

CRUISER LENA AFFAIR

Admiral Goodrich Instructed to Hold His Squadron at Frisco.

MYSTERY IN VESSEL'S VISIT

Considerable Speculation and Discussion Aroused by Arrival of Russian Ship in San Francisco—Believed She Is in Quest of the America.

San Francisco, Sept. 13.—The sailing orders of the American squadron now in this port have been canceled by a despatch from the navy department to Rear Admiral C. F. Goodrich, instructing him to wait further orders. The squadron, which consists of the armored cruiser New York, the cruisers Boston and Marblehead, the gunboat Bennington and the torpedo boat destroyer Paul Jones, was under orders to sail during the day for Magdalena bay for target practice. The sudden change of orders, it is said, is due to the unexpected arrival of the Russian warship Lena in this port.

The statement that the Russian cruiser Lena left Vladivostok thirty-one days ago and arrived here with four boilers has aroused considerable speculation and discussion. The average time of a fairly fast steamer from the Russian port to San Francisco is from twenty-eight to thirty days, and it is pointed out that the Lena would not have been permitted to leave Vladivostok in such condition that a month's voyage would virtually disable her. Local shipping men incline to the belief that the Lena has been out from Vladivostok longer than a month and has been so long patrolling the high seas in search of Japanese merchantmen and other vessels carrying contraband that she was forced to put in here for renovation.

Lena's Main Quest.

Another surmise is that the Lena was so long out without getting sight of a prize that she put in here for information concerning the movements of the enemy's vessel and for further instructions. This step, it is claimed, she was clearly entitled to take under the neutrality laws, affording her twenty-four hours' stay, and that the move was considered safe may be judged from the known absence of Japanese warships in this vicinity.

It is conceded in shipping circles that the main quest of the Lena was the steamship America, which flies the Japanese flag and which would be open to capture at any place on the high seas. The America left Hongkong for San Francisco three days ago richly laden. It is a question now whether the America will cross the Pacific, as she probably will call at Guam for cable advice and be informed of the danger awaiting her. Honolulu is another port of call where the America could find shelter.

The Pacific Steamship company's steamer Korea from Hongkong via Yokohama is due here, and possibly escaped search by the earlier arrival of the Lena.

The presence of the Lena will have an influence for a time on the character of the cargoes sent from here to Japanese ports. Admiral Whiting has notified the Washington authorities of the arrival of the Lena and has asked for instructions.

WASHINGTON GETS REPORT.

Considerable Stir Caused by Arrival of Russian Cruiser Lena.

Washington, Sept. 13.—Admiral Goodrich's report of the presence of the Russian transport Lena in San Francisco harbor caused a great stir in official circles here. The entry of the ship was entirely unexpected and was a disagreeable event, for it had been hoped by the officials that America would escape being drawn into the necessity of making close decisions respecting the rights of belligerent vessels in our ports.

Secretary Morton promptly sought the advice of the state department, sending Captain Pillsbury, acting chief of the navigation bureau, over to see Acting Secretary Adee. The latter in turn called for Judge Penfield, the department's solicitor, and a conference ensued between the three men lasting half an hour. Then the statement was made that after all this was not a matter which at this stage concerned the state department, but rather it is within the jurisdiction of the treasury department.

The presence of the Russian transport, so called, in San Francisco harbor involves the application of the United States neutrality laws, and it was said at the state department that it was the duty under the president's proclamation of neutrality for the treasury officials there—the collector of customs and surveyor of the port—and the United States district attorney in San Francisco to take any action necessary in this matter. In other words the case is purely internal as it stands, though it may become external at any moment and thus require action by the state department in the event that another nation—Japan, for instance—officially calls attention to the Lena's presence in San Francisco harbor.

Steamship Rate War to Continue.

Liverpool, Sept. 13.—The Allan, Dominion and Canadian Pacific steamship lines have reduced their steamer rates from London or Liverpool to Quebec from \$15 to \$10. The new rate, which will become effective in October, is regarded as an indication of the probable failure of the peace negotiations between the Cunard and the continental lines.

AFTER TRAIN ROBBERS.

Police in Close Pursuit of Men Who Held Up Canadian Express.

Winnipeg, Man., Sept. 13.—It is reported that one of the four masked men who held up the Canadian Pacific Transcontinental train and escaped with about \$10,000 in loot has been captured.

A posse, including Canadian Pacific railway detectives, provincial police, Vancouver city police and Postoffice Inspector Greenfield, has inspected the country near the scene of the robbery. Footprints indicated that the train robbers had taken a row boat near the village of Warnock and rowed across the Fraser river and thence proceeded to the American boundary line, eleven miles distant, half a dozen miles from Blaine, Wash.

The train was held up four and a half miles west of Mission Junction, in a wooded district. Three of the robbers crawled over the tender of the locomotive and at the point of revolvers ordered the engine driver, Scott, to stop the train. One man guarded him, and the three others compelled the fireman to uncouple the mail and express cars. The fourth robber stood guard over the trainmen and conductor.

The robbers then forced Scott to run the engine and express cars several miles west. Herbert Mitchell, the express messenger, at first refused to open the car door, but he was warned that the car would be blown up with dynamite, and he was finally forced to open the safe. The robbers obtained, it is said, about \$10,000 in gold and currency.

The mail clerks were then compelled to open their car, which was rifled of the contents of registered mail sacks.

Engine, express and mail cars were then run to a point east of Warnock, where the robbers took to the woods. None of the passengers was molested.

HEREROS ESCAPE.

Break Through German Lines and Flee Toward the Southeast.

Berlin, Sept. 13.—Admiral received here from German Southwest Africa show that the main body of the Hereros, several thousand strong, have broken through the ring of German troops disposed for the purpose of encircling them and have escaped toward the southeast with the loss of fifty men killed. This is interpreted to mean an indefinite prolongation of the campaign.

Lieutenant Colonel von Estorff Sept. 9 attacked Chief Samuel Maherero while the latter was breaking camp. Samuel offered little resistance, abandoning a portion of his cattle. Lieutenant General von Trotha, commander in chief of the forces in German Southwest Africa, wires from Otjosondube Sept. 10 that the German losses consisted of one man slightly wounded.

IDAHO TOWN BURNING.

Idaho Falls Threatened With Total Destruction by Fire.

Idaho Falls, Ida., Sept. 13.—Fire which started in the Butte restaurant threatens to wipe out the entire business portion of this town. Six entire blocks have burned down, and a seventh is now on fire, and it is estimated the loss will amount to \$350,000.

The wind is blowing a terrific gale, and the fire is fast spreading. About forty buildings have been destroyed, and many others are on fire. Firemen, aided by citizens, are working hard to check the spread of the flames, but the high wind and scarcity of water make their efforts almost futile.

Missing Launch Safe.

Bridgeport, Conn., Sept. 13.—The launch Zofo, with William Robinson, wife and daughter and R. F. Kolb and wife on board, has arrived in the harbor, after having been held on Long Island shore three days by a series of storms. Although at no time in serious danger the members of the party were compelled to make their meals off canned goods on board the launch and sleep for three nights with little or no shelter. Relatives of Mr. Robinson in this city had become alarmed at his prolonged absence, and it was intended to start out with a steamer and search the Long Island shore for traces of the missing launch.

Strike at South Sharon, Pa.

Sharon, Pa., Sept. 13.—Instead of a resumption at the American Steel and Wire works at South Sharon the company has a strike on its hands. Preparations had been going on for several days to get the wire, wire nail and blooming mills in shape for starting. When the men reported the wire drawers were notified of a 20 per cent reduction. They refused to accept it and struck. None of the other departments was started as a consequence. An immediate settlement of the trouble is not looked for.

Boston Steamfitters Strike.

Boston, Sept. 13.—About 450 steamfitters in thirty-two shops in this city have struck, the employers having declined to sign an agreement presented some time ago. The agreement provided for union shops and certain shop rules. The question of wages and hours is not involved. About 250 helpers were thrown out of work by the strike, and little business is being done by any of the establishments affected.

Sunk at Her Dock.

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 13.—The steamship City of Topeka, a big passenger vessel of the Pacific Coast Steamship company, running between this port and southeastern Alaska, has sunk at her dock while loading freight for Skagway, to which point she was about to clear.



The Soap That Outshines All Is
Sunlight
The kettles and pans, the tins or dishes, when washed with Sunlight Soap sparkle and shine. Sunlight brightens everything in the household and injures nothing, for Sunlight is absolutely pure.

ASK FOR "LAUNDRY" SHAPE SUNLIGHT

JAPS REPAIRING SHIPS.

Mikado's Fleet Suffered Severely in Encounters With Russians.

Victoria, B. C., Sept. 13.—Captain Ryan of the Canadian permanent forces has arrived from Japan en route to his home at Ottawa after spending some months at Tokyo as the representative of the Canadian militia. He was detained at Tokyo with other foreign attaches and correspondents. He says the Japanese fleet has suffered severely in the encounters with the Russian war vessels and that all the drydocks and repairing harbors in Japan are full of Japanese war vessels in various stages of repair. One big cruiser which was in the great naval battle off Port Arthur had all her funnels shot away and twenty-five holes in her hull.

Captain Ryan reports that the Japanese themselves admitted gross blundering in allowing loaded transports to leave Japan for Korea and other points without proper escort and that the raids of the Vladivostok fleet filled all Japan with intense alarm. The report circulated by the Japan war office that the unexpected stubbornness of the Russians in the recent fighting is due to the improvement in rifle shooting and steadiness in the troops, Captain Ryan says, is false, as the Japanese are well aware of the fact that they are now confronted with regiments straight from Europe, and not undisciplined raw levies of Siberian peasants hastily hurried to the seat of war.

JAPS NEAR YENTAL.

Many Large Camps Reported North of There.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 13.—A dispatch has been received from Lieutenant General Sacharoff, under yesterday's date, reporting that no large Japanese force has been seen north of the Yental railroad, but that south of there there are many large camps of Japanese.

No fresh light has been thrown on the situation at the front. Unofficial information tends to confirm the reports that General Kurapatkin is withdrawing the bulk of his army northward from Mukden.

The rain continues at the front. The three armies of Field Marshal Oyama are reported to have united north of the Taitso river, but there is nothing yet to indicate that they are sufficiently recuperated to resume the advance. The best unofficial opinion is that Kurapatkin does not contemplate making a serious stand at Mukden.

TALK OF INTERVENTION.

America Said to Be Too Busy With Election to Undertake Task.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 13.—Reports of impending intervention by the powers to end the war are considered by the Novoe Vremya, which says there is no prospect of such action by France, which country would sincerely like to see peace.

The paper says it would rather that Germany should undertake the task of separating the contestants, while Germany has not the same material interests to be affected as France and the United States.

On the other hand, the Novoe Vremya continues, America is entirely too busy with the national election to undertake such a daring task, so that Russia may as well look forward to the conclusion of the war without prospect that any world power will even attempt to interfere.

Port Arthur Garrison Pleased.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 13.—In publishing Lieutenant General Stoessel's telegram replying to that of the emperor sent recently reducing the Port Arthur garrison's term of military service, the Official Messenger says the news was received by the besieged men with cheers and tears of gratitude. There is no intimation given as to the method whereby the reply was sent from Port Arthur, but it is dated Sept. 6, indicating that something less than a week is necessary to communicate between St. Petersburg and the beleaguered garrison.

Decision in Contraband Question.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 13.—The commission which has been considering

the contraband question has reached a decision. While unable to ascertain the exact terms of the decision, it was learned that it is favorable in the main to the contentions of the United States and Great Britain regarding absolute and conditional contraband. Foreign Minister Lansdorp will see the emperor, and answers to the American and British notes are expected this week.

Dumdum Bullets at Liaoyang.

Washington, Sept. 13.—The Japanese legation has received the following cablegram from Tokyo: "The Manchurian army reports that two kinds of dumdum bullets were found among the munitions of war captured at the Liaoyang battle. They resemble cartridges intended for the Russian rifles of the type of 1891. Some of the wounds inflicted on the Japanese, it is thought, were caused by bullets of this description."

Roosevelt Cabled Losses.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., Sept. 13.—President Roosevelt has received through the state department a cablegram from United States Minister Griseom at Tokyo giving revised official figures of the losses at the battle of Liaoyang. As reported by Field Marshal Oyama the Japanese losses during the several days of the battle were 17,500, while the Russian losses were 20,000.

ACCUSES STRAVALLI.

Police Think New York Barber Was His Own Black Hand.

New York, Sept. 13.—Pellegri Stravalli, the barber whose shop at 417 Third avenue was wrecked by a mysterious explosion, was arrested three hours later and is now locked up in the East Thirty-fifth street station on the complaint of Deputy Fire Marshal Herman de Malignon, on suspicion of having caused the explosion that set fire to his shop.

For several hours before the explosion and for some time afterward neither Stravalli, his wife nor any of their seven children was seen about the place by the neighbors. Three hours after the explosion Stravalli himself appeared.

When he saw the ruin of his shop he apparently became greatly excited and wept and wailed. In his frenzy, the police say, he tore up letters and papers upon his person and in the wrecked shop, even including his barber's license. After his arrest, when he was searched, it was found that he had not destroyed his insurance papers, which were in an inside pocket of his coat. There were two policies, one for \$1,500 on his shop and another for \$400 on his household goods.

He showed two alleged "Black Hand" letters, which were found to be different epistles, which he exhibited to the police a few weeks ago and which contained demands for \$500.

THE AMES CASE.

Move to Dismiss Bribery Indictment Against Former Mayor.

Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 13.—County Attorney Boardman has moved to dismiss all the bribery and corruption indictments, ten in all, standing against former Mayor A. A. Ames. Mr. Boardman explained that owing to the death and removal of witnesses and other reasons it would be impossible to obtain a conviction.

Mr. Boardman gave as an additional reason that further trials would "give a feverish and offensive advertisement to our city."

Dr. Ames was convicted in the lower court on one charge, but the supreme court reversed the finding and sent the case back for retrial. Judge A. M. Harrison took the county attorney's motion under advisement.

James Lowther Dead.

London, Sept. 13.—James Lowther, Conservative member of parliament for the Thanet division of Kent and formerly chief secretary for Ireland, is dead. He was born in 1840.

Caught in Machinery and Killed.

Saratoga, N. Y., Sept. 12.—Albert Strömberg, an employee of the International Paper company's mills at Palmer Falls, was caught in machinery and instantly killed.

CONDITION OF CROPS

Monthly Statement of the Department of Agriculture.

REPORTS FROM FIVE STATES

Corn Reported Good, but Wheat Poor on Sept. 1—Average Condition of Oats, Barley, Rye, Buckwheat and Other Crops.

Washington, Sept. 13.—The monthly report of the chief of the bureau of statistics of the department of agriculture will show the condition of corn on Sept. 1 to have been 84.6 as compared with 87.3 last month, 80.1 on Sept. 1, 1903; 84.3 at the corresponding date in 1902 and a ten year average of 79.6.

The average condition of spring wheat was 66.2. This being the first time that spring wheat has been separately reported upon on Sept. 1, the only comparison that can be made is with the condition one month ago, which was 87.5. The condition in the five principal states is reported as follows: Minnesota, 69; North Dakota, 63; South Dakota, 56; Iowa, 66, and Washington, 80, a decline in the month of 23, 27, 29, 14 and 1 points respectively.

The average condition of the oat crop on Sept. 1 was 85.6 against 86.0 last month, 75.7 on Sept. 1, 1903; 87.2 at the corresponding date in 1902 and a ten year September average of 80.6.

The average condition of barley on Sept. 1 was 87.4 against 88.1 on Aug. 1, 82.1 on Sept. 1, 1903; 89.7 at the corresponding date in 1902 and a ten year average of 82.1.

The average condition of rye on Sept. 1 was 86.9 against 84.1 on Sept. 1, 1903; 90.2 at the corresponding date in 1902 and a ten year average of 85.8.

The average condition of buckwheat on Sept. 1 was 91.5 against 92.8 one month ago, 91 on Sept. 1, 1903; 86.4 at the corresponding date in 1902 and a ten year average of 85.8.

Flax and Other Crops.

The average condition of flax on Sept. 1 was 85.8 as compared with 78.9 one month ago and 80.5 on Sept. 1, 1903.

The average condition of tobacco on Sept. 1 was 83.7 against 83.9 one month ago, 83.4 on Sept. 1, 1903, and a five year average of 79.5.

The average condition of potatoes on Sept. 1 was 91.6 against 94.1 one month ago, 81.3 on Sept. 1, 1903; 89.1 at the corresponding date in 1902 and a ten year average of 77.3.

The average condition of rice on Sept. 1 was 89.7 against 90.2 one month ago and 93.6 on Sept. 1, 1903.

Of the thirteen principal cover seed producing states four—namely, Wisconsin, Colorado, Utah and California—report increased acreages, while all the other principal states report decreases. In Indiana, Iowa and Colorado conditions are below their ten year average, while all other principal states report conditions above such average.

The number of stock hogs now being fattened is 2.4 per cent less than the number one year ago. Reports as to size and weight of stock hogs indicate a condition of 94.2, as compared with 95.1 one year ago and a seven year average of 94.3.

The report also includes fruits and various minor crops, which will be published in detail in the Crop Reporter.

SARATOGA CONVENTION.

Platt Says Woodruff, But the Higgins Men Are Confident.

Saratoga, N. Y., Sept. 13.—Activity is slowly developing among the Republican leaders gathered here in advance of the state convention, and all hands are now waiting for the arrival of delegates before anything positive can be said as to the ticket. The quarters of the governor and of Senator Platt are thronged by leaders and arriving delegates.

Senator Platt said to a reporter: "I think the probability of Mr. Woodruff's nomination increases as time goes on. I have had a talk with Governor Odell, and he assures me he is favoring no particular candidate."

"I see that the newspapers all believe Lieutenant Governor Higgins will be nominated and even go so far as to analyze the vote which they say is to elect him. These analyses are incorrect. Ontario county, for instance, which they say will be for Higgins, is instructed for Woodruff, and Senator Raines has assured me that Ontario will vote for Woodruff."

Senator Raines said to the reporters, "It looks like Higgins."

Mr. Woodruff himself is confined to his bed temporarily by a stiff knee, caused by taking cold in it. He declines to talk about his prospects for the nomination. The Higgins men express themselves as very confident.

There is increasing talk of a third candidate to settle the conflict between the Higgins and Woodruff interests. Two names are mentioned in this connection, those of Insurance Superintendent Francis Hendricks of Syracuse and Collector of the Port of Saratoga of New York. The Woodruff men continue very confident, however, and William Herr, Mr. Woodruff's chief advocate, ridiculed the idea that a third candidate is possible.

Choked to Death Eating in Prison.

Brooklyn, Sept. 12.—William Mings, committed to the Kings County penitentiary to serve six months for vagrancy, choked to death while eating his breakfast. Several other prisoners saw him ram his mouth full of the food as though he had had nothing to eat in many days.

SINFUL NEGLECT

How is it possible for a sane man with good teeth to destroy them through careless neglect? SOZODONT is positively beneficial. It has made the toothbrush habit a real pleasure.

SOZODONT TOOTH POWDER

the natural complement of SOZODONT Liquid, is a beautiful polisher, absolutely free from grit and acid. Are you using it? You ought to be.

3 FORMS: LIQUID, POWDER, PASTE.

Victory for Steel Employers. Chicago, Sept. 13.—Victory for the employers is the outcome of the conciliation plan of adjusting wage differences between the Republic Iron and Steel company and its 20,000 skilled union employees at Ashtabula, O. The members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers employed by the Republic company were forced to submit to a reduction in wages. The decrease in pay will be from 2 to 13 per cent. The most skilled workers will suffer the greatest reduction. The finishers, who have been paid \$8.50 a ton, will receive next year only \$7.15. The bolters, the least skilled, will be paid \$4.90 a ton. Colonel H. I. Martin of Ironton, O.; Benjamin Davis of Birmingham, Ala., and H. W. Heedy of Youngstown, O., composed the board.



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The undersigned agrees to use the gas manufactured by the Peoples' Lighting, Heating and Power Co. for household purposes as soon as said company is prepared to supply its gas upon the following conditions:

First.—That the said company will pipe into the cellar and attach a meter at its own expense.

Second.—That the said company will furnish gas to the undersigned for \$1.50 per 1,000 cubic feet, less a discount of 25 cents per 1,000 cubic feet if paid by the 10th of the month following service.

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