

FLEE READY TO SAIL

Port Arthur Craft Can Reinforce Kamimura.

PREPARED TO GIVE BATTLE

Second Russian Pacific Squadron to Have a Formidable Aggregation of Fighting Vessels in Its Path.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—Telegraphing from Tokyo, the correspondent of the Daily Express says that he learns, in the event of Admiral Kamimura, who is reported to have gone south with a squadron of powerful cruisers, notifying it of the approach of the second Russian Pacific squadron, the whole Japanese fleet, which has been operating at Port Arthur, will be ready to proceed south on a day's notice to give battle.

FLEET LEAVES PORT ARTHUR.

Only a Few Vessels Have Been Left on Guard.

DIANA HAS COAL ABOARD.

Ready to Make Dash From Neutral Port of Saigon.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—According to a report from Shanghai, a converted Japanese cruiser attached to Admiral Kamimura's squadron has put into Singapore with the evident intention of intercepting the collision sent to meet the Russian Baltic fleet.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Telegraph reports from Saigon, French Indo-China, that the Russian cruiser Diana is loading a full cargo of coal preparatory to making her escape from the port. The Diana escaped from Port Arthur on August 15 and was disarmed at Singapore on September 2 by order of the Russian Admiralty.

AMMUNITION HID IN BALES.

Consignment to Russians Is Seized by the Chinese.

PEKIN, Dec. 24.—The Chinese yesterday seized 3,000,000 rounds of Russian rifle ammunition near Feng Tai, in the vicinity of a Russian arm at Tientsin, and was evidently destined for Port Arthur.

The shipment was concealed among bales of wool-brought on the backs of the men behind the Japanese in charge of the agent of a German firm.

SPOILS FOR THE VICTORS.

Russians Find Confections With Note in Abandoned Trenches.

MUKDEN, Dec. 23.—Volunteers the night of December 21 occupied Japanese trenches opposite their positions. Three trenches were occupied by the Japanese with scarcely a fight. The victors were surprised to find a box lying in plain view, which they opened carefully, fearing it might contain explosives, but they found it was, in fact, a box of confections, and in Russian politely requesting its acceptance "from disturbing neighbors."

Cross to Lead to Victory.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 18.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—The daughter of Bishop Ornaty, a very holy man of the Russian church, lately deceased, has sent to General Kurapatkin a rude wooden cross with a remarkable letter, and a letter stating that the cross is from Jerusalem, and has been in the Ornaty family for generations. While the bishop was on his deathbed, he said a remarkable dream, in which he thought himself serving at the front, where the cross in question led the Russians to victory. He charged his daughter just before his death to send the cross to Kurapatkin with his blessing, believing firmly that it would lead to ultimate victory.

Coal From German Vessels.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 23.—Advice has been received by the British authorities, which arrived this afternoon from Australia, that three Japanese officers arrived at Fremantle shortly before her departure, with the intention of proceeding along the South Sea to watch the movements of German steamers reported to be in the vicinity for the purpose of coaling the Baltic fleet.

M. S. Pyatov and Cadmus, which were dispatched by Admiral Fashnaw, commander of the Australian squadron, to search for Russian warships, reported to be cruising in Torres Straits, have returned to Sydney without finding any trace of the Russian vessels.

Russian Attack Beaten Off.

GENERAL OKUKI'S HEADQUARTERS, via Fushan, Thursday, Dec. 22.—The Russian army during the night of December 20 made a determined attack on Lamuting, but were driven back with heavy losses. The Japanese sustained no casualties. Small detachments of Russians nightly attack the Japanese outposts and patrols, but with no success.

Small Damage From Heavy Fire.

MUKDEN, Dec. 23.—The Russians succeeded today in advancing the position of their front guns four miles south along the wagon road. This was accomplished in the face of a heavy artillery fire from the Japanese, who fired upwards of 300 shells, which, however, did little damage, only two men being wounded.

Prisoners' Legs Frostbitten.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23.—General Kurapatkin, reporting a small skirmish to Emperor Nicholas, says he personally saw a couple of Japanese prisoners, who were taken December 21. They were insufficiently clad, their boots especially being bad. The General also says their legs were frost bitten.

Need of National Legislation.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—The need of national legislation governing the operation of railways will be considered by a special commission of the five members of the Chicago Shippers' Association, just appointed by President Bartlett, with

power to represent the association in conference committees from kindred organizations.

The committee will hold its first meeting next Tuesday. Resolutions passed by the board of directors recite that "the transportation question is one of such great and far-reaching importance as to demand our earnest and immediate consideration and action. We know President Roosevelt's course in bringing the subject to the attention of Congress to bring about equitable relations between transportation interests with justice to both."

HOME FROM CHINA.

Consul-General Miller Will Report to President.

GRANT'S PASS, Or., Dec. 23.—(Special.)—H. B. Miller, United States Consul-General at Niu Chang, China, arrived in Grant's Pass yesterday evening to visit his father, A. S. Miller, and friends, this being his former home. He left this evening for his home at Eugene, where he will spend the holidays with his family. He will then go to Washington to report personally to the President and State Department.

As to his promotion in the diplomatic service, with his next station at Kobe, Japan, he reported in American papers. Mr. Miller has no official knowledge while having received favorable commendation from the Administration for his services in attending to American interests in Manchuria during the war. He said he should make no special effort to secure one, as his extensive interests in Grant's Pass, Oregon, make it imperative that he return to Oregon.

WILL LEAD THEM ALL.

The World's Fair that will be opened in Portland on June 1 next will surpass all former Expositions held in the West, in the number of its buildings, in the extent of its individual exhibits, in attractiveness of its grounds and in its architectural beauty. Portland's people will take pleasure in giving their Eastern friends the fullest information of the grand event, and also of the beautiful city in which it will be held.

The New Year's Oregonian for 1905 will be a special issue published on Monday morning, January 2, and may address in the United States or Canada postage prepaid, for 10 cents a copy. Address The Oregonian, Portland, Or.

work brought acute stomach trouble upon him, forcing him to seek medical aid. He left Niu Chang October 28, on a Japanese transport, by courtesy of the Japanese government. In passing Port Arthur, he heard the Russian and Russian forts, he heard heavy firing, but the distance was too great to catch any details. Mr. Miller spent a month in Tokyo, and while there, on invitation of the Emperor, attended the annual garden party held in the most beautiful park in the world. On being presented to the Emperor, Mr. Miller was personally thanked for his efficient services in looking after the interests of the Japanese in Manchuria at the outbreak of the war, and who were placed under American protection by the Japanese government. Most of these returned to their native country, and the remainder he cared for in Niu Chang. While in Tokyo Mr. Miller also attended a review of 25,000 soldiers by the Emperor. Mr. Miller reports the infantry perfect, cavalry poorly mounted and artillery not the best. In April he attended a review at Niu Chang of 15,000 Russians under Kurapatkin. The Russians made a good appearance. Cossacks are fine on parade, but no match for the Japanese infantry, and were defeated in every engagement. The Russian artillery is a failure, and the Japanese successes were due to the men behind the guns. The Russian officers, sword in hand, stand by the battery, but not in the best position to watch the movements of the enemy and to direct the fire of the guns to get an accurate aim. The Japanese killed, and the men become demoralized.

ORDERED OUT OF FEZ.

Minister of the Powers Sent Word to Their People.

PARIS, Dec. 24.—The correspondent at Tangier of the Matin says that after calling at the French Mission the Ministers of the several powers ordered all people of their nationalities to quit Fez.

Moroccan Situation Is Grave.

PARIS, Dec. 23.—The Foreign Office considers the situation in Morocco extremely grave. The Sultan's dismissal of his French and other military advisers has been followed by a number of acts showing his intention to interrupt the execution of the French policy. Accordingly the French Minister at Tangier has been instructed to secure the immediate withdrawal from the Moroccan capital of the French Consul, the commander and all the members of the military mission, and all French citizens, unless the Sultan vacates his previous offensive action and offers a suitable explanation. The French Minister has been instructed to communicate to the Sultan at the same time he notifies the Consul military mission to prepare to depart. The officials here say that no definite military or naval steps have yet been taken, as these await the Sultan's response to the minister's demands, but a demonstration force will follow if a suitable explanation and reparation are not promptly given.

Bought Off for Small Sum.

TANGIER, Dec. 23.—The Irishmen who surrounded the American Legation in the French Consul and an English soldier are given up to them, have withdrawn for a consideration of \$300.

DISPATCHES OF THE FLEET.

Russian Evidence Ready in the Dogger Bank Episode.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—The Standard's Paris correspondent states that Lieutenant Valron, of the Russian transport Kamchatka, attached to the Baltic fleet, arrived at the French capital with the entire recording bands of the wireless apparatus of the squadron, including the records and messages sent just prior to the firing on the British trawlers at the Dogger Bank. The correspondent says that this shows the Russians realize the necessity of coming before the inquiry commission armed with better arguments than they have advanced heretofore.

Pension for Rev. C. E. Cline.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 23.—Senator Patton today secured allowance of a pension of \$14 a month for Rev. Cullom E. Cline, of Portland.

B. B. RICH CIGAR-CASES.

In leather, decorated and plain, 25c to 25 B. B. Rich, seven cigar stores.

TO CURE COLEN IN ONE DAY.

Take Laxative Brown Quinine Tablets. An druggist returns the money if it fails to cure Dr. W. Grove's signature is on each box.

PATH IS NOW OPEN

President Feels That His Part Has Been Accomplished.

NOTE SENT TO EMBASSIES

Future Conduct of the Proposed Peace Conference at The Hague Is Left to Follow in Its Normal Channels.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—That the further interchange of views preparatory to the formulation of a programme for another peace conference at The Hague be effected through the International Bureau under the control of the permanent administrative council of The Hague is the suggestion offered by Secretary Hay in a circular note to the powers, published at the State Department today. The note was dispatched a week ago, but its publication was withheld until it had reached the various American embassies and legal representatives abroad.

DISGUISED AS AN AMERICAN.

Russian Newspaper Correspondent Makes Tour Through Japan.

MOSCOW, Dec. 23.—V. F. Gratusky, correspondent of the Ruskaya Slava, has just arrived at San Francisco after a long and hazardous trip through Japan, where he traveled as an American journalist under the name of Percy Palmer. Under that name he has been in the real situation of affairs in the enemy's country, taking the risk of discovery and execution as a spy.

Gratusky is a complete American outfit and arranged to have letters forwarded from various cities in the United States. He has telegraphed to the Ruskaya Slava from San Francisco that he visited Tokyo, Yokohama, Kobe, Osaka, Shimono, Nagasaki and Matsuyama; photographed the Russian prison camp, examined the ships, fortresses and troops, and met and entertained high Japanese.

Too Friendly to the Jews.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23.—Prince Urussov, the Governor of Bessarabia, has been removed from his post and transferred to a similar position at Tever. The Russian government considered his policy too friendly toward Bessarabian Jews. The Prince was appointed shortly after the outbreak of the war, and during a regime so different that the Jews presented him with a copy of the Old Testament, and an address of thanks for his humanity.

Russian Deserts Cross Frontier.

VIENNA, Dec. 23.—Russian deserters are continually crossing the frontier into Austria, and during the last few days many of them have entered Vienna. Wednesday several deserters, destitute and hungry, were taken to the Japanese Consulate here, and desired to enter the Mikado's army and to fight against their fatherland. Naturally their request was refused, and they were sent to the frontier, where they were not allowed to join the Japanese army. The fact that subjects of a belligerent state should desire to enter the ranks of a hostile army may be regarded as a proof of the deep dissatisfaction prevailing in the East of the Russian war against the Russian people.

Says Russia Will Suffer Least.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23.—The Novoye Vremya continues to recount instances of Japanese agitation in China, pointing out that Russia will suffer the least of the big powers from an uprising, and warning the latter to prepare to meet the coming storm.

De Sibert Comes to Washington.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23.—M. De Sibert, second secretary of the Russian Legation at St. Petersburg, has been appointed secretary of the late Andre Bobrov, second secretary of the Russian Embassy at Washington, who died at Riga, Russia, today.

Prayers for Return of Peace.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23.—The archbishop of Warsaw has sent to all the Catholic priests of his diocese a special prayer, imploring God to send peace, with instructions to read it during the celebration of mass.

Viadimir to Be President of Council.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 23.—It is reported that Grand Duke Viadimir will be appointed president of the Council of the Empire, being succeeded as Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Guard by Grand Duke Nicholas Nicholievitch.

Rioters Are Sentenced.

KHISHINEFF, Dec. 23.—Sentences were pronounced today upon the persons found guilty of participation in the anti-Jewish riots here in May, 1903. Seventeen of them were sentenced to 120 days' imprisonment, two to 60 days, and 11 were acquitted.

CHADWICK TRUNK IS FOUND

Receiver Looser on Track of Much Valuable Jewelry.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 23.—A trunk supposed to belong to Mrs. Chadwick has been given into the keeping of Receiver Looser. The trunk is believed to be the one that disappeared in New York. It reached Cleveland today from New York and was addressed to Emil Hoover.

Bail Sought for Dr. Chadwick.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 23.—Arrangements are being made, it is said, to secure bail for Dr. Leroy S. Chadwick, who, it is said, with his wife, Cassie L. Chadwick, was yesterday indicted by the county grand jury charged with forging and

may be insured, and the way left clear for the eventual action of the government of the Netherlands in calling a renewed conference to assemble at The Hague, should that course be adopted. You will bring this communication to the knowledge of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and invite consideration of the suggestions herein made. "I am, sir, your obedient servant. "JOHN HAY."

Sugar Duty Case May Be Reopened.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—It is stated that the famous sugar duty rebate case recently decided against the importers by the Supreme Court is to be reopened.

This was a test case and had been fought through all the courts, occupying seven years in reaching a final ruling. The plan is to attack the constitutionality of the Treasury Department's practice, which, the importers say, amounts to the assumption of a right to include in the rebate the cost of the first to the Board of United States General Appraisers, then to the Circuit Court, and finally to the Supreme Court of the United States. Secretary Hay gave the Minister of Finance of his note to the powers, and heartily congratulated him.

Minister Takahira Has Recovered.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Mr. Takahira, the Japanese Minister, received a most cordial greeting at the State Department today. This was the first time he has seen Secretary Hay in many weeks, and he has just recovered from several illnesses. Secretary Hay gave the Minister a copy of his note to the powers, and heartily congratulated him.

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Advertisement for Fifth Sixth and Washington Sts. Northman & Tins. SUPPLEMENT TO AD ON PAGE 2

HANDSOME CHRISTMAS UMBRELLAS CAUGHT IN THE HURRICANE OF REDUCTION. Prices Cut to the Ribs Today. Holiday Umbrellas—Ladies' and Men's—24 and 28-inch. The fine all- silk kind; Taffeta, Laventina, Spittlefield, Dent's and Twist wares; some with plain wood, some with ivory, gun-metal, horn, pearl, gold, silver and fancy combinations, gun-metal and gold, pearl and gold, wood and silver, etc.

Here's a Bunch of Bargains. From the First Floor Christmas Shop—Mighty Helpful Suggestions of things to buy for Christmas at mere atoms of prices. Sweeping reductions on all holiday goods.

A Rousing Morning Special in the Men's Shop. MEN'S HANDSOME, SMART NEW XMAS NECK-SCARVES AT HALF-PRICE—\$ A M. TO 12 M. Only. A line of Men's \$1.00 Scarves in tan, blue, black, blue, etc.—the newest things—this morning only, special at...

Millinery Salon. To make the last day of the contest a record-breaking one, and, perhaps, a prize-winner, the bargain offerings will consist only of the most desirable and wanted kinds of seasonable millinery, of which the following are but a few: HANDSOME TURBANS WORTH \$5.00 FOR \$3.00. Stylish, shirred velvet turbans made by our own milliners—built on solid, rigid frames in the latest styles and artistically trimmed with fancy feathers, ribbons and ornamental colors in black, brown, blue and red. A good \$8.00 value—special for the last day for only, each, \$3.00.

WIND FANS FIRE. (Continued from Page 1.) tional banks. The fire started in the basement of the store, but its origin is in doubt. The man killed was a tenant in the Massachusetts block, who jumped from the fifth story. His name has not been learned. A large number of Christmas shoppers crowded the Pelletier and other stores, and it was with difficulty that all managed to escape from the burning building. The flames enveloped much of the building before the fire department arrived, and was quite beyond control. For three hours and a half, until they had got beyond range of the large buildings, the flames carried everything in their path. Both telephone companies were put out of business by reason of their wires all being burned out, and the office of the Western Union was destroyed. Although a great number of telephone circuits were within the district, long-distance circuits were later established with outside points. The fire was conquered at 11:30. Fire Spreads Westward. From the Pelletier store the flames spread to the Massachusetts block, on the west, a large six-story building. The fire continued westward, driven by a brisk wind. In the course of their flight, the flames were communicated to a score of other business places located in the building west of the Toy block. Among these were the following, which were entirely destroyed: The Massachusetts building, occupied by seven large stores, including the Gillette Hardware Company, the Pullman Hotel, Johnson & Aronson, clothing and furnishings; Orkin Bros., ladies' furnishings; George Conway, wholesale tobacco and cigars, and the American Express Company. Several families lived in the rear of the buildings, but so far as known all the occupants escaped. The next building destroyed was the Commercial block, in this structure were located the City National Bank, J. B. Brugh, Warfield-Pratt-Howell Company, wholesale grocers; Peavey & Nash, furniture; Dow Clothing Company, Harsted & Halsted, shoes; Theodore Becker Tailoring Company; Wald Hardware Company and the Western Union Telegraph Company. Smaller Buildings in Flames. Leaping across the alley, the fire next spread to the smaller buildings facing Fourth street. These included the North-western National Bank, Selzer Bros., wholesale liquors, and Wagner & Welsh's saloon. Other buildings burned included the Leader Hotel, at Third and Pierce streets; the West Hotel, a new structure at Third and Nebraska streets; Higman & Skinner, wholesale boots and shoes, and a large number of small establishments. When the flames had reached a point near the Tribune building, facing Pierce street, the firemen concentrated their efforts and managed to prevent the destruction of that building, although it was much damaged. The outside departments did not arrive in time to offer material aid. People who suffered from rheumatism have taken Hood's Sarsaparilla and found lasting relief. The Denver & Rio Grande scenery is ever more beautiful in Winter than Summer. Travel East via that line and spend a day in Salt Lake City. Breaks High Score Record. TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 23.—The Tacoma Y. M. C. A. basketball team tonight defeated the Everett Y. M. C. A. team by a score of 19 to 16. This is declared to be the record score of the United States for association teams.