

THE STAR'S NEXT GREAT FICTION OFFERING, "THE SORCERESS OF THE STRAND," WILL BEGIN MONDAY

TOWN OF WIJU BURNED BY THE RUSSIANS WHO FLEE BEFORE THE ADVANCING JAPS

The Rapid Advance of the Japanese Army Toward the North Has Thrown the Russian Army Into Confusion.

SEOUL, March 12.—It is reported here that the Russians have set fire to the town of Wiju on the Korean side of the river Yalu and totally destroyed it, and that the whole Russian population together with Russian army have retreated across the river into Manchuria.

A complete Russian evacuation of the surrounding territory is proceeding due to the rapid advance of the Japanese land force toward the north.

MAKAROFF'S REPORT

MUKDEN, March 12.—Admiral Makaroff, commanding the Russian fleet, gives the following report of the engagement at Port Arthur on Thursday:

"Six torpedo boats, which went to sea on the night of March 10, encountered the enemy's torpedo boats, followed by cruisers. A hot action ensued in which the torpedo boat destroyer Vlastini discharged a torpedo and sank one of the enemy's boats. On the way back the torpedo-boat destroyer Sterepuschki sustained damages, her engine being disabled and she began to founder. By 8 o'clock in the morning five of our torpedo-boat destroyers had returned.

"When the critical position of the disabled boat became evident I hoisted my flag on the cruiser Novik and went with the Novik and the cruiser Boyarin to the rescue. But as five of the enemy's cruisers surrounded our destroyer and as their battleship squadron was approaching, I did not succeed in saving her. She foundered and part of the crew was made prisoners and part was drowned.

"On the ships which participated in the night attack one officer was seriously wounded and three others were slightly wounded; two soldiers were killed and 18 wounded.

"At 9 o'clock 14 of the enemy's ships assembled before Port Arthur and a bombardment was begun with the heavy guns of their battleship squadron at long range.

"This lasted until 1 o'clock in the afternoon. It is estimated that the enemy fired 154 12-inch shells. The damage to our vessels was insignificant and they are again ready for battle. Our losses were one officer slightly wounded, one soldier killed and four wounded.

"The illumination of the sea at night by the searchlights was most satisfactory and several times shots from our batteries forced the enemy's torpedo boats to retire.

"With the commencement of the bombardment at dawn the guns of the fortress replied to the enemy's fire.

"The crews of all the ships engaged gave proof of remarkable coolness in action. Below decks the work of the day followed its ordinary course, in spite of the shells falling between the vessels and covering them with fragments.

"A bombardment at such a distance must be regarded as ineffective, but the Japanese cruiser Takasago is reported to have been seen to suffer serious damage, the extent, however, it was impossible to ascertain at a distance of five miles. Many shells were fired at a range of seven and a half miles."

ALEXIEFF'S REPORT

ST. PETERSBURG, March 12.—Viceroy Alexieff has sent the following message to the czar:

"In the fight between our torpedo boats and the Japanese cruisers, on March 10, Capt. Matrosovitch, Ensign Alexandroff and Mechanical Engineer Blenoff received slight wounds and Ensign Zaeff was severely wounded in the head.

"The commandant at Port Arthur reports the following details of the bombardment of the fortress there on March 10: 'As soon as the enemy opened fire our batteries replied. Six of the enemy's ships remained behind the Liao Tshin promontory and opened fire on the fortress over that shelter. They ceased bombarding at 1:35 p. m. The enemy fired about 200 projectiles. One shell from battery No. 15, on Electric cliff, damaged a Japanese cruiser severely. The results of the bombardment were insignificant. Six soldiers were wounded. Three inhabitants of the town were killed and one was seriously wounded.'"

"During Thursday's bombardment, says a late report this afternoon, the new town sustained the greatest damage. A lawyer named Sidorski and a woman whose name is unknown, together with a Chinese servant, were killed. Several other Chinese were wounded and General

Stoessel and his staff who were watching the battle were sprinkled with the splinters of flying shells, but were not injured.

A Japanese ironclad was struck by a Russian shell and was seen to draw slowly out of range and it is thought she was crippled.

JAP FLEET IS GONE

(By Scripps News Ass'n.) LONDON, March 12.—The Port Arthur correspondent of the Central News agency, writing last evening, states that the Japanese squadron disappeared after the bombardment and torpedo fight of the tenth and had not yet returned yesterday morning. The Russian squadron proceeded slowly to sea, returning in the afternoon without sighting the enemy.

Late Port Arthur reports state that during the bombardment on Thursday a shell burst about 80 yards from the house of Colonel Baron Frank, injuring his wife and decapitating his daughter, both of whom were in the house.

FAMINE THREATENED

(By Scripps News Ass'n.) ST. PETERSBURG, March 12.—The chief inspector of the trans-Siberian railway reports that the line is in bad condition and that the track men are neglecting their duties. He says that heavy drifts of snow are piling up on the tracks and that serious landslides are threatened at Tomskokita and Vercholooski and all intermediate villages on account of the stoppage of ordinary traffic in order to allow the transportation of the Russian troops to the front.

Food at these places has reached prohibitive prices and terrible suffering is reported among the poorer classes.

NOT WITH THE BIG RAILROAD COMPANIES

THEY POSITIVELY REFUSE TO PAY THEIR JUST SHARE OF THE COST OF THE PROPOSED SEA WALL ALONG THE CITY FRONT AND IT WILL NOT BE BUILT

Because the two big railroad companies which monopolize Seattle's waterfront will not pay their just share of the expense of constructing the much talked of seawall it will not be built. Ever since, City Engineer Thomson announced that if the improvement were made the railroad companies owning rights-of-way on Railroad avenue would be obliged to pay 40 per cent of the cost of the work, nobody at all familiar with the methods of the railroads has even dreamed that the wall would be built. The newspaper organ of the railroads today blantly announces what has been well understood for months.

As long as there was a chance of getting the seawall constructed with private individuals or the city paying the lion's share of the cost the railroads were enthusiastic over the plan. Now they will hardly listen

to it. The improvement would have cost about \$350,000. The Great Northern and Northern Pacific would have been obliged to pay about \$235,000 of this amount; the city \$115,000, and the abutting property owners the remainder.

The action of the railroad companies will probably delay the construction of the seawall several years.

BROOKFIELD, Mo., March 12.—Republicans of the Second congressional district met in convention here today and selected delegates to represent the district at the national convention at Chicago. Resolutions were adopted reaffirming the principles of the party as proclaimed in the last Republican national and state platforms and the delegates were instructed to vote for the re-nomination of President Roosevelt.

MAKAROFF A FIGHTER

RUSSIAN VICE ADMIRAL DOES NOT ACT LIKE HIS FELLOW OFFICERS

ST. PETERSBURG, March 12.—Thursday's fight at Port Arthur is the first time torpedo boats were engaged each other at sea. Although the odds were against the Russians, as the squadron was supported by the cruisers of the enemy, the Russians made a heroic dash for the foe, and apparently had the better of the combat, sinking a Japanese torpedo boat, until the cruisers got within range and one of the latter's shells crippled the Stereguschki.

The gallant action of Vice Admiral Makaroff in transferring his flag to the cruiser Novik and sailing out in the face of the enemy in an attempt at rescue, receives unstinted praise, stamping him at the outset of his command as a man of force and action who insists on being in the van of the fighting.

The removal of the battleship Retvizan from the mouth of the inner harbor, which marked the assumption of command of Admiral Makaroff, will permit the free exit of the heavy armor ed ships. It was thought that the reason why the Russian ships had not made a sortie before was apprehension of meeting with a superior force, but it is now clear that the ships were unable to leave. With the channel open it is expected that Admiral Makaroff will make the squadron an aggressive force.

Appreciating the misfortune of the division of the fleet before the war, it is believed that Admiral Makaroff will attempt to unite his force by bringing the Vladivostok squadron to Port Arthur.

Repairs on the battleship Retvizan will be completed in a few weeks, but the battleship Carevitch is so badly damaged that it is not thought that she can participate in any of the operations for a long time.

"HOT AIR"

KOUROPATKIN SAYS HE WILL EAT THE JAPS ALIVE

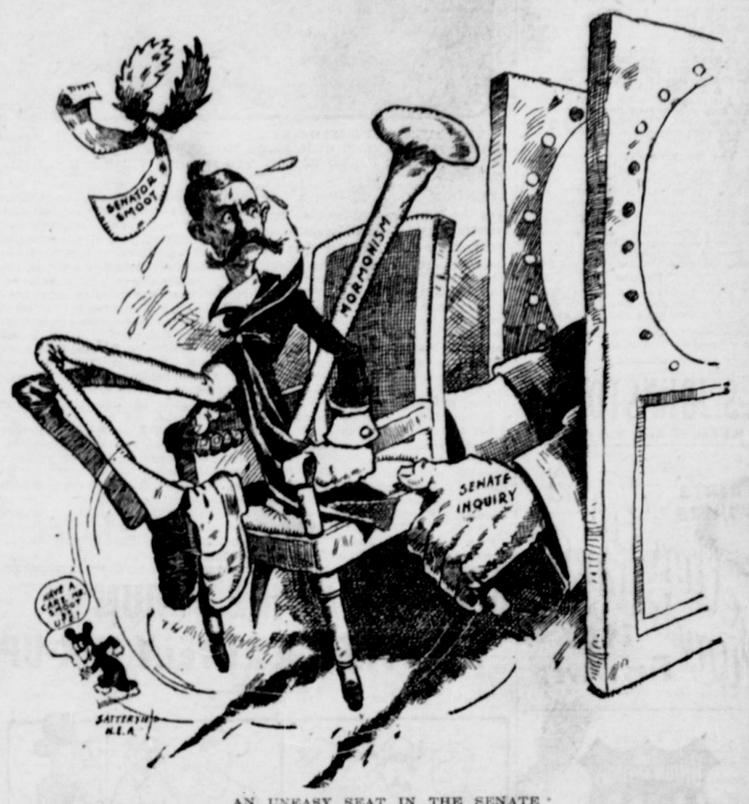
PARIS, March 12.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Echo de Paris sends an interview with Gen. Kouropatkin, who is to have supreme command of the Russian military forces in the far east. Kouropatkin is quoted as saying:

"After crushing the Japanese in Korea and Manchuria we will take their island. If I have anything to say in the matter a treaty of peace will be signed in Tokio and nowhere else."

BADLY BUMPED

Arthur Donald, a Northern Pacific switchman, was injured while throwing a switch near the King street coal bunkers last evening. He leaped down from an engine cab to throw a ground switch and was hurled to the ground. His injuries were not serious, but painful. He was removed to the Seattle general hospital.

The Union Congregational Sunday school of Queen Anne hill will have a visitors' day tomorrow afternoon from 12:30 o'clock until 1:30 o'clock. In addition to other interesting features, Capt. McAbee, of the Salvation Army, will speak and sing.



AN UNEASY SEAT IN THE SENATE

KILLED BY DYNAMITE

Terence Scott, a 9-year-old boy, was instantly killed and houses for blocks around were jarred to their foundations by an explosion of dynamite on Second avenue north near Denny way late yesterday afternoon, where a gang of laborers under Contractor C. J. Erickson are making a deep cut in regrading the avenue.

The dynamite had been left to thaw out in a kettle of boiling water over an open fire by C. S. Duncan, Erickson's powder man. Duncan was not present when the explosion occurred, but his arrest for manslaughter was ordered after a consultation between Prosecuting Attorney Scott and Coroner Hoye.

The coroner announces his determination to bring the guilty parties, whether employers or employes, or both, to account in the criminal court. An inquest will be held probably Monday morning to ascertain the cause of the accident and to fix the responsibility for the little lad's frightful death.

Beneath a 15-foot embankment, less than 50 yards from the property line, Duncan had built the fire and was warning his dynamite. At about 4 o'clock he took an armful of the explosive and went to put in some blasts 500 feet away. He left 15 sticks of dynamite in the kettle. Earlier in the day he had told a number of small boys to keep away from the fire, as they might get hurt.

After Duncan had gone the Scott boy passed the spot and climbed down the embankment while on his way to the Alcatraz asphalt plant, where his father is employed. He had just reached the fire, apparently, when the explosion occurred.

The dynamite exploded with a roar like a broadside of cannon and the body of the child was thrown 30 feet. The little mangled corpse was found on top of the embankment by those

who first arrived after the explosion. Mrs. Martin Grass, who was ill in the house of N. G. Christensen, a short distance from the scene, was thrown several feet in the air from her bed and was almost prostrated by the shock. Every window in the house was shattered. The house of A. L. Christensen nearby was almost as badly wrecked.

A little daughter of R. A. Nicholson, in the Clarendon hotel, was looking out of a window when the dynamite went off. The child was knocked half way across the room. A number of windows in the hotel were shattered. Windows in a dozen other houses within a radius of four blocks were broken, and the explosion was heard for a mile.

Deputy Coroner Arnold took charge of the boy's body and removed it to the Bonney-Watson morgue. The Scott family live at 220 John street.

People living in the vicinity of Second avenue north have complained to the city authorities several times recently of the carelessness of Contractor Erickson and his men in handling dynamite and the board of public works had promised to investigate the complaints and bring the contractor to account.

Duncan, the powder man, who is wanted as a witness before the coroner's jury, Monday, was arrested and taken to the police station this morning.

City Detective Corbett found Duncan at work on the excavation in North Seattle and placed him under arrest. He assured the police and coroner that he would be present at the inquest and was released.

STRIKE AT YAKATAKA

News of another gold strike on the Yakataga beach reached Seattle yesterday. The beach is yielding greater returns than was expected. Four men, employes of the Revenue Mining Company of St. Louis, took out \$2,200 in 48 hours, and while such great finds are not expected to last, it is predicted that the camp will be a success.

The Revenue Mining Company had erected a sawmill with a capacity of 8,000 feet per day, besides a centrifugal pump on the beach with a capacity of 1,500 cubic feet a day.

Stabbed in a Fight

COLTON, March 12.—Thursday, at a sale six miles north of Colton, Frank Fite was stabbed by some person in a general fight. A warrant was sworn out for the arrest of the three Stark boys, charging them with the crime. Fite was stabbed in the right shoulder. The wound is not considered dangerous.

The snow went off with a heavy rain and has washed the roads so they are impassable. The road to Snake river down Steptoe canyon is all washed away.

BANQUET OF EX-BUCKEYES

OMAHA, Neb., March 12.—Elaborate arrangements have been made for the annual banquet of the Ohio Association of Omaha, which takes place tonight at the Commercial Club. The principal address will be delivered by John L. Webster, a former Ohioan, whose name is mentioned in connection with the Republican vice presidential nomination.

A lecture will be given on Tuesday evening in the crypt of Trinity Parish church, under the auspices and for the benefit of the Men's Club of Trinity Parish. The lecturer will be the Rev. H. H. Gowen, who has been chosen for his subject the Shakespearean tragedy of "Othello."