

RUSSIANS SAY VLADIVOSTOK AND PORT ARTHUR HAVE AMPLE SUPPLIES FOR A SIEGE

Far Eastern Strongholds Are Not in Danger of Famine or a Shortage of Fuel.

Czar Asks Muscovite Editors to Print Nothing but the Truth Concerning the War.

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ST. PETERSBURG, March 9.—The Emperor received this afternoon representatives of the Russian press, headed by M. Souvorin, proprietor of the Novoye Vremya, who came to present to his Majesty an address concerning the war. The sovereign was particularly gracious and shook hands with every one. He said he recognized the great importance of the press, which had well represented public sentiment, for which he was grateful.

"I beg you in the future to write the truth, and nothing but the truth," he said, addressing Souvorin. "I am grateful to you for having started a patriotic fund for warships. It is an excellent idea."

It may be mentioned that the fund now reaches \$15,000,000.

A telegram was received to-day from Viceroy Alexieff which caused consternation to military attaches and war correspondents. It was to the effect that he did not propose allowing one or the other to come into Manchuria until the disposition of the troops was fully made. That is to say, early in April, according to our calendar.

Contrary to the report of a shortage of coal, Vladivostok has 12,000,000 pounds on hand. A good is thirty-six pounds avoirdupois. I have excellent authority for saying that Port Arthur also has ample supplies of coal and provisions.

Captain Rudineff, commander of the sunken Varig, in reward for his courage has been appointed an aid-de-camp to the Emperor. All of the officers and men will receive the cross of St. George.

General Kuropatkin will take the 8 o'clock train on Saturday night instead of the later express, wishing to gain time to Moscow, which city will give him a grand ovation.

The Novoye Vremya has a leader to-day on coal as a contraband. It argues that it has been so considered since the American Civil War, but now that England has coal to sell to Japan she objects.

Following is the text of the Emperor's telegram to Viceroy Alexieff:

"ST. PETERSBURG, February 11.—Mobilization is proclaimed in the Siberian provinces. You are empowered to act as commander in chief. I am with you heart and soul and with our brave fellows. May God bless our operations. "NICHOLAS."

TOKIO ANXIOUSLY AWAITING NEWS OF BATTLE AT SEA

TOKIO, Tuesday, March 8. (Delayed in transmission.)—It is believed here that there has already been a decisive naval engagement in the vicinity of Vladivostok and tidings of it are anxiously awaited. The Japanese fleet did not, it is said, go to Vladivostok for the purpose of bombarding the town, but to locate and attack the armored cruisers Gromobol, Rossiy and Rurik and the cruiser Bogatyr, forming the Russian squadron stationed there. It is understood here that when the Japanese fleet arrived there on Sunday last it found the Russian squadron absent. If this is true, it gave the Japanese squadron advantages in the way of avoiding a battle close to the inshore batteries, at the same time putting it in a position to prevent the Russian ships re-entering the harbor. It is doubted that the Japanese withdrew their entire fleet, unless the location of the enemy had been discovered, as it meant surrendering the advantage of being in a position between the enemy and the enemy's base. There is a strong possibility that the Japanese found the Russian ships in the vicinity of Possiet Bay and gave them battle there.

The names and number of ships in the Japanese fleet have been kept secret, but it was probably sufficiently strong to divide into two divisions, the one to guard Vladivostok and the other to cruise in search of the Russian ships. It is said that the newly purchased cruisers, Nishin and Kasuga, are taking part in the present movement off Vladivostok. The Navy Department expects to receive dispatches to-morrow from Wusan, where it was planned that the fleet

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would call after the operation involving an attack upon the Russian squadron had been completed. The Japanese are quite confident of the ability of their squadron to signal defeat the Russian ships and laughingly say that the big Russian cruisers, which stand unusually high out of the water, make excellent targets.

VON WALTERSEE'S DREAM OF EMPIRE IN THE FAR EAST

PARIS, March 9.—Colonel Marchand, the hero of Fashoda, in the course of an interview published in the Matin to-day, is quoted as having said that the late Field Marshal von Waldersee, while in command of the allied forces at Peking, had the purpose of making the province of Chih part of the hinterland of the German possessions in Shantung, and was prevented only through repeated Russian representations to Germany.

The colonel, who accompanied the French forces to Peking, describes his intimate personal relations with the field marshal during the operations of the allies and adds that Von Waldersee complimented Marchand on the latter's African achievements and invited him frequently to be a guest at his private table. They discussed the organization and merits of French troops. Concerning the present war, Colonel Marchand remarks:

"Field Marshal von Waldersee was too diplomatic to express an opinion upon the general question which already was seen to be presented and which is now being solved by recourse to arms. He strictly carried out this rule of advancing German interests. He desired particularly that Chih should become in some way a hinterland of German Shantung and repeated observations by Russia to the chancellery in Berlin alone prevented his carrying out his project."

CHINESE NATIVES REPORT FIGHTING NEAR NEWCHWANG

YINKOW, March 9.—The British Consul strongly and officially urges the foreign women and children to leave Newchwang before the river opens. The British station gunboat Espiegle will leave as soon as possible and will be replaced. The family of United States Consul Miller will leave to-morrow.

It is understood that the neutral powers will not embarrass Japan by the presence of warships in the river here, and therefore neutral interests at Newchwang will be officially abandoned. The tension among the Russians continues. There are circumstantial native reports of fighting east of the railroad, and there is some evidence of a Japanese advance. It is reported that the action of the Russians in ordering Newchwang to be fortified was due to the withdrawal of the foreign warships, thus removing the last possibility of the neutralization of this port. The Russians received by train to-day two five-inch guns and two six-pounder howitzers. They were unloaded at the Newchwang railroad station.

FRANCE PLACING COAST DEFENSES IN READINESS

PARIS, March 9.—In pursuance of orders issued by Minister of War Andre, active work has been begun with the view of placing the coast defenses in a state of readiness. A hundred coast artillerymen have arrived at Marseilles and are occupied in perfecting the harbor batteries, a force of naval mechanics is working on the island approaches and the trials of various kinds of heavy ordnance are progressing actively at Marseilles and elsewhere.

These measures are not considered significant, except as an indication of the determination of the officials to have the coast defense in a state of preparedness.

JAPANESE CLAIMS OF LOSS INFLICTED UPON THE ENEMY

TOKIO, March 9.—It is reliably asserted that when the Japanese attempted to block Port Arthur on February 24 a Russian torpedo-boat destroyer, while trying to enter the harbor, struck a mine and sank. Of the thirteen Russian warships inside the harbor of Port Arthur, it is added, all are disabled except five. Finally, it is asserted that Whoangkishan Fort, at Port Arthur, was half destroyed by the Japanese shells and that only three batteries are available here. About 800 Chinese and Russian workmen have been rushing the repairs on the warships.

Russia to Take Over Merchantsmen. SEBASTOPOL, March 9.—The Russian Steam Navigation Company is said to have received Government instructions which compel it to curtail ordinary operations, particularly outside the Black Sea. It is understood the instructions provide for a contingency call upon their tonnage by the Government. The company's convention with the Government provides for the Government's acquisition of the whole fleet for troops and other military work, within the Black Sea only.

DAY'S DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WAR FOR SUPREMACY IN THE FAR EAST

ADMIRAL TOGO'S fleet bombarded the forts at Dalny and then attacked Port Arthur on Monday, according to a dispatch from Tokio. No details are given. Washington experts believe these bombardments were for the purpose of keeping the Russians occupied while Japanese troops were being landed on Liaotung Peninsula.

No authentic news concerning the fate of the Russian Vladivostok squadron has been received. Tokio is hourly awaiting details of the naval engagement believed to have been fought in the Sea of Japan.

The most sensational feature of yesterday's war reports was the announcement that Japanese troops had appeared in Manchuria, to the rear of the Russian position on the Yalu River, where they had routed a Muscovite force. Whence these troops came is not stated, and the assertion appears almost incredible. No movement of Japanese troops in sufficient force to have already invaded this region, which is held by the main Russian army, has been reported. Should the claim of a Japanese victory prove true, the brown men would appear to have broken the backbone of Russian resistance in Southern Manchuria and to be able to seize the Manchurian Railroad at will. It is to be noted in this connection that advices have been received in Washington that Japanese troops had appeared in the vicinity of Antung, this indicating that the Japanese were landing an army on the Manchurian side of the Yalu and in the rear of the Russian defenses.

The Tokio dispatch, announcing that the Russians at Port Arthur had succeeded in floating all of the warships damaged in Admiral Togo's first attack with torpedoes is confirmed in a dispatch direct from Port Arthur.

In a remarkable statement given to the press a high official in the St. Petersburg Foreign Office asserts that the attitude of the American Secretary of State alone stands in the way of an accord of the powers that would prevent any other nation than the present belligerents being drawn into the war. It is declared that Secretary Hay's diplomacy is a "nightmare" to the governments of Europe, which are unable to fathom the aims or intentions of the United States.

News of a series of land engagements comes from various Far Eastern sources. It is said the Russians were defeated near Haiju, northwest of Chemulpo; but as the Japanese have advanced in force far beyond that point it is probable that if any engagement occurred it was with Russian scouts. British and American Consuls have advised the women and children to leave Newchwang, against which town a Japanese force is moving. It is believed the Russians will abandon Newchwang to the enemy.

A London journal prints a unique story illustrative of the confidence of the Japanese in their ability to defeat the Russians. It says Japan is placing contracts for coal, to be shipped direct to Port Arthur and Vladivostok, although these are at the present time Russia's most heavily fortified strongholds in the Far East.

Great Britain and France Are Awaiting a Favorable Opportunity to Offer Mediation to Belligerents.

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FISCAL POLICY IS CRITICIZED

Association of Chambers of Commerce in United Kingdom Adopt Resolutions

LONDON, March 9.—The Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom at its annual session here to-day adopted by a vote of the representatives of fifty-eight chambers against fifty-four the following resolutions:

"That the United Kingdom has just cause for complaint of certain restrictions and unfair arrangements directed against the commerce of the empire and that the Chamber of Commerce would support his Majesty's Government in measures for negotiation, but urge the Government to appoint a royal commission to investigate and report on the whole fiscal policy of the nation."

The discussion developed a great diversity of opinion, resulting in a compromise resolution of a colorless character.

Turkish Prisoners to Be Inspected. CONSTANTINOPLE, March 9.—Dr. Thorn, a member of the American mission at Marsden (Turkey in Asia), has been appointed by the Porte to inspect the prisons at Diarbekir (Asiatic Turkey) and arrange for the medical treatment of the prisoners, in consequence of the complaints of Sir Nicholas O'Connor, the British Ambassador here, regarding the condition of the Bulgarians who are confined at Diarbekir.

Swimming Records Are Broken. BROOKLINE, Mass., March 9.—Three swimming records were broken to-night: Fifty yards—By Harry Le-moyne. Time, 27 1-5 seconds; four-fifths of a second below former record, 44 yards—By C. M. Daniels. Time, 6:05; former record 6:10, held by Brewer of California. Plunge for distance—By A. M. McCormick, distance 65 feet 7 inches. Former record 62 feet.

Russia Will Not Exhibit. ST. PETERSBURG, March 9.—Finance Minister Kokovzoff announced to-day that the response to his efforts to get intending exhibitors to reconsider their decision not to participate in the St. Louis Exposition had been insufficient to warrant the Government to reconsider its determination, and that consequently Russia would not participate in the exposition.

Big Guarantee Deposit. OTTAWA, Ont., March 9.—The Dominion Government was notified to-day that the Grand Trunk Railroad had deposited \$5,000,000 in the Bank of Montreal to the credit of the Finance Minister as a guarantee for the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific road. The deposit is in cash.

Death of a Well Known Actor. SARANAC LAKE, N. Y., March 9.—Robert Taber, the actor and divorced husband of Julia Marlowe, died here last night.

BERLIN, March 9.—The semi-official Post states to-night that it is in a position to give "from an absolutely sure source" the substance of a letter which Count Benckendorff brought with him from the Czar to King Edward. In this letter no appeal whatever is made for mediation by neutral powers, nor is there any reference to a possible appeal to The Hague tribunal. There can be no question of peace until Russia has given proof of her superiority on the field of war.

The Post states, however, that France and England are only waiting for a favorable moment to tender their good offices.

On this point both the London and the Paris Cabinets are in accord. Their action is only a question of time, but the opportunity is not considered to have yet presented itself.

Signs are not wanting that the Germans are not at all unanimous in support of Russia. Thus the Cologne Volks Zeitung in an article on Germany's relations with Russia says:

"It would be of great moral importance as the result of the present war if the immense respect felt for Russia should disappear—a respect which has been the cause of more success for Russian policy than anything that she has really done. It is not in the interests of Far Eastern people, and less in the interest of Germany, that Russia should assume a preponderant position and appear as an arbiter of the destiny of the world, before whom all must bow. A Russian victory would not only cause her to become the third power in the Far East, but would call for the full pressure of the Franco-Russian alliance in Europe—pressure which would be felt in the Far East, and which we have yet experienced."

BERLIN, March 9.—Die Flotte (The Fleet), the official publication of the German Naval League, in a two-page leader entitled "What Do We Learn From the Russo-Japanese War?" says that the occurrences in the Far East point with flaming fingers to the urgent necessity for hastening the building of the German fleet programme. The two principles deducible from the conflict, the paper affirms, are that Russia against her will became entangled in war, a misfortune that might occur to Germany, and that battleships decide sea fights, while torpedo-boats achieve results only under especially favorable circumstances. The German duty, before it is too late, is to have practically the construction already authorized and to add to the scheme for naval defense adopted in 1900.

Special Rate to St. Louis. CHICAGO, March 9.—A special round trip rate of \$67 50 from San Francisco and Los Angeles to the St. Louis Exposition has been announced by all the Western railroads as a result of a meeting here to-day of the Transcontinental Railway Passenger Association. This rate will only be obtainable on three days of each month from May to December, inclusive. A rate of \$72 50 for the round trip from the Pacific Coast to Chicago was also announced, to hold good on the same dates as the "exposition rates."

King's Adviser Is Convicted. BELGRADE, Servia, March 9.—Dr. Petronjevics, who was head of the Cabinet of the late King Alexander, was to-day convicted of the embezzlement of \$11,600 from the estate of a son of Prince Michael and sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

CHAMBERLAIN IS VERY ILL

Alarming Rumors in Circulation Concerning Mental Condition of Statesman

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LONDON, March 9.—The Times says this morning:

"Considerable anxiety regarding Mr. Chamberlain's condition is being manifested on account of circulation of reports among members of the House of Commons that he is suffering from an incurable mental affliction. It was whispered about to-day that Mr. Chamberlain was in incipient stages of softening of the brain.

"Where this report originated could not be learned, nor was it possible to obtain information confirming the report or contradicting it. The report finds little credence among friends of Mr. Chamberlain, although they are disturbed by it.

"Those opposed to Mr. Chamberlain's fiscal policy seem more ready to regard the report within the realms of probability. Some said to-day that if it were true it would explain why the ex-Colonial Secretary went off to Egypt right in the middle of his fight, leaving his tariff reform campaign practically without head.

"Suggestion is heard that Mr. Chamberlain's present condition is probably the sequel to a cab accident in which he was seriously injured in coronation year."

CONFESSES CRIME TO ESCAPE CRITICISM

John McCarthy Would Rather Be Jailed Than to Have It Said He Turned Traitor.

SEATTLE, March 9.—To clear himself in the minds of people of his own class of the charge that he had once turned State's evidence against his pals, John McCarthy to-day admitted that he was one of the men who blew open the safe of the Standard Oil Company in this city in 1891, which resulted in the sending of Deafy Connelly and Shorty Adams to the penitentiary. McCarthy also admitted having served a term in San Quentin after being caught while tunneling under a street of Los Angeles in an attempt to reach a bank vault.

McCarthy was arrested here by the police last Sunday because he happened to have in his possession a tool designed to wrench the bar handles from safes. He is suffering from a recently received bullet wound and the authorities expect to hear that he is wanted in some other city.

Favors Treaty With Abyssinia. WASHINGTON, March 9.—During the executive session of the Senate to-day Senator Cullom made a favorable report from the Committee on Foreign Relations on the treaty with King Menelik. It is a commercial agreement regulating the exchange of business between the United States and Abyssinia.

Russian Troops Will Be Sent to the Balkans if Necessary to Prevent an Outbreak.

Japan Hopes a War in the Near East Will Divert the Attention of Her Enemy.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 9.—Careful inquiry concerning the outlook in the Balkans develops that the prevailing opinion in Government as well as in diplomatic circles is against an outbreak of war in the spring, although the danger is not considered passed. A perfect understanding exists between Russia and Austria, and, besides, the Russian authorities appear to be completely satisfied regarding the attitude of Bulgaria. What assurances the authorities have concerning Bulgaria are not known, but they do not tally with direct information from other sources, representing Bulgaria as having her army under mobilization, with having her plans perfected for an invasion of Turkey and as being confident that she can defeat the Turks single-handed. Evidently the Porte also is alarmed at the outlook, as an American (the representative of an ordnance firm, who came here to act as a broker in the sale of South American warships to Russia) has been requested to go to Constantinople immediately, the Sultan desiring to purchase a large supply of guns.

It is a mistake to imagine that Russia is so engrossed with affairs in the Far East as to be unable to give attention to the Balkans. She has carefully refrained from removing troops from the vicinity of the Roumanian frontier and will be prepared, if necessary, to assume her share in the event of war.

KIEFF, Russia, March 9.—The papers here make a feature of an interview with a Japanese correspondent of the Nichi Nichi, who is now visiting the Balkans. He is quoted as saying the Japanese fully recognize that they have no hope of defeating Russia unless her attention is diverted by possible complications in the Balkans. The object of his visit is to ascertain the chances of such trouble breaking out.

RUSSIAN FLEET AT PORT ARTHUR AGAIN INTACT

PORT ARTHUR, March 9.—The hole in the hull of the Russian battleship Retvizan, which was made during the first attack of the Japanese, has been repaired and the battleship has been refloated. She is now anchored in the inner roadstead alongside the Cesarvitch. The other necessary repairs to the ship will be completed shortly.

PARIS, March 9.—Dispatches received from Port Arthur confirm the previous reports that the Russian battleship Retvizan had been refloated and entered the inner harbor. It is expected that she will be ready to resume active service in a few days.

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TURKISH CRUISER IS NOT HELD FOR FINAL PAYMENT

NEW YORK, March 9.—Reports from Newport News, Va., that the Turkish cruiser Medjidia is being held up there by the builders because of doubt regarding the final payment by the Sultan's Government upon the cruiser are denied in a dispatch from Philadelphia, quoting Edwin S. Cramp as saying:

"The last payment is now on deposit."

FAULTY VOTING MACHINE CAUSES ANNOYANCE

Washington, New Jersey, Must Have New Election Because of Mistakes in Record.

NEW YORK, March 9.—A voting machine used in the municipal elections at Washington, N. J., has gone wrong and another election will be necessary.

When the Election Board opened the machine they found amazing results from the day's balloting. A candidate for Councilman on the independent ticket registered 370 votes, his associate registered 349, while their opponents, Gulick and Groff, tallied 370 and 369, respectively. Members of the independent party are jubilant for the reason that one of their opponents caused the mix in attempting, when the polls opened, to shift the tickets and put the regular one at the top, thus getting the mechanism out of order.

Colonel Grigsby Is Given a Hearing.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—President Roosevelt to-day gave a hearing at the White House to Colonel Melvin Grigsby, United States District Attorney for the Second District of Alaska at Nome, on charges of malfeasance in office. The charges have been investigated by the Department of Justice and the Attorney General has recommended to the President the removal of Colonel Grigsby.

Ballot Box Is Robbed of Contents.

DENVER, March 9.—The ballot box used in Precinct 10 of the Second Ward at the recent election in this city has been found to have been broken open and robbed of its contents. It was in custody of City and County Clerk Julius Michele, who had been ordered to produce it in court Friday next at the hearing on the charges of ballot box stuffing filed against the election officers of this precinct.

Fire Claims Two Victims.

TULARE, March 9.—Mrs. M. P. Brazill, wife of a prominent farmer near Tulare, died this morning as the result of frightful burns received several days ago while trying to rescue her sister, Miss Hoskins, who was burned to death. The fire was caused by Miss Hoskins dropping a lamp, from which the oil scattered on the clothing of both women.

in a bank, subject to our orders as soon as we present the papers showing that the cruiser has been turned over to the Turkish Government. This ceremony will probably occur on Thursday."

URGING JAPANESE TO CONTRIBUTE TO TOKIO'S WAR FUND

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, March 9.—Japanese in Utah have been asked to contribute \$10,000 toward the Japanese war fund being collected in this country by the Fokugikai (patriotic society), a branch of which is being organized here. According to E. D. Hashimoto, the organizer, similar assessments have been made upon the Japanese of Nevada, Wyoming, Montana, and Colorado. Letters, it is said, have been written to leading Japanese of every big city in the country and every State will have an organization of the society to collect funds for the home country in its struggle with Russia.

Hashimoto said that \$20,000 has already been raised in San Francisco alone and that large sums were coming from Oregon, Washington and British Columbia.

Prize Steamship Released.

NAGASAKI, March 9.—The Norwegian steamship Hermes has been released by the Sasebo Naval Court and ordered to proceed to this port to await orders regarding the disposal of her coal cargo. The hospital steamship Kasai Maru has arrived here, bringing twenty-two wounded Russian sailors belonging to the gunboat Koreitiz, which was destroyed by the Japanese fleet at Chemulpo. They will be removed for the time being to Matsuyama Hospital, on the Inland Sea.

Russians Seize Yungwon.

SEOUL, March 9.—A party of nine Russians seized the Korean telegraph station at Yungwon to-day. It is reported that a fight has occurred between Koreans and Russians on the Korean side of the Tumen River.

GOING TO ORIENT TO STUDY PROBLEMS PRESENTED BY WAR

George Kennan, traveler, writer and lecturer, arrived here last evening from Washington with his wife and will depart for Japan to-day on the transport Buford. He is going to the Orient in the interests of Outlook, not particularly as a war correspondent, but to study the problems out of which the Japanese-Russian war arose and those that may develop during the progress of the hostilities. Kennan has visited Russia twice and is well acquainted with the political and social conditions of the empire, a fact which he has demonstrated in the books he has written and in his lectures, which resulted in his being escorted out of Russia on the occasion of his last trip to that country. During an interview last evening Kennan said:

"Although I have been sincere in my descriptions of the conditions existing in that country, I cherish no ill feeling against the Russians for their conduct toward me, nor has their treatment biased me in my opinion of the nation and its ruler in the matter of warfare. I regard the Czar as a good man, who, unfortunately, has been betrayed by the war party. I also have a great respect for the Russian soldier, but undoubtedly the military organization of the empire is inferior to that of Japan. Prominent Russian officials have admitted this much to me.

"Russia has long been eager to dominate over China, a fact which the great nations know, and should her ambition be realized it would seriously menace the future of India. With Japan, which has given assurance to Peking, that the Mikado will maintain China's integrity, it is the aim to secure control over Korea and drive Russia out of Manchuria, which is Japan's only hope of maintaining her own national integrity. I believe that the war will develop many interesting problems and to these I hope to give as much of my attention as possible."

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