

LAYING OF MINE

Japanese Worked Under Heavy Fire

IN SEARCHLIGHTS' GLARE

Designs Not Apparent to the Bombarding Russians.

FLEET PASSES OUT IN SAFETY

It Was on the Attempt to Return to the Harbor After Battle at Sea That the Petropavlovsk Was Blown Up.

SPECIAL CABLE TO THE LONDON TIMES AND PORTLAND OREGONIAN. ON BOARD STEAMER HALMUN, APRIL 17, By De Forrest Wireless Telegraph to Wm Hal Wel, April 18.—I now send details of third day of Admiral Togo's eighth attack on Port Arthur, as well as further details of the first and second days, which I reported briefly from the scene of actual fighting last Wednesday.

Soon after noon on the second day (Thursday) Admiral Togo withdrew his whole force, which retired in different directions and concentrating in the evening anchored at sea within striking distance of Port Arthur. The following morning (Friday) the torpedo flotilla and the second-class cruisers were again off Port Arthur and further attempts were made to draw the Russian fleet out but all was silent and Admiral Togo's vessels were not even molested by the shore batteries.

Trial of New Vessels. On the 18th inst., therefore, Togo took his battle fleet to Port Arthur and made a demonstration. This time he sent the Kasuga and the Niashin around to Pigeeon Bay to direct a high-angle fire against the inner harbor. This resulted in drawing a return fire, both from the ships and the forts, but it was ineffective.

The two new ships, however, demonstrated their fighting qualities. So soon as the latter rejoined the fleet the whole force returned to the main rendezvous. Thus ended the three days' engagement, which, in my opinion, has destroyed any faint hope which may have existed, that the Russians will be able to equalize again the balance of naval power in these seas.

I now send further details of the beginning of the climax of Togo's eighth attack. Discovering from various sources that the entrance to Port Arthur was still impassable, Admiral Togo determined to try a new maneuver in order to effect the destruction of the Russian fleet. His scheme was as follows:

Togo Mines the Harbor. He determined to mine the mouth of the harbor and place a weak squadron outside of the port in order to entice the Russians out, while himself, taking advantage of fog on the coast, lay off and prepared to pounce in and catch the Russians at sea if they succeeded in evading his mines. How successful the ruse proved is unfolded in the following detailed narrative.

During the night of the 15th inst. two divisions of destroyers and one torpedo flotilla, escorting the Korio Maru, a mining vessel, arrived off Port Arthur. The destroyer flotilla protected both flanks and the Korio went boldly in.

The action of this vessel was typical of the reckless daring of the Japanese. Although the concentrated beams of four searchlights showed up every spar and rill of the Korio and although a merciless fire swept around her, she accomplished her object and came out again unscathed without the Russians discovering her designs. Supporting the enterprise was a squadron consisting of two first-class and four second-class cruisers and at daybreak interest centered in them.

Makaroff in Pursuit. Meantime the destroyers were having an action by themselves. Day broke with the usual mist over the land, though out on the sea it was entirely clear. South of Port Arthur it was quite clear, but thick in the direction of Dalny. The Russians were all alert, owing to the firing during the night.

Admiral Makaroff at 8 A. M., seeing only a weak squadron menacing the port, set to sea with the following force: Battleships Petropavlovsk, Poltava, Pobeda; cruisers, Dnna, Askold and Novik. These were joined outside by the cruiser Bayan, which had been engaged with the destroyers. The cruiser squadron, seeing the Russians had cleared the mines they had laid, steamed out to sea, with the Russians in full steam after them. The latter opened a rapid fire at long range, the Japanese replying at intervals.

Sees Trap Laid for Him. When the Japanese had drawn the Russians out some 15 miles, they communicated the situation to Admiral Togo by wireless telegraphy. Admiral Togo was 30 miles away, lurking under cover of mist and rain squalls. Immediately upon receipt of the message he signaled the Kasuga and Niashin to join the battleship squadron and went forward with full steam up.

By a piece of bad luck the wind at this moment freshened, dispelling the mist and the Russian Admiral, desiring the smoke of the fleet, had his suspicions aroused and put about with full steam ahead for Port Arthur, all the Japanese ships now pursuing at their utmost speed. It was a magnificent spectacle, but the Russians had not been enticed far enough and had steamed under protection of the forts before Admiral Togo arrived within effective range.

Leading Ship Goes Down. Then the most extraordinary contretemps happened. The Russian leading ship, believed to be the Petropavlovsk because she was covered with signal flags, listed heavily and in an incredibly short time sank. Admiral Togo's design had been successful. She had struck one of the Korio's mines.

threw the whole line into confusion and the vessels could be seen firing indiscriminately into the water in their immediate front in order to destroy others of these terrible engines of maritime warfare. This was about 10:30 o'clock in the morning. The remaining Russian vessels, having cleared their front, steamed independently into the harbor, covered by the fire of the forts on Golden Hill. They were favored by the mist which still hung about the approaches to the port and gained the inside by noon.

Fight of the Bayan. I must now return to the night attack. The second division of destroyers covering the mining enterprise lay off Swanson Point and towards morning discovered a Russian destroyer evidently making for Port Arthur from Dalny. So soon as they discovered her the Japanese went in pursuit and cut the Russian vessel off and destroyed her in ten minutes with their six-pounders. While they were trying to save the unfortunate crew they made out in the dim light the great shadow of the four-funnelled cruiser Bayan, bearing down upon them, also another Russian destroyer.

The Japanese cruiser escaped, as it was impossible to tackle the Bayan's rapid firers in the light which was now growing stronger. The Bayan then proceeded in the direction of Port Arthur and was first to encounter the Japanese cruiser squadron, which she engaged single-handed until able to join Admiral Makaroff's battle line as he emerged into the open sea.

The only casualties reported in the Japanese fleet were two men wounded by a splinter on board one of the destroyers.

TIMES DEFIES RUSSIAN ORDER. Czar's Fleet Not in Position to Stop Wireless Telegraphy. SPECIAL CABLE TO THE LONDON TIMES AND PORTLAND OREGONIAN. LONDON, April 18.—The London Times today says editorially of Russia's attempt to bar the use of wireless telegraphy by war correspondents:

"The right of belligerents to exercise full control over news transmitted from the seat of war is one which neither war, nor, we think, our readers desire to call in question. The Russian government, however, proposes to carry their measures to a length which overruns all reason.

"The only installation of wireless telegraphy for the purpose of newspaper correspondence is that on the steamer Halmun. Not only our correspondent performed his duties without objection, being raised by the Japanese authorities, who indeed permitted the steamer to be fitted out and sent from a Japanese port, but on April 6 he was overhauled and boarded by the Russian cruiser Bayan, flying the flag of the Russian Admiral.

"The officer in command sent two Lieutenants aboard the Halmun, who politely examined the papers of the vessel, the log of her crew, the wireless telegraph plant and the correspondent's messages. The officers only detained the Halmun long enough to satisfy themselves of her mission, and then permitted her to hold to her course.

"The Russian government has now made the sudden discovery that an enterprise, which has been carried on for some weeks with the full knowledge of both belligerents, is of a dangerous character that it must be suppressed by the most violent means. It is a little doubtful whether, in the present condition of the fleet, the Russians are in a position to carry out their threats, but if chance delivered the Halmun into their hands they could attain their end without perpetrating what in the eyes of all civilized people would be an outrage.

"There are other ways of preventing the transmission of news besides summarily disposing of the responsible newspaper correspondent as a spy. Neither war nor our correspondent would raise any objections to the most rigorous censorship, exercised in accordance with principles recognized in modern warfare.

"We make no doubt the Japanese, if they had considered it necessary, would have exercised their right of censorship long ago. The Russian may argue that they have not similar opportunities for controlling the Halmun, but the war correspondent, not possessing aerial body, has to confine his activities to the sea or land and occupied by one of the belligerents."

SHELLS WAKEN THE SLEEPERS. Bombardment of Port Arthur During March 21-22. PORT ARTHUR, March 23.—(Delayed in transmission.)—The bombardment of March 21 and 22 was most picturesque. The first shells whistled through the air and aroused the inhabitants, who were quiet for a few hours, and all was again a scene of confusion.

The bombardment was recommenced before the port and off Liao Tshan by a formidable Japanese fleet. Our ships one by one raised anchor and steamed to the outer roads to meet the enemy. The Retvizan and Carevitch only remained, and with guns elevated toward heaven fired over the hill.

At the thunder of the shots, with Vice-Admiral Makaroff on board, the cruiser Askold left the harbor. On Golden Hill were grouped the inhabitants of Port Arthur, who saw below them a rare panorama. The Japanese ships looked like flatrons on the emerald sea. They kept at long range.

In spite of the heavy firing of the Japanese ships, some of the officers in the forts were calmly drinking tea. Meanwhile the Russian fleet, arrayed in battle formation, went toward the Japanese cruisers. The latter began to retire, and at the same time around Liao Tshan came the enemy's battleships, one of which, it was observed, lagged behind. According to the report of one of the batteries, this vessel had been struck by a shell fired from the Retvizan, which fell on her deck and exploded in her machinery.

The battleships steered to the flank of the Russian squadron and maneuvered. Vice-Admiral Makaroff answered with a change of helm, which brought him face to face with the enemy. The Japanese battleships then turned and continued on a course which enabled them to effect a junction with the cruisers. The enemy then disappeared.

CZAR CRIES OUT AT ALEXIEFF "That Man Brings Us Nothing but Ill Luck," He Said. ST. PETERSBURG, April 17.—Rumors were in circulation here today of a fresh engagement on the Yalu River, which had resulted favorably to the Russians, but a dispatch received by the general staff tonight says that the situation is unchanged and that all is quiet on the Yalu.

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure IT IS A MATTER OF HEALTH

WILL CAUSE DEBATE Pension Bill Will Come Before the Senate This Week.

RUSSIAN VICTORY IS DENIED Repulse of Japanese at Yagompho Lacks Confirmation. SPECIAL CABLE TO THE LONDON TIMES AND PORTLAND OREGONIAN. ST. PETERSBURG, April 18.—The military general staff discredits the story that the Russians attacked 12,000 Japanese troops at the moment of landing at Yagompho and drove them back to their ships. No affair of that sort has been reported by General Kouroupatkin.

Explosion Blamed on Boilers. PARIS, April 18.—The St. Petrus correspondent of the Echo de Paris cables the following: "According to an investigation made at Paris the Petropavlovsk catastrophe was due to the explosion of her cylindrical boilers. Two successive explosions occurred under the boiler deck. The authorities will not admit that Vice-Admiral Togo could place a mine so near the entrance to the port without being perceived."

Czar Gives of His Fortune. PARIS, April 18.—The Petit Parisien publishes the following from its correspondent at St. Petersburg: "The Emperor is withdrawing 80,000 roubles, part of his private fortune, deposited in a foreign bank. This money will be received by the Bank of Russia within a month. His Majesty is determined to lend this money to his country without interest or guarantee should it be needed."

Ship Subsidy Before the House. WASHINGTON, April 17.—The status of ship subsidy will be the feature of the House proceedings this week. The conference reports and minor bills to fill in the gaps. The committee on rules on Monday morning will decide on a program for the statehood bill. The rule on this matter, which will be brought in for adoption Monday, will call for consideration of the bill Tuesday, with debate limited probably to four hours.

Winter Weather at Vladivostok. ST. PETERSBURG, April 17.—A letter from Vladivostok, dated March 21, has been received here, which says that nobody there believes that the land operations will begin soon. The winter has been especially cold and there is still much snow. Since the first bombardment the city has been tranquil. The coal mines are supplying fuel to the railroad and the city, but this is the only industry that is being pursued.

Telegraph Position of Troops. PARIS, April 18.—The Echo de Paris this morning publishes a dispatch from its St. Petersburg correspondent, saying that General Kouroupatkin had telegraphed the Emperor of Russia indicating the precise positions of the Russian and Japanese troops on the Yalu. The dispatch adds that rains have made the Manchurian roads almost impassable and operations have been suspended pending an improvement in the weather.

Japanese Transports Sighted. PORT ARTHUR, April 17.—Rumors are current here that 30 Japanese transports conveying troops have been sighted steaming in the direction of Tinkow. The rumors cannot be confirmed.

Japanese Ship Reported Sunk. ST. PETERSBURG, April 17.—A dispatch from Port Arthur says several eye witnesses assert that a Japanese cruiser was lost outside Port Arthur April 12 by striking one of its own floating mines.

FISHING TREATY IS DEFECTIVE Newfoundlanders Would Be Shut Out Six Months in the Year. ST. JOHN'S, N. F., April 17.—The text of the Anglo-French colonial treaty has not been published here. A serious defect has been found in it which the Colonial government is trying to have corrected.

THE DAY'S DEATH ROLL. Andrew Harrison Ward. CYNTHIANA, Ky., April 17.—Ex-Representative Andrew Harrison Ward, who in the years following the Civil War was the foremost lawyer of Kentucky, died today aged 70 years.

Major Hugh C. Dennis. ST. LOUIS, April 17.—Major Hugh C. Dennis, president of the Rialto Grain & Securities Company, from which United States Senator Burton was convicted of having illegally accepted fees, died at his home here tonight of lung trouble.

Henry H. Smith. WASHINGTON, April 17.—Henry H. Smith, former judicial clerk of the House of Representatives, and a recognized authority on parliamentary practice, died in Savannah, Ga., today, where he had been two weeks ago for medical treatment.

Bank President Under Arrest. NEW YORK, April 17.—David Rothschild, until recently president of the

Lipman, Wolfe & Co. Women's Smart \$37.50-\$45 Tailor-Made Suits at \$27.50. An offering of Women's Tailor-Made Suits here today—brought about by a special purchase of our New York representative. This sale offers bargains that are without a parallel. Together, it's the finest collection of smart, fashionable suits you've seen this Spring.



Stirring News of Dress Fabrics. 98c FOR \$1.50 AND \$1.25 BLACK GOODS—All this season's best selling fabrics—46-inch All-Wool French Voiles—46-inch All-Wool Twine Cloths—46-inch All-Wool Voile Boutonne—45 and 50-inch All-Wool Crepes and Canvas Etamines—all sheer weaves suitable for Summer wear—regular \$1.50 and \$1.25 fabrics—today 98c.

A Great Day in Millinery. Ready for today—an exhaustive showing of newest ideas in Trimmed Hats at popular prices—dainty Flower Hats and Turbans—Majine and Chiffon Hats—large lace effects, fancy Hair Hats and fancy straw braids in mixed combinations from the foundations of these beautiful conceptions—very exceptional values at \$7.95, \$4.95, \$3.95 and \$2.95.

KILLED ON WAY FROM CHURCH. Man and Two Girls Run Down by Reading Railway Engine. ALLENTOWN, Pa., April 17.—George Clauser, aged 40; Edith M. Mettler, aged 15, and Stella Knau, aged 17, were struck and instantly killed by a Reading Railway passenger train near their home, near Macungie, while walking home from church on the railroad track.

ONLY REMEDY FOR POLYGAMY. Amendment to Constitution Suggested by Dr. Hamlin. WASHINGTON, April 17.—The Children of the American Revolution, who are holding their annual convention at Washington in conjunction with the annual convention of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which begins tomorrow, held patriotic services in the Church of the Covenant today. The chief feature of the services was a sermon by Rev. Francis Hamlin on "Broad-minded Patriotism."

PEOPLE ROUSED TO PERIL. Broken Gas Main Spread Fumes in Mount Vernon Homes. MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., April 17.—The bursting of a large gas main tonight has placed the city and Pelham in great peril. The accident befell the Westchester Lighting Company, which furnishes gas to these places, as a result of which the gas went out for a time and then started up again, pouring out its poisonous fumes in homes when nine-tenths of the residents were asleep.

USED BABE AS A SHIELD. Wife Saves Her Own Life—Her Parents Fatally Wounded. ZANESVILLE, O., April 17.—Frank Parke, a miner of Crooksville, near here, shot and, it is believed, fatally wounded his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood Crooke. Parke has been out of work for some time. The loss of his position and the consequent hardship is believed to have made him melancholy.

WOMAN SHOT BY MASKED MAN. Robber Attempted to Hold Up Saloon Kept by Her Husband. BERKELEY, Cal., April 17.—A masked man displaying two revolvers entered the saloon of Chris Warren on the country road north of here tonight. In the saloon were Warren, Mrs. Warren and Frank Lewis. The stranger ordered them to throw up their hands.

LABOR LEADERS AT DENVER. Mitchell and Gompers Come to Federation Committee Meeting. DENVER, April 17.—The quarterly meeting of the executive committee of the American Federation of Labor will begin tomorrow morning in the Windsor Hotel in this city and continue throughout the coming week. In addition to the 11 members of the committee and the clerical force, about 100 representatives of local unions affiliated with the Federation will be in the city, the latter to present grievances to be disposed of by the committee.

Jones Gives Stock to Workmen. TOLEDO, O., April 17.—Mayor Jones, in a talk to the employees of his sucker rod factory on the value of the laboring man to society, told the men that he had made a gift of \$30,000 worth of stock in his company to them and that they could do with it as they liked. It is worth its face value.

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