course would be "unprecedented."

"Russia," he added, "can not admit the right of any power to interfere in her internal affairs, or even suggest a method of internal administration."

He hoped no nation would make such a proposition. The ambassador believes the matter will be solved peacefully.

STEAMSHIP IS SUNK IN COLLISION

Mainlander, of Pacific Coast Steamship Company's Fleet, Meets With Disaster on Puget Sound.

Tug Sea Lion Runs Into Her During Dense Fog and Sends Her to Bottom.

PASSENGERS ARE ALL SAVED

Fog Was So Dense That It Was Impossible to See Length of Ship—Tug Was but Little Damaged.

Seattle, Oct. 27.—The steamer Mainlander, of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company's fleet, lies at the bottom of Puget sound, off West Point lighthouse, four miles south of Seattle, having been sunk about 6 o'clock this evening in a collision with the powerful tug Sea Lion.

No lives were lost, despite the fact that the Mainlander had 16 passengers and a crew of 30. The tug was but little damaged. The collision occurred during fog that was so dense it was impossible to see the ship's length.

RUNNERS MUST WAIT.

Customs Officials Will First Board All Incoming Vessels.

San Francisco, Oct. 27.—Hereafter runners for supply houses who board incoming vessels before the customs officers board them will be prosecuted vigorously by the government. Today Collector of Customs Stratton requested the United States attorney to take up the cases of four butcher-runners, who boarded the Dutch ship Europa two weeks ago before she passed the customs officials.

CHICAGO SUBURBS IN DARKNESS.

Dredge in Calumet River Cut the Service Cable.

Chicago, Oct. 27.—Electric lights and telephone service in five suburban towns, Hegewisch, Indiana Harbor, Whiting, Roby and Robertsdale, were put out of service early last evening when a dredge in operation in Calumet river at One Hundred and Twenty-second street severed the service cable from the electric light plant in South Chicago.

Communication between the suburbs and Chicago was cut off during the night and the towns were in almost complete darkness.

Astoria, Ore., Oct. 10th, 1904.
Chas. Heilborn & Son,
City.

Gentlemen:—I am very much pleased with the Monarch Range which I bought of you, and can not say too much in its praise. It is a perfect baker and also a fuel saver. I take great pleasure in recommending a good article. I remain, your very sincerely,
E. Z. FERGUSON.

FURNITURE HOUSE FURNISHINGS

WARRENTON, ORE., SEPT. 17, 1904.
Chas. Heilborn & Son,
Astoria, Oregon.

Gentlemen:—We are pleased to recommend the Monarch Range. It certainly is the best range on the market. Too much good can not be said about the Monarch. It is the perfection of range building. I remain yours very truly,
F. W. PRESTON.

Astoria, Ore., July 26, 1904.
Malleable Iron Range Co.,
Beaver Dam, Wisconsin.

Dear Sirs:—I purchased one of your Monarch Ranges from Mr. Heilborn and must say that it gives more than satisfaction. The more my wife uses it the more delighted she is with it. We are recommending it to our friends.
Yours respectfully,
CARL FRICKE.

Read what they say about MONARCH RANGES. They and many others have tested them. Call and let us explain to you their merits. Easy payments. YOUR CREDIT IS GOOD.