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TEN CENTS PER WEEK.

JAPANESE REVERSE

Attack on Russian Stronghold at Port Arthur Repulsed With Heavy Loss.

RUSSIAN FLEET SINKS FOUR JAPANESE BATTLESHIPS

Sharp and Decisive Clash Between the Shipping and Japan Comes Off Second Best.

Port Arthur, Feb. 24.—After a sharp and decisive engagement the Japanese fleet was repulsed in its attack on Port Arthur. The Russian position in the harbor is strong and it was ably maintained. The engagement was the most important of the several sea fights that have occurred at Port Arthur. The Russian fleet was badly damaged, but the defeat to the Japanese admiral was decisive. Two Japanese transports and four battleships were sunk in the attack and many officers and men were taken prisoners. The engagement demonstrates the tenability of the position of the Russian fleet and the task the Jap has in dislodging it has been greatly underestimated up to the present time.

FRICITION MAY RESULT.

Efforts of Belligerents to Define Contraband of War.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Officials here are apprehensive that friction may follow the efforts of the belligerents in Asia to define contraband of war in a manner injurious to American trade. While the matter has not yet been treated in the negotiations had with Russia and Japan on the one side and the United States on the other there is reason to believe that some of the European powers already have been confronted with threatened restrictions upon their trade which they are disposed to resist. A vast quantity of American foodstuffs is now afloat destined for both Russia and Japan and it is probable that the question will be very speedily raised as to whether or not these supplies are contraband of war.

The United States has in recent years insisted that foodstuffs were not contraband and could not be seized by a belligerent unless it were shown that the goods were consigned to or clearly intended for a belligerent. This principle was recognized by the British government during the Transvaal war and British courts awarded considerable sums of money to American shippers on account of food seized by British warships.

CRANK AT WHITE HOUSE.

Had a Loaded Revolver and Box of Cartridges.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Edward Relgar who gave his address as 271 South Clark street, Chicago, was arrested at the White house during the day and locked up pending an inquiry into his mental condition. Relgar evidently is of unbalanced mind. He has written many letters to the president suggesting that people be named in accordance with their occupations. For many weeks the secret service officers have been on the lookout for him and when he appeared he was promptly placed in custody. Relgar desired to see the president to ascertain why his letters

had not been answered. When he was searched a loaded revolver and a box of cartridges were found in his pocket.

WARSHIPS GO TO SHANGHAI.

Secretary Moody Orders American Vessels to Leave Chefoo.

Chefoo, Feb. 23.—The United States cruiser New Orleans and the gunboats Wilmington and Annapolis, which sailed from Manila on Feb. 15, under command of Rear Admiral Cooper, upon arriving here received orders from the secretary of the navy to return to Shanghai. When the outbreak of hostilities between Russia and Japan occurred Admiral Evans, commanding the Asiatic fleet, dispatched a cruiser squadron to Shanghai and Admiral Cooper's squadron to Chefoo. Secretary Moody has ordered all the ships to Shanghai. They left immediately after coaling without giving any reason for their sudden departure.

The Russian forces in Manchuria are so far acting entirely on the defensive. Extensive preparations are being made at Dalny, Port Arthur, Newchwang and Laiyang to prevent the threatened landing of the Japanese troops. A big force of men is at work on the damaged vessels in the Port Arthur harbor and efforts are being made to raise the battleship Retzytan.

EXPLOSION IN STEEL PLANT.

Three Men Killed and Several Others Injured.

Buffalo, Feb. 23.—At the plant of the Lackawanna Steel company George Reynolds, Michael Smith and Frank Prenatt were killed and several persons were injured by the explosion of a blast furnace. The explosion occurred near powerhouse No. 2, where a large reservoir is situated. The reservoir is a tube 100 feet long and about ten feet in diameter, and was stored with gas to be used as a motive power for a blower engine. Smith and Reynolds were working

in the reservoir behind a bulkhead. A piece of bulkhead was removed in the course of the operations. A valve which the men thought had been closed allowed gas to flow into the tank. They tried to escape, but were overcome before they could reach the exit.

TRYING TO LAUNCH A BOAT.

Two Men Lost by the Steamer York Castle.

New York, Feb. 23.—Two men were lost by the steamer York Castle, which arrived during the day from Delagoa bay, in an attempt to give aid to the American schooner Willie L. Newton, about 200 miles southeast of Sandy Hook. The Newton was lumber laden from Brunswick, Ga., for New York, and lost her rudder head. The steamer tried to launch a lifeboat in charge of Chief Officer Alexander Turner with four men. The falls became jammed, and as the ship was rolling violently the five men were thrown into the sea. After considerable difficulty three of the men were rescued but Turner and Carpenter Gray were

THREE PERSONS PERISH.

Fire Partially Destroys Chicago Hotel and Theater.

Chicago, Feb. 23.—Fire partially destroyed the building occupied by the Alhambra theater, hotel and apartments. The structure was three stories high.

After the fire was extinguished the remains of three persons, two men and a woman, were found in the ruins. The loss is estimated at \$75,000.

The Alhambra theater, around which the hotel is built, was partly destroyed.

TRAIN STRIKES CUTTER.

One Man Killed and His Brother Is Dying.

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 23.—A cutter occupied by David and James Underwood was struck by a delayed Canadian Pacific train near Rokeby station, on the Yorkton branch. David was instantly killed and James so seriously injured that he is not expected to recover. It is supposed that the brothers were driving on the track and were turning off to go to their home when the accident happened.

HUNDREDS OF LIVES LOST.

Dam Bursts on the Hwangho River in China.

Tientsin, Feb. 23.—A telegram from Tsinanfu, Shantung, says that hundreds of lives have been lost by the bursting of a dam at Hwangho. Several villages were destroyed.

To Divide Providence Diocese.

Rome, Feb. 23.—At the day's meeting of the congregation of the propaganda it was decided to propose to the pope that the diocese of Providence (R. I.) be divided, Fall River to be selected as the see of the new diocese and the Rev. William Stang of Providence to be chosen as the new bishop.

LEADER SENTENCED TO HANG.

Majority of Deserting Constabulary Force Recaptured.

Manila, Feb. 22.—Corporal Ayala, ringleader of the members of the constabulary force who recently revolted at Vigan, Luzon, was captured last Monday. He has since been tried, convicted and sentenced by the court at Vigan to be hanged. Very few of the men who deserted their posts remain uncaptured and most of the arms and ammunition taken with them have been recovered.

A reward of \$2,500 has been offered for the capture of Ricarte, the revolutionist leader.

Passes the Billion Mark.

New York, Feb. 22.—This week's bank statement is another record breaker, the grand total of deposits aggregating \$1,028,025,600. The specie item also exceeds all previous records, with a grand total of \$213,606,700.

waiting the cash gain (specie and legal tender) is increased to \$284,513,000.

FIRING AROUND PORT ARTHUR.

Believed to Be From Attempted Approach of Torpedo Boats.

Port Arthur, Feb. 23.—Sounds of desultory firing at sea are heard almost nightly and Sunday morning firing was again heard. This is doubtless due to the attempted approach of Japanese torpedo boats, but nothing serious has developed.

The garrison is in excellent spirits and is firmly convinced of the ultimate success of the Russian arms.

The Novi Krai prints a long article invoking historical precedents to prove the illegality of the Japanese declaration that fuel and vituals will in all cases be treated as contraband of war. The paper describes Japan's attitude as presumptuous and urges the neutral powers to disregard it.

DECISIVE BATTLE FOUGHT.

Dominican Government Troops Defeat Insurgents.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Late last night the state department received a cablegram from Minister Powell, dated at San Domingo, Feb. 16, saying:

"A decisive battle has been fought between the government forces and the insurgents. It extended over two days and resulted in a victory for the government. The siege has been raised and the insurgents are in retreat."

MAPS AND PAPERS STOLEN.

American Adviser of Korean Emperor Forced to Resign.

London, Feb. 23.—According to the Nagasaki correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, while William F. Sands, the emperor of Korea's American adviser, was entertaining officers of the French cruiser Pascal and a number of other friends at dinner in his official residence at Seoul, some geographical, statistical and military maps and papers were stolen. This caused a great scandal and necessitated Mr. Sands' withdrawal.

FACTORY GUTTED BY FIRE.

Contents Valued at \$350,000 Entirely Destroyed.

New York, Feb. 23.—The factory of the Frazer Tablet company at Eighthteenth street and Eighth avenue, Brooklyn, was completely destroyed by fire at night. The fire started on the top floor from some unknown cause and spread rapidly to adjoining buildings. The factory was entirely gutted, all the contents being destroyed. Loss, \$350,000; insurance \$250,000.

BLIND MUSICIAN'S CRIME.

Wounds His Daughter and Then Kills Himself.

Sloux City, Ia., Feb. 23.—Steven Mauck, blind violinist, shot and dangerously wounded his sixteen-year-old daughter Eva and then blew out his brains. He is believed to have been insane.

Wealthy Farmer Murdered.

Dingess, W. Va., Feb. 23.—John Steph, a wealthy merchant near here, shot and killed Elmer Brewer, a wealthy farmer and neighbor. Two hours after the murder a torch was applied to Steph's large store and it was totally consumed. Steph's home was also fired, but it was saved from destruction. Steph is in hiding.

... has been inaugurated as first president of the republic of Panama.

A dozen United States warships are at Guantanamo, Cuba, preparing for the maneuvers.

Sir Leslie Stephen, president of the Ethical society, is dead in London. He was born in 1832.

DICK HAS CLEAR FIELD.

Herrick and Cox Out of the Race for Senator.

Cleveland, Feb. 22.—A conference of Republican leaders was held here during the day, attended by Governor Herrick, George B. Cox of Cincinnati and others, to discuss the situation in connection with the election of a United States senator from Ohio to succeed the late Marcus A. Hanna. At the conclusion of the conference Governor Herrick, who had been strongly urged to become a senatorial candidate and who was generally admitted to hold the key to the entire situation, issued a formal statement saying he would remain in the governor's chair.

George B. Cox of Cincinnati, who has also been frequently mentioned in connection with the vacancy, said:

"I am not and will not be a candidate for the place."

It is now generally admitted among those who stand high in the councils of the party that the action of Governor Herrick and Mr. Cox leaves the way clear for Congressman Dick to become the candidate of the party for the vacant seat in the United States senate.

BRIEF BITS OF NEWS.

Fire at Columbiāna, O., destroyed half a dozen business houses, causing a loss estimated at from \$65,000 to \$75,000.

Emperor William starts on his Mediterranean holiday March 5, joining the imperial yacht Hohenzollern at Messina Sicily.

The Abbot, 2:03 1/4, John J. Scannell's celebrated ten-year-old trotter.

The Lesson of the Past

For eight years we have been telling of the wonderful future of Bemidji. Many have been unbelieving. They have lost fortunes. Every year proved our prediction many times over. Bemidji will one day be a great city, and townsite lots, now to be had cheap, will be worth big money. Buy now.

Bemidji Townsite & Improvement Co.

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A Hint for the Future

HENRY BUENTHER

Naturalist and Taxidermist

208 Second St. Postoffice Box No. 686

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You will find variety at this store, such as is not shown at another store in Northern Minnesota.

MEN'S CLOTHING.

Yesterday we placed in stock a large part of our spring purchase, in men's suits and rain coats. Natty, well made suits, new plaids and stripes at \$10, \$15, \$18, \$20, \$22, \$22.50 and \$23.50.

Rain coats, dark colored, broken plaids, warranted rain proof, price \$15.

WALL PAPER.

The new 1904 patterns are now in stock. Good, common paper at 10 to 12 cents a double roll. Gilt at 15 cents to 40 cents a double roll. Ingrains at 35 cents a double roll.

CARPETS.

We carry the only complete stock of carpets in Beltrami county. Granits, Ingrains, Velvets, Axminsters, Stair carpets, Matting, Rubber Matting, Linoleum, Oil Cloth, Art Squares and Rugs.

MEN'S FURNISHING GOODS.

We are now showing a new line of shirts, night shirts, collars, ties and underwear.

REMNANTS.

This week we will have on sale hundreds of yards of short ends in wash goods.

SHOES.

Our stock of Douglas shoes for men, Pingree and Selze, Schwab shoes for ladies; Little Giant and Shaft Pierce shoes for children is now complete.

RUBBERS.

Special for this week, a few cases of Lumbermen's Hurons; regular price \$1.50, for \$1.19.

WAITERS AND BARTENDER'S CLOTHING.

Vests, silk, wool and duck coats, aprons, coats and sleeves.