

OLD LEADER MISSED

For the First Time in Many Years Ohio Will Be Without Its Dominant Spirit.

GROUP OF LEADERS TO RUN CONVENTION

Republican Candidates Awaiting Councils of War and Conferences of Peace.

"OLD HANNA GUARD" WILL COME

Includes Governor Herrick, George F. Foraker and Senator Dick.

ORGANIZATION WILL WRITE PLATFORM

No Indication of Concessions Excepting in the Case of Senator Foraker-Herrick Will Preside.

COLUMBUS, O., May 15.—The republican state convention meets here next Monday and Tuesday under new conditions.

This is due to the loss of Senator Hanna, who had attended these gatherings for a score of years and dominated them for the past decade. This week no one is supremely master. In place of Hanna there is a group of leaders.

Instead of crowding into Hanna's quarters the few delegates and candidates who are here are awaiting the results of councils of war and conferences of peace. The county convention that sent delegates to this state convention adopted resolutions of respect to Hanna in advance of the state gathering. This action in the counties was without precedent after the death of other Ohio senators.

There are 180 delegates at the convention. A large majority is affiliated with what is called "the old Hanna guard" so that there is no doubt about the convention being controlled by Governor Herrick, George F. Foraker and Senator Dick, who are the delegates-at-large to the republican national convention at Chicago.

As Lewis C. Laylin, one of "the old Hanna guard," is a candidate for a third term for secretary of the state, the "other men" had planned to oppose him with "the third weapon," but that has been abandoned. What is called "the old Hanna guard" will name the ticket and the delegates, the latter including Senator Foraker, Governor Herrick and Senator Dick, in deference to President Roosevelt.

Contention for Control. The principal contention is for continuance of control of the party organization and it is conceded that Governor Herrick, who will be both temporary and permanent chairman of the convention, will be re-elected as the Ohio member of the national committee and that Senator Dick will be elected chairman of the state convention so that the Hanna organization is assured of continuance.

"The organizers" men will write the platform and while there is much talk of concessions for the sake of harmony there is no indication now of any concession except in making Senator Foraker one of the delegates-at-large, Herrick, Cox, Dick and Foraker will be named unopposedly in one resolution or motion as "big four" and the only "free-for-all" races will be for alternates-at-large and minor places on the state ticket.

ELKS EXPECT A BIG TIME

Cincinnati Preparing for the Entertainment of National Reunion of the Benevolent Order.

CINCINNATI, May 15.—The program for the national reunion of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, to be held in Cincinnati the week of July 18, has been completed. It provides an unusually elaborate series of entertainments, covering a period of five days. The grand lodge of the order, which convenes during each reunion, is to be entertained Monday, the 18th, with an excursion on the Ohio river, ending at night with a display of fireworks on the banks of the river, in which the Kentucky lodges will join with the Cincinnati lodges. A feature of the program will be a band contest for these prizes:

Bands of thirty or more pieces, first prize, \$1,000; second prize, \$200; bands of less than thirty pieces, first prize, \$500; second, \$250. For the parade of May 25, \$100; second, \$50. These prizes are offered.

Five hundred dollars to the lodge having the greatest number in parade; \$500 to the lodge having the greatest aggregate mileage; \$500 to the lodge making the best appearance; \$500 to the lodge wearing the most unique uniform, and \$500 to the lodge accompanied by the greatest number of women.

Syracuse and Saratoga, N. Y., are the only favored candidates for the next reunion.

BAPTISTS MEET AT CLEVELAND

Annual Convention Promises to Be Important and One of the Largest Ever Held.

CLEVELAND, May 15.—The annual convention of Baptists from all the northern states will begin here tomorrow and continue until Tuesday, May 22. The gathering promises to be one of the most important and largely attended religious conventions ever held. The headquarters will be at the Euclid Avenue Baptist church and the mass meetings will be held at the Grays armory. Two thousand are expected to attend the public session.

The convention will be given up to the reports and discussions of the several organizations within the church proper, namely: Woman's Home Mission society; Missionary union; Publication society; general committee on Christian stewardship; Historical society; Young People's union and Home Mission society.

WENTZ APOLOGIZES TO JURY

Philadelphia Physician Asserts that He Did Not Use Terms Accredited to Him.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., May 15.—A special to the Journal and Tribune from Bristol, Tenn., says: The coroner's jury, which rendered a verdict of accidental shooting in the case of Edward L. Wentz, whose dead body was found in Wise county, Virginia, several days ago, this evening received a reply from Dr. J. W. Wentz regarding his alleged criminal charge in relation of the finding of the jury. Dr. Wentz makes due apology to the jury, declaring that he did not use such terms as were credited to him in the press. Dr. Wentz was credited with intimating that the verdict was intended to shield the murderers of his son, who were friends of the jury.

OFFICER SHOT IN HIS TRACKS

Ex-Policeman on His Way Home is Riddled with Bullets by an Unknown Assassin.

DENVER, May 15.—Lyte Gregory, an ex-policeman, was assassinated early this morning when he was returning home from a social visit with friends. His body was riddled with bullets and he died in his tracks. It is believed that the assassin used a repeating rifle, and his aim was true, for in all the bullets penetrated the murdered man's body. No trace of the assassin has been found.

The murder occurred on West Third avenue, near South Water street, a section inhabited by the working class. Gregory was alone and unarmed. Mrs. John Conlan, a neighboring woman, who heard the shots, "heard the cry," "You murdering blackard," and thought the voice was that of a husband, whose return home she was waiting.

He was later found at a bowling alley placed under arrest. It is said that he had been at the bowling alley all evening, and no evidence of guilt has yet been traced to him. He is being held, however. Gregory recently had served for a detective agency and was one of the men who were called to investigate the assassination of William McKinley.

Wardson was badly beaten, and declared that four of the detective agency men were his assailants. He had just returned from the city having been absent several weeks. Letters found on his person show that he was aware of Wardson's accusation.

CONVENTION COMES TO CLOSE

Two Mass Meetings Held by Young Men's Christian Association in Buffalo.

BUFFALO, May 15.—Two mass meetings, one for women and the other for men, services in several churches and an evening meeting at the city convention hall today ended the thirty-first convention of the Young Men's Christian Association of North America. At the meeting for women Miss Helen M. Gould read the lesson of the day.

W. M. Dunner, general secretary of the association, presided at the evening meeting, which was held at the city convention hall. The convention was held in the city convention hall.

There is no doubt about the convention being controlled by Governor Herrick, George F. Foraker and Senator Dick, who are the delegates-at-large to the republican national convention at Chicago.

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LITTLE HOPE OF A BREAK

Illinois Republicans Look for Another Day of Ballooning.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., May 15.—Midshipman Phillip Brittingham of Wheeling, W. Va., a member of the third class of the Naval academy, was drowned about two miles from the Naval academy this afternoon. The young man left the academy dock in a sailing launch with Midshipman Anderson, Henderson, Towers and Stevenson, all of the third class. The boat was without centerboard or air tanks, and being caught by a strong gust of wind, capsized and sank immediately.

The five young men struggled in the water for about twenty minutes before succor reached them from another academy boat containing several other midshipmen. As the rescuing boat came near Anderson was picked up by the struggling men, but Midshipman Brittingham was unable to grasp them.

Midshipman C. T. Blackburn of Nevada, who was in the second boat, plunged overboard and in his rescue attempt to rescue his drowning classmate was dragged under. Both came to the surface, and Midshipman R. R. Stewart bravely went to Blackburn's assistance. Their combined efforts proved unavailing, and Brittingham sank in seventeen feet of water. The other four midshipmen were picked up and returned to shore overboard in repeated but unsuccessful efforts to find the body.

Midshipman Brittingham was 18 years old and a son of Rev. Joseph Brittingham.

NUMEROUS CONFERENCES ARE HELD

Desperate Efforts Being Made to Take from the Yates Columns Enough Delegates to Nominate Lowden.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 15.—It looks tonight as if there would be at least another day of fruitless balloting before the gubernatorial deadlock in the republican state convention is broken. So far quite possible that a break will come early tomorrow, but the developments of today do not justify any such prediction. A comparatively small number of the delegates are here, most of them having gone home to spend Sunday, but the candidates and their trusted advisors remained on the ground, and numerous conferences have been held during the day.

It is known definitely that desperate efforts are being made to take from the Yates columns enough delegates to nominate Lowden on an early ballot tomorrow. The Lowden managers are making a more thorough canvass of the situation than has ever been attempted by them before and they expect, by the time the convention opens tomorrow, to have brought about enough changes to give their candidate a majority vote.

It is reported that the Will county delegates are received skeptically. After the failure of the attempted stampede to Lowden yesterday, started by DeKalb county, it is thought probable that Lowden will not permit any of the counties which he may secure to vote for him until he feels confident of having enough to nominate; for the moment Yates counties begin going to Lowden the remaining Yates men may be expected to vote for Deenen or the Deenen men will go to Yates.

No Dark Horse Looked For. There is now no probability that a "dark horse" will be chosen. Indeed, the choice is generally regarded as being between Yates, Lowden and Deenen. So far quite possible that a break will come early tomorrow, but the developments of today do not justify any such prediction.

Events up to date have demonstrated that the delegates to this convention, to a greater extent than has ever been the case before, are loyal to the candidates in whose interest they were selected and are not easily led away or shifted about by the generally recognized party leaders.

The convention will reconvene at 2 p. m. tomorrow afternoon.

FOUR DIE IN TRUCKEE RAPIDS

Two Couples Cross River in Tramway, When They Are Precipitated Into the Stream.

RENO, Nev., May 15.—By the breaking of one of the spans of the suspension tramway across the Truckee river at Lawton Springs, five miles west of this city, the bodies of four young people, Maurice Jacobs, a young business man of this city; Miss McMillin, daughter of a prominent business man of Reno; Mrs. F. S. Ede, Jr., and a Mr. Kingsley of Chicago—were precipitated from the car into the swollen stream and drowned. Two steel cables stretched across the river, upon which a car runs, which is much used by pleasure seekers. Today the four young people entered the car to cross the river. When they reached midstream one of the strands parted. One couple, Mrs. Verma and her husband, were thrown into the water and the four were observed for a few moments struggling in the rapids.

Both young men were athletes, and gave their lives in a heroic effort to save their companions. Mr. Jacobs was seen for a few moments swimming with Miss McMillin, holding her above water, but in her terror she grasped his arms and both went down. Kingsley swam for 300 yards holding Mrs. Ede's head above water, and then was seen to turn on his back, when the woman seized him and bore the swimmer beneath the water.

FAIR ATTENDANCE INCREASES

Fifty Thousand More Pass Gates in Second Than in Opening Week.

ST. LOUIS, May 15.—The total attendance at the World's fair for the second week, ended Saturday night, showed an increase of over 50,000 over the total attendance for the opening week.

The National Editorial association convention will begin tomorrow in Congress hall at the exposition grounds, to continue during the week. The World's Press Parliament will convene on Thursday, and it is estimated that the total attendance of newspapers and news organizations will number about 3,000 from all parts of the world.

Almost every press association and news organization of the United States will be represented, as well as representatives of the larger newspapers.

The general federation of Woman's Clubs will hold its biennial convention here this week, beginning Tuesday, and the National Good Roads association will hold its annual convention this week, beginning tomorrow.

The French pavilion will be formally opened tomorrow and the Iowa building will open its doors with a reception to the members of the Iowa Editorial association.

THREE BEATEN BY ROBBERS

Attack Wealthy Resident of St. Joseph, Missouri, His Wife and Son.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., May 15.—Joseph Lilliger, aged 72, a wealthy resident, was beaten by robbers at his home on the north end of the city this morning and tonight is believed to be fatally injured.

Lilliger, his wife and son, Joseph Lilliger, Jr., aged 25, were all beaten into insensibility by three men, who believed a large sum of money was concealed on the premises. The robbers got nothing.

Movements of Ocean Vessels May 15. At New York—Arrived: Furness, from Glasgow; Havre, from Southampton; Havre, from Liverpool; Bovio, from Liverpool; Sailed: Umbria, for Queenstown and Liverpool; Pennsylvania, for Plymouth; Minnie, for London; Anchora, for Moolvia and Glasgow.

At Liverpool—Arrived: Cevic, from New York; Sailed: Sibthorp, from Glasgow; St. Johns, N. F. Halifax and Philadelphia.

Boulogne—Sailed: Noordam, from Rotterdam for New York; At Queenstown—Sailed: Euribia, from Liverpool for New York.

NAVAL CADETS ARE DROWNED

Overtaken by Strong Wind While Enjoying a Sailing and the Launch is Overturned.

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GREATEST WAR IN THE WORLD

Speaker at Presbyterian Missionary Societies Says Jap Victories Will Benefit Christian Cause.

CHICAGO, May 15.—All the states of the middle west, especially Indiana, Missouri, Texas, Illinois, Kentucky and Tennessee, were represented at the opening session of the twenty-fourth annual convention of the Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Missionary societies, which began here today. The annual sermon was delivered by the Rev. W. R. Dalby of Kirkville, Mo., who spoke on the "Greatest War in the World."

The speaker declared that a victory for Japan would mean more for Christianity and civilization because her stride in civilization is longer and surer than those of Russia. The unexpected military power displayed by Japan, he declared, was indirectly the fruit of the civilization that has crept into the little empire through the efforts of American missionaries.

A plea for the widening of the missionary field was made by Mrs. Preston of Texas, Mrs. H. F. Butts of Texas, Mrs. I. L. Steele of Alabama, Mrs. S. L. Mitchell of Missouri and Mrs. W. R. Darby of Evansville, Ind., president of the board of missions. In answer to the plea for volunteers to the ranks of the foreign missionaries, Miss Jessie Riker of Ohio and Mrs. M. A. Harlow of California, who are delegates to the conference, offered their services and will be assigned a field of work before the convention closes Wednesday night.

NO HARNESS FOR NIAGARA

Governor Odell Vetoes Measure Enlarging Scope of Power Company.

ALBANY, N. Y., May 15.—Governor Odell tonight gave out his memorandum explaining his veto of a bill enlarging the scope and power of the Niagara, Lockport and Ontario Power company. After giving practical reasons for the veto, Governor Odell calls attention to the widespread solicitude expressed in protests from all over the union as to the threatened impairment to the beauty of Niagara Falls.

"However, much we may discount and deprecate the interference of the sentimental with the practical in life," the governor says, "we cannot get away from the fact that this sentiment is not one of retrogression, but of constant progress in civilized life. There is due to it, therefore, the same considerations which should be given to all practical affairs of life. This seems to me to be a second and fully as important reason for objection to approval of the measure.

"The legislature should protect the falls rather than increase the menace to which I have referred by restricting those corporations which are in possession by compelling the removal of obstructions and unsightly structures which mar the beauty of Niagara."

MISS ROOSEVELT'S BUSY DAY

Entertained at Various Functions While Visiting at Philadelphia with Her Mother.

PHILADELPHIA, May 15.—Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, who is visiting her cousin, Mrs. John W. Brock, in this city for a few days, spent yesterday, May 14, in the forenoon, accompanied by Mrs. Brock, Mrs. Roosevelt attended services at St. Luke's Episcopal Protestant Episcopal church.

Miss Alice Roosevelt, who, with Countess Marguerite Cassini, participated in the annual coaching parade yesterday, had rather an active day. Last night she was invited to the town residence of Congressman Edward DeMott. Early in the day she took a drive and breakfasted at the home of John G. Johnson.

Later Miss Roosevelt was taken on board the city fire boat Ashbridge for a slighting trip on the Delaware river. The afternoon was spent at Mr. Morrell's country seat, where luncheon was served. A short stay was made at the country home of Clarence Dolan, nearby, where tea was had, after which the president's daughter returned to Washington.

PROMINENT PERSONS ARRIVE

United States Consul at Buenos Ayres Among List of Passengers at New York.

NEW YORK, May 15.—The steamer Philadelphia, from Southampton, arrived today. Among the passengers was Dr. D. Mayer, United States consul at Buenos Ayres; William Dyer, William Hill, Arthur Watson, Herbert Baker and Paul O'Carroll, British journalists, who are going to St. Louis to attend the journalist convention, and Peter Augustus Jay, secretary of the United States legation at Constantinople. Mrs. Mayer, wife of Consul Mayer, died during the voyage from Buenos Ayres to England and was buried at sea.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS ARRIVE

NEW YORK, May 15.—Representatives of Swiss, French, Turkish and Portuguese newspapers arrived today on the steamship La Bretagne, which they intend to cross at St. Louis.

PREPARING FOR A RETREAT

Kouropatkin Evidently Changes His Mind About Making a Stand.

EVIDENT HIS FORCES ARE INADEQUATE

Situation at Port Arthur Presents Unusual Difficulties for the Force of Japanese that is Besieging It.

(Copyright by New York Herald Co., 1904.) PARIS, May 15.—(New York Herald Cablegram—Special Telegram to The Bee.)—The moment when everything seemed to indicate that General Kouropatkin had a well settled determination to give battle to the Japanese on the ground he has selected to concentrate his troops, rumors, still vague, but perhaps intentionally disseminated at St. Petersburg to prepare people, give it to be understood that "in the presence of the numerical superiority of the enemy the commander-in-chief was thinking of retreating toward Harbin."

"At the same time it is reported from Yiu Kow that several thousand men, who have just arrived from New Chwang at Lao Yang, have been sent north. Moreover, it is only too true, in spite of contrary statements so often repeated, that the number of Russians at present in Manchuria is insufficient, and the dispatches of General Kouropatkin may be summed up in a single sentence, always the same, "Send me more troops."

"We need not be astonished, for that matter, at the mystery surrounding the two armies about to be engaged and the inexact information with which the two governments voluntarily supply the public. It is often of prime importance for a commander in chief that he should not be known. Therefore, it is sometimes wiser in considering events to rely on probabilities rather than the interested statements of the belligerents.

"Who have already had occasion to call attention to the evident plan of the Japanese to reduce their own losses or at least to reduce them to inadmissible proportions, as the correspondent of the Herald at Seoul has just shown in an irrefutable manner by making known in a roundabout way that the censorship had intentionally reduced by two-thirds the figures which he wished to telegraph as being that of the Japanese killed and wounded in the battle of the Yalu.

"The squadron of Admiral Kosakov, gathered near Dainly, bombarded that town, which now is abandoned. The Russian batteries have been silenced, but it is known that General Fock, with 35,000 men is charged with the defense of the northern part of the Kwang Tung peninsula. He is thus in a condition to repel the advance of the Japanese, or at least to prevent the approach of warships of great draught."

Port Arthur has been in the possession of Russia rather more than six years, its troops having occupied the place on March 29, 1898.

Port Arthur's favorable situation and its capability of being made a formidable arsenal was first turned to account by the Chinese, then the undisputed owners of the Lao Tung peninsula, a few years before the war with the Japanese, in 1894. The foreign military advisers employed by the Chinese, including Li Hung Chang, were ordered by him to convert the harbor into an anchorage and dockyard for the Chinese fleet, which was becoming of considerable power, having at that time many more armored vessels than Japan. It was the harbor of Li Chün Cheng, but the harbor required much dredging to make it suitable for big ships of war.

Chinese Start Fortifications. Under the Chinese, however, French contractors being employed, it began to take shape as a modern fortress, its natural advantages being well utilized for the purpose by the German engineer, Von Haacke, lying at the end of the Lao Tung peninsula, opposite the harbor of Wei Hai Wei on the main land of China, it guarded the entrance of the gulf of Pe Chi Li. There was an old Chinese city, which has now disappeared, making way for a mass of barracks.

The line of forts running northward was designed to cover Dainly, and from this line ran a circle of batteries around the town to Mantow Hill, above the Tiger's Tail, on the west side of the approach to the harbor. The most important port on this side was Wei Yuen, and from here a series of quick-firing batteries extend to the Tiger's Tail, where there was a battery of seven 7.5-inch quick firs, almost on a level with the sea. On the Mantow hill is a lighthouse and signal station, and both here and on Kwang Chin hill were powerful electric searchlights. Behind the town, which extends a long way inland, is a hill to the right of which, facing seaward, is the residence of the viceroy, newly built for Admiral Alexieff. The large dock lying to the east of the harbor proper is known as the east port. The highest fort defending Port Arthur, crowning the Tiger's Tail, is named Man Tee Yung. How It Was Captured.

The capture of Port Arthur by Marshal Oyama in November, 1894, was considered as practically finishing the war with China, as it was the greatest blow inflicted in the campaign. Landing at Pitzeo, about eighty miles from Port Arthur, he secured his advance by the occupation of Kinchen and Tallen Wan, and then, after nearly a month's gradual approach, delivered the final assault, with actual fighting of thirty-six hours. The most vulnerable point was found to be north of the east port. Oyama first occupied the northwestern hills with his batteries and then rushed the defenses. The final stand was made at the forts just north of the east port. The seaward forts were taken in the rear or surrendered without further contest.

In an order of the day, issued February 27, General Birosnel, commander of the garrison, told his men that the Japanese considered the seizure of Port Arthur to be the end of the war.

NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST

Fair in West, Showers in East Portion Monday; Tuesday, Fair and Warmer.

Hour.	Temp.	Deg.	Hour.	Temp.	Deg.		
8 a. m.	51	1 p. m.	65	8 a. m.	51	1 p. m.	65
9 a. m.	51	2 p. m.	65	9 a. m.	51	2 p. m.	65
10 a. m.	51	3 p. m.	65	10 a. m.	51	3 p. m.	65
11 a. m.	51	4 p. m.	65	11 a. m.	51	4 p. m.	65
12 m.	51	5 p. m.	65	12 m.	51	5 p. m.	65
13 m.	51	6 p. m.	65	13 m.	51	6 p. m.	65
14 m.	51	7 p. m.	65	14 m.	51	7 p. m.	65
15 m.	51	8 p. m.	65	15 m.	51	8 p. m.	65

WAR MAY SPREAD INTO CHINA

Natural Hostilities and Strategies of Conflict Raise Fears.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 15.—In view of the official dispatches regarding the hostile attitude of the Chinese and without the Russian sphere of influence, the authorities here do not conceal their apprehension as to the outlook, especially in the north of the empire, for they propose to call the attention of the celestial government to the impending uprising in Tapan-dial in order that repressive measures may be instantly taken.

It is known and appreciated here that all the powers have made strong representations to Peking in the interest of the preservation of the tranquillity of the empire, but it is stated that Major General Pihg's dispatch of May 15 shows the necessity for further improving the celestial government with the advisability of acting with a firm hand.

The authorities here do not forget that the Boxer revolt which spread from Shan Tung would have involved the entire empire had it not been for the firmness of the southern viceroys. The military authorities at St. Petersburg have the information of a sensational character, to the effect that the Chinese have tacitly agreed to co-operate with the Japanese operations against the Russians.

The Japanese propose, it is stated, to drive General Kouropatkin's forces into Mongolia, which would place the Russians in the position of invaders of neutral territory and enable reprisals by General Ma's army, which, it is asserted, is kept in that region for that special object, thus cleverly avoiding the slightest infringement of the neutrality of China by Japan and the Manchurian frontier, could not be charged with a violation of pledges in respect to noninterference in military operations in Manchuria. The opinion of an eminent strategist given to the Associated Press today is that the Japanese intend to attack the Russian forces by moving them into Mongolia, in order to drive General Kouropatkin into Mongolia, where the Chinese are waiting for him.

Knowing these conditions, General Kouropatkin, he said, would not be likely to make a serious resistance at Kai Ping or Hailu Ching, but would withdraw to the north. This would enable the Japanese to march on New Chwang with little hindrance and their unopposed use of that point as a base from which men and supplies could be sent north without any violation of the neutral zone west of the Lao Tung peninsula.

The German Foreign office has been informed, according to assurances given by Berlin correspondent of Novoe Vremya, that China will not venture to infringe the neutrality, as owing to the distinct intimation from all the powers the dynasty would be jeopardized by such an infraction. It is believed that Japan would be embarrassed by the open assistance of China, since Europe will hold Japan responsible for the consequences. The correspondent asserts that the German Foreign office inspired the United States to propose the neutralization of China.

PORT ARTHUR PREPARED FOR SIEGE

Reports Indicate Both Army and Navy are Ready.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 15.—A statement by the admiralty, covering events at Port Arthur from May 4 to May 12, is received by the emperor at Tsarkoye Selo today shortly before his departure for Moscow. The situation there is considered satisfactory as the dispatch shows the confidence and preparedness of Rear Admiral Witteff, up to the second cutting of communication with Port Arthur.

The fact that the Russians discovered an enemy Japanese mine almost in the exact spot where the battleship Pobieda was injured is taken as evidence of the desperate thoroughness with which the Japanese had carried out their mining operations on April