



WAR LOSS STUNS

Russia Finds Japanese Sunk Torpedo-Boat.

CREW NEARLY ALL PERISH

Vessel Becomes Lost in the Mist and Is Surrounded.

ACCIDENT TO ANOTHER SHIP

Pobieda Strikes a Mine While Manoeuvring, but is Able to Regain Port Arthur Under Her Own Steam.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 15, 5:25 A. M.—Rumors are current here that Vice-Admiral Togo sent in a number of steamers on the night of March 31 and succeeded in sinking several of them and in blocking the channel at Port Arthur. The rumors cannot be confirmed at this hour.

(The date referred to by the correspondent in the above dispatch, March 31, is probably according to the old style calendar, by which the event would have taken place on April 13, according to the new style calendar.)

ST. PETERSBURG, April 14.—On the heels of the announcement of the sinking of the battleship Petropavlovsk comes the news that the Japanese surrounded and sunk the torpedo-boat destroyer Bestrasnl. Only five of her crew escaped, although it is probable some were taken prisoners.

News of the reverse was communicated to the fleet by Vice-Admiral Okonkotsky. He wired today that the destroyers and four escorts were outside scouting during the night. The Bestrasnl lagged behind and became lost in the mist. When day broke, she tried to creep in along the coast but was discovered, cut off, overpowered and sunk. Admiral Okonkotsky's dispatch concludes as follows:

"I have taken command provisionally of the fleet since the disaster to the Petropavlovsk. During some maneuvering of the battleship squadron the Pobieda struck against a mine amidships on the starboard side. She was able to regain port by herself. No one on board of her was killed or wounded."

The official bulletin on the subject was almost as severe a blow as the loss of the Petropavlovsk yesterday, and plunged the whole town anew into grief.

The Russian word in the text of the official dispatch describing the accident to the Pobieda means either "mine" or "torpedo," but the qualifying adjective indicates something moving toward the ship. This dispatch puts an end to the idea, prevailing here that there had been an engagement following the disaster to the Petropavlovsk. It is considered remarkable here that the Japanese did not take advantage of this terrible accident to attack Port Arthur.

It has been definitely decided that Vice-Admiral Skrydloff, commander of the Black Sea fleet, will succeed the late Admiral Makaroff as commander-in-chief of the Russian naval forces in the Far East.

Orders have been sent to Vice-Admiral Skrydloff to come to St. Petersburg for the purpose of receiving instructions, after which he will leave immediately for the Far East.

The Pobieda, which met with an accident, is a battleship of 12,574 tons displacement and of 14,500-horsepower. She is 404 1/2 feet long, has 7 1/2 feet beam and draws 26 feet of water, and is heavily armored with steel. She was completed in 1901, has a complement of 723 men, her estimated speed being 18 knots. The steel armor of the battleship varies in thickness from four to nine and one-half inches along her belt. The armament of the Pobieda consists of four 10-inch guns, 11 six-inch guns, 15 three-inch guns, 10 1.8-inch guns and 17 1.4-inch guns. She has six torpedo tubes.

URIU REPORTS THE VICTORY.

He Says Japanese Suffered No Losses and Only One Wounded.

TOKIO, April 14.—A brief report from Admiral Uriu of Wednesday's fighting off Port Arthur reached the Navy Department this afternoon. It says Vice-Admiral Togo's fleet attacked Port Arthur in the morning and succeeded in sinking a battleship of the Petropavlovsk class and one torpedo-boat destroyer. The Japanese sustained no losses. One Japanese was wounded.

Minister at Washington Advised.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The Japanese Minister today received a dispatch from his government embodying an official report from Admiral Uriu regarding the engagement off Port Arthur yesterday as follows:

"According to the report of the torpedo-boat destroyer flotilla No. 3, our fleet approached Port Arthur on April 13 and sank one battleship of the enemy of the Petropavlovsk type and one torpedo-boat destroyer. No damage to our fleet. No report yet from Admiral Togo."

SUBMARINE BOATS IN PLAY.

Japan Believed to Have Two to Plant Mines at Port Arthur.

PARIS, April 15.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Echo de Paris, under this morning's date, sends the following:

"I learn that a firm opinion prevails in naval circles, based on telegrams from the surviving officers, that the loss of the Petropavlovsk and the injuries to the Pobieda were caused by torpedoes launched by the Japanese, and by submarine vessels. Hitherto it has not been believed that the Japanese had any submarine boats, but it is now admitted that such boats might have been received with the cruisers bought from Argentina and brought out from Genoa by English crews. It is difficult to verify this, but the Admiralty is of the opinion that the cruiser brought out two submarine vessels."

Sure Submarine-Boats Are Used.

NEW YORK, April 15.—Expressions from St. Petersburg of a belief that the Japanese are using submarine boats in their Port Arthur attacks are given color by a statement credited to a retired naval officer in this city. He declares it to be the only way in which one can account for the succession of disasters met by the Russian ships.

"It is incredible," he said, "that ships which undoubtedly have charts of the mines aboard should be blown up by them. One of the first things Vice-Admiral Makaroff did when he reached Port Arthur was to resurvey the harbor and locate the mines.

"What is the sense of these constant bombardments if they are not for the purpose of enticing the Russian ships out? The theories that the Petropavlovsk struck her own mines, or that the Japanese planted a mine during the night are untenable and we know that the Japanese have submarines.

"A United States naval officer landed at the wrong dock, apparently an unused wharf, in a Japanese town during the war and saw a submarine boat surrounded on three sides by high fences so that it was visible only from the water side. Before he had an opportunity to examine it Japanese soldiers on guard drove him away with fierce threats. They seemed highly indignant that he should have caught sight of the boat at all."

HIS BOOM WANES

Hearst Is Losing Ground in the Middle West.

PARKER IS GAINING FAST

Manager of the Editor Ascribes the Change to Wall Street.

WARM FIGHT IN ILLINOIS

Williams, Its Favored Son, is Likely to Be Sidelacked, and the New York Man Fall Heir to His Strength.

CHICAGO, April 14.—(Special)—The Parker "low barometer," which started in New York, has begun to be felt with distinct vigor in the Democratic political field of the Middle West. For the first time the Western manager of W. R. Hearst has admitted its potency. Andrew M. Lawrence, who is engineering the Hearst campaign in the Mississippi Valley, said today:

"Parker and the forces behind him stand for Clevelandism. The organized opposition to Hearst, which has begun to be noticed in the last ten days, is instigated by the Wall-street crowd which has become terrified by the Hearst strength, and has concentrated its power behind Parker."

Virtually the only two names mentioned in the Middle West for the Democratic nomination are Parker and Hearst. There are scattered cries for Cleveland, and still more scattered and feeble ones for Gorman, but Parker is the man who is looming bigger every day. As his candidacy grows in importance, that of Hearst becomes less aggressive.

"Favored Son" May Be Sidelacked.

Illinois has a "favored son" in Representative Williams, of Carroll, but the struggle to keep his name to the front has been a hard one. Looked at from the viewpoint of today, Mr. Williams will be lucky if he even gets a complimentary vote from the Illinois delegation. Shrewd politicians from the start have considered that his candidacy was advanced to sidetrack that of Hearst. This view becomes more logical every day in the light of developments. Hearst is the only man who has made a showing in the state with delegates thus far, but the opposition is just now getting seriously to work.

The Harrison and Hopkins anti-Hearst machinery is in motion in Cook County with the result that fewer and less enthusiastic Hearst meetings are being held. The atmosphere has changed perceptibly.

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TRIUMPH IS LOST

Sealing Schooner Had 25 Souls Aboard.

THIRD VANCOUVER WRECK

Name Board Comes Ashore at Mouth of Quatsino Sound.

GOES DOWN IN RECENT GALE

Inhospitable Island Coast is Strewed With Wreckage From the British Ship Lamorna and the Schooner Kallaua.

UCLUELET, B. C., April 12.—(Staff Correspondence)—Wreckage from three vessels which carried crews of about 60 men and represented a property valuation of over \$250,000 has been drifting in on the west coast of Vancouver Island for the past three weeks. Over all three of these disasters, which have resulted in such an enormous loss of life and property, lingers an air of mystery which may never be cleared up.

Kansas May Disappoint Editor.

Although Hearst is putting Kansas in his column because it gave him a resolution of indorsement, the failure to instruct is said to mean that unless he makes a big showing in the East and South, which the West does not believe he will do, Kansas will be for another man. Hearst's managers claim 16 of the 20 delegates sure. The best the opposition will do is to concede him a possible six on the first ballot and none thereafter. The resolution of indorsement has been interpreted as meaning Kansas did not care to give offense to a man who was willing to spend \$100,000 for the party and who did valiant service for Bryan in two campaigns. Kansas and Nebraska are alike in that

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STATE TICKET UP

Republican Convention Travels Smooth Path.

ONE DECISIVE CONTEST

J. W. Bailey Wins for Food and Dairy Commissioner.

MOORE BY ACCLAMATION

President Roosevelt is Indorsed, Presidential Electors Nominated and Delegates to National Republican Convention Chosen.

STATE REPUBLICAN TICKET.
Supreme Judge—Frank A. Moore, of Columbia County.
Dairy and Food Commissioner—J. W. Bailey, of Multnomah.
Presidential Electors—J. N. Hart, of Polk; James A. Fee, of Unadilla; Grant B. Dimick, of Clackamas; A. C. Housh, of Josephine.
Delegates to Republican National Convention—
At Large—H. W. Scott, of Multnomah; R. L. Kline, of Benton; W. B. Ayer, of Multnomah, and Ira S. Smith, of Malheur.
First Congressional District—J. U. Campbell, of Clackamas, and J. M. Keene, of Jackson.
Second Congressional District—Charles E. Carey, of Multnomah, and N. C. Richards, of Baker.

The Republican State Convention met yesterday, nominated candidates for Supreme Judge, Food and Dairy Commissioner and Presidential electors, chose delegates-at-large to the Republican National Convention, adopted a platform pledging the Oregon delegation to the support of Theodore Roosevelt for President, ratified district convention nominations for Circuit Judges, District Attorneys, Joint Senators and Joint Representatives, and elected a new State Central Committee. Harmony characterized all the proceedings and apparently no sore spots have been left.

B. L. Eddy, of Tillamook, presided as chairman and Harrison Allen, of Clatsop, acted as secretary. The new central committee organized last evening by electing Frank C. Baker chairman.

There was no contest whatever over the nomination for Supreme Judge. The re-nomination of Justice F. A. Moore was so certain that no one had arranged to place his name before the convention. Four times Chairman Eddy announced in a loud voice that nominations for Supreme Judges were in order before any one arose to suggest a candidate.

Presumably that same person had been assigned the privilege of presenting the name of Judge Moore, the delegates waited for that person to speak. Finally Charles H. Carey arose and after saying that he had not been requested to do so, presented the name of Frank Moore. The nomination was made by acclamation.

There was a contest over Food and Dairy Commissioner, with only two candidates in the field. Other aspirants had concluded that the coveted plum would fall to either J. W. Bailey or Charles Holman and they kept their names out. As soon as the two names had been placed before the convention, delegates from every part of the hall seconded the nomination of Bailey until it seemed that the present incumbent must be a winner. Then followed a landslide. The result was 215 to 142 in favor of Bailey.

Delegates to the National Convention were chosen by acclamation. There were five candidates for Presidential electors, J. B. Hosford, of Gilliam, being the low man and therefore the unsuccessful one.

The State Central Committee was chosen as follows:
Baker, J. H. Alkin.
Benton, E. R. Bryson.
Clackamas, T. F. Ryan.
Clatsop, John Fox.
Columbia, Harry West.
Coos, W. J. Butler.
Crook, William Wirzweiler.
Curry, Delos Woodruff.
Douglas, A. C. Marsters.
Gilliam, C. A. Denneman.
Grant, T. J. Bamon.
Harney, George W. Clevenger.
Jackson, L. L. Hamilton.
Josephine, J. C. Campbell.
Klamath, H. E. Van Valkenberg.
Lake, J. A. Massingill.
Lane, L. T. Harris.
Lincoln, O. G. Dulaba.
Linn, F. R. Kelly.
Malheur, J. W. Hope.
Marion, Fred Warnock.
Marion, H. D. Patton.
Multnomah, Frank C. Baker.
Polk, E. E. Williams.
Sherman, J. B. Hosford.
Tillamook, A. J. Stillwell.
Union, J. S. Baker.
Umatilla, Lee Moorhouse.
Wasco, T. H. Johnston.
Washington, W. N. Barrett.
Wallowa, E. A. Holmes.
Wheeler, H. Halstead.
Yamhill, J. M. Crawford.

When the committee met last evening there was a division over the election of a chairman. Frank C. Baker winning over Willis Dunaway by a vote of 29 to 12.

CONVENTION MOVES SMOOTHLY

Business is Transacted With Dispatch and Few Contests Occur.

The Republican State Convention was called to order in the Empire Theater at 10:30 yesterday morning by Harrison Allen, in the absence of Frank C. Baker, the

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THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION STARTS THE BALL A-ROLLING

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