

VLADIVOSTOK CRUISERS ESCAPE AFTER CAPING TRANSPORTS

MORE TROOPS TO BE HURRIED TO KUROPATKIN

Russian Commander Has Two Hundred Thousand Men at Present.

Army Staff Fears That Stakelberg Will Be Defeated by Nozu.

ST. PETERSBURG, June 15.—The appointment of Lieutenant General Leonidas Dembowski as commander of the Fifth East Siberian Army Corps is evidence that larger reinforcements are to be placed at General Kuropatkin's disposal. The four corps originally formed of Siberian troops are mobilized in Manchuria and other drafts have been sent out to the Far East. The organization of the new corps, independent of the Russian corps now ordered out from European Russia, shows that Kuropatkin now has almost 200,000 troops, irrespective of frontier and railroad guards, and that probably he has an effective army of 150,000 men at Liaoyang.

Dembowski is a distinguished strategist. He participated in the Russo-Turkish war and was commander of the grenadier corps after the war. Later he became head of the Paul Infantry school and held that position until two years ago. Since then he has been on the personal staff of the War Minister.

Not since the war began had such excitement been apparent at the War and Naval ministries as reigned there today. With the encounter between the opposing fleets imminent and heavy fighting in progress south of Vafangow (Liaotung Peninsula, about fifty-five miles north of Port Arthur and along the line established by the Japanese railway across the peninsula from Pitzevo to Port Arthur), both from the land and sea was awaited with feverish anxiety. The general staff believes that the Japanese force which attacked Major General Goln-gross' division yesterday was the advance force of General Nozu's entire army, of nearly 50,000 men. General Baron Stakelberg, who commands the First Siberian Corps, is personally directing the operations at the front.

Both sides retained their positions after the encounter yesterday, when the fighting was of the most desperate character on the Russian left wing. The adversaries brought up all the supports possible during the height of the battle and the combat was resumed this morning. With the whole Third army behind General Nozu, there is apprehension that Stakelberg may be unable to get together a sufficient force to successfully oppose the enemy.

The authorities here have successfully concealed up to this time the number of Russian troops on the peninsula. It now develops that Stakelberg's entire corps has been centered at Kaichou (about twenty miles south of Newchwang).

Not entirely attributable to a desire to relieve the pressure on Port Arthur, as it is considered that the fortress would lose most of its importance to Russia, from a strategic standpoint. If the naval squadron there succeeded in escaping and effecting a junction with the squadron commanded by Vice Admiral Skrydloff, Stakelberg's purpose is mainly intended to discourage the landing of a fourth Japanese army, which the authorities have reason to believe is planned for the west coast of the Liaotung Peninsula, near Newchwang, whence it could co-operate with General Kuroki's advance upon Liaoyang.

Preparing for Flight to China.

GYANGTZE, Tibet, June 15.—The British have captured a lama who had just arrived in this vicinity from Lhasa. He declares that the Dalai lama has made preparation for flight to China in the event of Lhasa being threatened.

Death of a Millionaire Cattleman.

DENVER, Colo., June 15.—George H. Adams, a millionaire cattleman and owner of the Adams Hotel in this city, died of heart disease at his home here to-day. He was born at New Orleans in 1845.

DR. PIERCE'S REMEDIES.



It is just a common cold, people say, there's no danger in that. Admitting their statement, then there are *several* colds, colds which are dangerous; for many a fatal sickness begins with a cold. If we could tell the common cold from the uncommon we could save many lives. But we can't. The uncommon variety is rarely recognized until it has fastened its hold on the lungs, and there are symptoms of consumption.

Storm Aids Russian Squadron in Eluding Foe, but the Japanese Are in Close Pursuit.

NAGASAKI, June 15.—A telegram received from Iki Island says that Japanese warships have engaged a Russian squadron near there and that the result of the encounter is not yet known.

TOKIO, June 16, 9 a. m.—Although it is rumored a Japanese squadron overtook and engaged the Vladivostok squadron off Iki Island in the straits of Korea, it is extremely improbable that there has been an engagement. The weather has again favored the Russian fleet. The storm, accompanied by a heavy rain, which swept over the sea in the neighborhood of Tsushima yesterday hid the movements of the Russian vessels. One Japanese scouting vessel is reported to have got in touch with the Russian squadron and to have followed it. It probably lost the Russians when night came on.

The indications are that the Russian squadron is moving eastward. This increases the chances for an open sea engagement. The Japanese are pursuing, keenly eager for a fight.

The Vladivostok squadron evidently attacked the Japanese transports Hitsu-chi and Sado yesterday off Iki Island. The details of the attack have not been received here.

TRANSPORTS PROBABLY TAKEN.

TOKIO, June 15, 7 p. m.—Reports of cannonading have been received here from various points, such as Chikuzen Province, Iki Island and Tsushima, but the exact nature of the operations of the Russian Vladivostok squadron is not disclosed. It is possible that the Russian vessels surprised and captured three transports which left Shimoda to-day for the army bases in Korea and China. The course of these vessels would have taken them close to the place where the Russian ships were seen. It is possible also that the Russians are pursuing merchantmen, and that the cannonading reported is a result of such pursuits.

The Japanese warships in the vicinity are hurrying to the scene. Sasebo is being closed. There is a strong possibility that a naval engagement will take place soon. No southern Japanese city is exposed to attack, but this Russian raid may prove expensive to shipping.

Routed Russian Army Abandons Its Guns on the Battlefield

Continued From Page 1, Column 1.

Referring to the engagement, says the recent report is entirely without foundation.

JAPANESE DELAY ATTACK.

CHEFU, June 16 (noon).—From a reliable source it is learned that the Japanese had 80,000 men on the Liaotung Peninsula ten days ago. It is believed that it is their intention to use 100,000 men in the attack on Port Arthur. The Japanese are ready to make a fort before they are ready to take the expected attack.

A Chinese who was employed in the machine shops at Port Arthur is authority for the statement that the repairs to the Russian warships only consisted of placing sheets of steel over the damaged parts. No attempt was made to replace the damaged ribs. He also confirms previous Chinese reports that the Russian fleet of battleships and cruisers only five are capable of fighting.

According to the best information these vessels are the battleships Poltava, the cruisers Diana and the cruisers Bayan, Askold and Novik. Some contend that the battleship Peresviet and the cruiser Diana are not damaged.

The Chinese machinist says the machinery of a large vessel, the name of which is unknown to him, was wrecked recently by a shell.

ST. PETERSBURG, June 16.—Scanty details of the fighting at Vafangow have been received here, but they came too late for official comment or even reference to the earlier editions of the morning papers.

The fact that a message from the field stated that the attack was renewed on the morning of June 15 and that the Russians were the aggressors seems to indicate that the Japanese not only failed to carry the point of their initial attack, but may be forced to fall back if General Stakelberg manages to maintain his position in the face of the strong Japanese forces opposing him until Russian reinforcements, which are known to be a short distance in the rear, arrive.

OUTLOOK IS BAD FOR OREGON PRUNE CROP

Government Reports Show That Yield Will Be Thirty Per Cent of Average Yield.

It is reported here that the Japanese protected cruiser Nitska engaged the Russian Vladivostok squadron off Tsushima Island, in the strait between Korea and Japan. This report, however, lacks confirmation.

The Japanese transports Ugo and Fuyo, homeward bound, met the Russian vessels this morning near Iki Island. The Russians pursued them and fired several shots at the Japanese ships. The transports escaped and reached Katsumoto.

Three Japanese transports, outward bound from Shimonoeseki, met the Russian warships this morning outside the Strait of Korea. The Russians fired eighteen shots at the Japanese ships. One transport escaped. The fate of the other two is not known.

It is believed at Sasebo that a naval engagement is imminent.

REPORTS OF NAVAL FIGHT.

LONDON, June 15.—A dispatch to the Central News from Tokio, filed at 8 p. m. to-day, says: "A dispatch just received from Moji says the cannonading at sea stopped at 1 p. m. There was a heavy sea in the straits all day. Ten Japanese merchant steamships are known to have left various ports for Moji and there is much anxiety about their fate."

It is rumored to-night that the Russian warships have gone eastward. An earlier dispatch to the Central News from Tokio filed this afternoon said a naval engagement was then in progress off Tsushima Island, in the Korean Straits, between the three Russian cruisers and a number of Japanese ships.

The Central News dispatch added that the Vladivostok squadron was first reported on June 14 from Iki Island (off Kioto, Japan, in the Sea of Japan). Later in the day cannonading was heard off the coast of Nagato (on the Japanese coast, in the Straits of Korea).

The captain of a Japanese merchant-ship reported this morning that his ship was fired upon by a Russian warship.

Heavy cannonading was heard early this morning in the neighborhood of

Iki Island and subsequently came news of the engagement already referred to in the Tokio dispatch.

SHOEL, June 15.—The Russian Vladivostok fleet fired at 5 o'clock this morning upon a merchant vessel close to a small island three hours distant from Shimonoeseki. It is believed the ship fired upon was an American vessel, the Ohio, which left Pusan last night for Nagasaki. The Japanese Minister to Korea is on this boat, en route to Japan.

It is believed the Vladivostok fleet is trying to effect a junction with the Port Arthur fleet. This will be almost impossible on account of the difficulty of passing Penka Straits.

At Chemulpo there are several Japanese officers whose return to Nagasaki is delayed because the steamship on which they purpose traveling is awaiting news of the position of the Russian vessels before venturing to sea.

MAY EFFECT A JUNCTION.

ST. PETERSBURG, June 15.—No information is obtainable here regarding the reported engagement between the Russian Vladivostok squadron and a Japanese squadron in the Korean Straits. But it is likely that a naval fight has occurred, or is about to occur. Vice Admiral Skrydloff has left Vladivostok with the armored cruisers Gromobol, Rossig and Kurik and some torpedo craft. As this fact is already known abroad, the press betrays no confidence of the authorities here in making this definite announcement.

The fact that the Russian protected cruiser Novik made a sortie from Port Arthur yesterday demonstrates that the harbor entrance is free and the Novik's dash doubtless was preliminary to the egress of the whole squadron for the purpose of effecting a junction with Skrydloff's squadron. The news of a decisive sea battle, therefore, may arrive at any hour.

Before Admiral Skrydloff left Vladivostok the Russian protected cruiser Bogaty, which struck on the rocks off Cape Gamova, was hoisted off and towed into the harbor of Vladivostok. She is now in dock there.

LARGE ARMY ADVANCING.

TIENTSIN, June 15.—It has been learned here from a Russian source that 40,000 Russians passed Tashichao, twenty miles south of Newchwang, last Monday, going southward. It is supposed that this force is going to the relief of Port Arthur.

General Ma has removed his headquarters from Chaoyang to Pingchichow. Viceroy Yuan Shai Kai, commander in chief of the Chinese forces, has refused General Ma's request for 10,000 more troops. It is believed here that there are 40,000 Chinese imperial soldiers on the Mongolian border.

British Fleet Changes Base.

SHANGHAI, June 15.—The British fleet left Wusung to-day for the Saddle Cape Gamova, was hoisted off and towed into the harbor of Vladivostok. She is now in dock there.

CRUISER NOVIK MAKES A DASH OUT OF HARBOR

Convoys Destroyers in an Attack on Japanese Flotilla.

Her Commander Too Wary to Be Lured Far From the Forts.

TOKIO, June 15, 4 p. m.—A flotilla of torpedo boats and torpedo-boat destroyers, under the command of Captain Tsuchiya, and co-operating with the army, made a reconnaissance in force near Slauping Island yesterday and bombarded the Russians' outposts on the coast to the west of the island. Slauping Island is twelve miles west of Port Arthur.

At noon the Russian cruiser Novik, convoying ten torpedo-boat destroyers, steamed out from Port Arthur. The Russian shore batteries protected these vessels with a heavy cannonade. The Japanese flotilla retreated slowly, firing as it went, for the purpose of deceiving the enemy to sea. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon the Russian ships returned to the entrance of Port Arthur.

The fact that the Novik came out of Port Arthur makes it certain that the Russians have succeeded in blasting a channel through the cement-laden merchantmen sunk by the Japanese in the entrance to the harbor. This freedom of egress comes too late to permit of any effect upon the operations of the Japanese army, for men, guns and stores have practically all been landed and Admiral Togo is capable of keeping the remainder of the Russian fleet imprisoned in Port Arthur.

Last Monday night Japanese vedette boats, protected by torpedo boats and torpedo-boat destroyers, succeeded in reaching the entrance to Port Arthur and planting a series of mines. The darkness of midnight favored the operation. The Japanese vessels were not observed and they returned to the rest of the squadron without having sustained any damage.

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Outlook is bad for Oregon prune crop. Government Reports Show That Yield Will Be Thirty Per Cent of Average Yield.

Washington, June 15.—Acting Secretary of the Treasury Taylor to-day received a telegram from President Francis of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, asking for a construction of the law in relation to the reimbursement of the \$4,600,000 Government loan.

Washington, June 15.—At the convention of the Southern California Women's Christian Temperance Union, now in annual session in this city, it was decided to-night to send the following telegram to President Roosevelt:

The Southern California Women's Christian Temperance Union, in convention assembled at Santa Barbara, entreats you that all sale of intoxicants be prohibited within our Panama canal strip during the construction of the canal.

Zanesville, Ohio, June 15.—On petition of the stockholders of the Commercial Bank of Cambridge, a private institution, a receiver appointed for the bank to-day. The petition alleges default against E. M. Patterson, the cashier and H. O. Barber, one of the directors.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

...TWO SEVENTY...

Two Dollars and Seventy Cents Our \$3.50, \$4.00, \$5.00 Shoes

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MANILA BANK FILES PROTEST

Alleges That New Currency to Be Circulated in the Philippines Is Illegal

MANILA, June 16.—The Spanish-Filipino Bank claims that the issuance of the new currency, or what is generally known here as the "Conant notes," is illegal, and it will, it is stated, bring suit against the Federal Government, alleging that under the treaty of Paris ceding the Philippines to the United States the bank has the exclusive right to issue bills which shall circulate as money in the islands.

The proposed internal revenue law for the Philippine Islands provides that a tax of 12 per cent shall be put upon a bank note issue in excess of its capital stock. The Spanish-Filipino Bank also is opposed to this, claiming that the position of the bank under American sovereignty is analogous to that of the trustees of Dartmouth College after the American Revolution. The matter will be taken before the authorities at Washington.

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SOUTHERN PACIFIC ROAD TO ISSUE PREFERRED STOCK

Will Raise \$100,000,000 for General Purposes, Including the Payment of Floating Indebtedness.

NEW YORK, June 15.—Directors of the Southern Pacific road met to-day and voted to issue \$100,000,000 of 7 per cent preferred stock, of which \$40,000,000 will be issued at par to present stockholders. The proceeds will be used for general purposes, including the payment of floating indebtedness. The proposition will be submitted to the stockholders at a meeting to be held in July. There is now \$200,000,000 of Southern Pacific common stock outstanding. Of this amount \$90,000,000 is owned by the Union Pacific Company, which will therefore derive benefit from the proposed issue of preferred stock.

COLORED MURDERESS IS KILLED BY A MOB

Attempt Is Made to Hang Her to a Tree, but Rope Breaks and She Is Riddled With Bullets.

LEBANON JUNCTION, Ky., June 15.—Mrs. Mary Thompson, colored, who last night killed John Irwin, a wealthy white farmer, was to-day taken from jail and hanged to a tree. She weighed 255 pounds and the rope broke. As she ran away the mob fired fusillade after her until she fell fatally wounded.

Gould Will Sail the Detroit.

SAN DIEGO, June 15.—It has been decided that Commodore Charles Gould of the Chula Vista Yacht Club will sail the Detroit in the races next August for the Lipton cup. The Detroit will be sailed under the colors of the San Diego Yacht Club, the cup being the property of the Corinthian Yacht Club.

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Painless Silver Fillings.....	\$ 25 up
Painless Gold Fillings.....	35 up
Painless Gold Crown, 22K.....	3.50 up
Painless Porcelain Crowns.....	3.50 up
Painless Bridge Work.....	3.50 up
Full Set of Teeth.....	2.00 up

Samples of work at entrance.

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The Quality House

San Francisco, Thursday, 16 June, 1904.

"Princess" dresser in golden oak, \$18.50

A charming bedroom piece for a modern house. The handsome mirror is a French bevel plate.

About half of the large invoice of Smith's Axminster rugs has been sold. Still a good assortment of patterns remain. The rugs are nine by twelve feet in size. The price, \$17.90, will hold good only while this special invoice lasts.

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(Formerly the California Furniture Co.)
261 to 281 Geary St., at Union Square