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HOPE GIVEN UP

Russia Admits Her Army's Defeat.

ITS RETREAT SECURE

Valor of Her Soldiers Keeps Way Open.

MOST FEARFUL OF BATTLES

Storm of Lead and Iron Sweeps Whole Vast Plain.

BOTH SIDES CAPTURE GUNS

Russians Lose Big Siege Guns, While Japanese Suffer Loss of Machine Guns—Hunger Attacks the Japanese.

FIGHTING TO COVER RETREAT.

For ten days the Japanese and Russian armies in Manchuria have been engaged in a mighty conflict, the issue of which has not yet been reached. Although most of the news from the scene of battle comes through Russian sources, it is evident that the Japanese made some gains yesterday.

St. Petersburg has an official report that General Kuropatkin's center has been broken and that 12 siege guns have fallen into the hands of the Japanese. These guns, which are of six and eight-inch caliber, were given permanent emplacements on the line of the railroad north of Shakhe station, that fact evidencing the confidence of the Russians that the Japanese could not penetrate further.

It is generally believed that Kuropatkin was yesterday fighting a rear-guard action to cover his retreat, and that the night will have witnessed a large withdrawal of troops toward the Pass. All of the Commander-in-Chief's ability, it is considered, will be required to retreat his army from its present predicament. The issue, it is expected, will be decided today.

LONDON, March 8.—The Daily Mail's correspondent at Tokio says:

Reports are current here that the Russians are in retreat and preparing to destroy the railroad north of Mukden. General Kuropatkin is said to have left to Fushan after holding a council of war of 100 officers.

His left rear-guard, consisting of 20,000 picked troops, is retreating.

Chinese reports that Mukden has been completely evacuated and that its great magazines were set on fire by Japanese artillery.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 8.—(12:15 A. M.)—That the battle of Mukden will go down in history with Liao Yang in the long list of Russian defeats is the almost universal belief in pessimistic St. Petersburg, which has forgotten the meaning of the word "victory."

The War Office does not admit that the issue of the great battle which already exceeds in magnitude of operations and losses that of Shakhe, has been decided, although it is positively stated in high quarters that Kuropatkin has telegraphed to Emperor Nicholas that it will be impossible to hold Mukden and that the withdrawal of the army northward has already begun.

Nothing from General Kuropatkin later than Monday has been given out, but according to St. Petersburg newspapers and dispatches to the Associated Press dated at 6 o'clock last night indicate that the position of the Russian army after a day of furious fighting is desperate, but not absolutely hopeless, some Russian correspondents even predicting a Russian victory soon, and one affirming that the extreme Japanese left has already begun to retire southward. Everything probably now depends on General Kuropatkin's reserves.

Kuropatkin Holds His Own.

While the Japanese hurled themselves forward at every point yesterday, their main energies were behind the blow west and southwest in an attempt to envelop the Russian right and drive a wedge through the line at Madyapu, but General Kuropatkin seems to have been able to successfully change front on the line of his shattered right, and at nightfall it was reported he was practically holding all his positions. At the same time he was drawing in and shortening his line to the southeast. According to reports, all the concentrated attacks of the Japanese to the westward failed and the efforts of General Nogai and Oki to push their encircling movement north and east across General Kuropatkin's line of communications were blocked. Reports, however, are conflicting. One correspondent telegraphs of hearing reports northward toward the Pass, which may have been Cossacks and a flying column of Japanese.

While some Russian correspondents perhaps attach undue importance to several minor Russian successes on the southern front, which evidently were simply counter-attacks and in no sense real offensive movements if Kuropatkin has a plan for striking a real blow upon which, in the opinion of the experts, his salvation depends, there is no indication of such a

purpose as yet. The commander-in-chief has been confining his strategy, as at Liao Yang, to meeting attacks of the Japanese and accepting battle at places chosen by Field Marshal Oyama.

Both sides are terribly exhausted by ten days of continuous fighting.

All Consider Him Beaten.

At the military headquarters here General Kuropatkin is already regarded as beaten. Those who believe there is still a chance of actual Russian victory are few and far between. The majority regard the fighting yesterday as in reality a rear-guard action, entertaining no doubt that there will be a heavy withdrawal during the night.

General Kuropatkin's critics among military men are increasing in number, the burden of complaint being that in every section he has shown lack of initiative.

With defeat now, whether disastrous or otherwise, they declare his star will set. On the other hand, it is believed that Field Marshal Oyama's daring strategy, if successful in this battle, will entitle him to rank as one of the greatest captains of the age.

May Bring Russia to Terms.

Politically the result may determine the question of continuing prosecution of the war. An overwhelming disaster, it is believed, will surely bring Russia to terms, but anything less might not break the stubborn resolution of the government. In its bearing on the internal situation, the result of battle is regarded as equally important.

No exact figures are hazarded as to the losses, although it is evident that they will exceed those of Liao Yang on both sides. According to all accounts, the Japanese, who had attacked, were the heavier losers everywhere except in the west. In the matter of supplying food and ammunition, the Russians, occupying defensive lines, enjoy a greater advantage which may prove decisive at the crucial moment. It is thought that the front dwelling upon the terrible exhaustion and hunger of the Japanese prisoners who have been captured.

OYAMA'S STRATEGY UNVEILED

Russians Fight Like Demons to Prevent His Trap From Closing.

MUKDEN, March 7.—The outlines of Marshal Oyama's strategy have been well defined since March 4. While maintaining a series of energetic attacks on the eastward, the main thrust of the Japanese center, the Japanese made their principal stroke westward, the chief effort being an endeavor to break through the triangle of Ulupu, Madyapu and Ershaitzu, thus severing the eastern army, and a frontal force from Mukden, and at the same time threatening a further advance to the northward to separate the Russian center of the road by which to retreat to the Pass.

Against this plan General Kuropatkin decided to accept battle both on the front and west of Mukden, and ordered an attack beginning at dawn on March 5. There was a terrific artillery fire and a rain of bullets from the batteries. Major-General Terpiatsky's battalions fought with fierce determination, apparently realizing that seven miles in the rear, in Mukden, were his tons of commissary, artillery and hospital supplies.

Japanese Fight Like Madmen.

In the Mukden railway station there was a scene of fearful activity. Trains were moving north and south, while the streets were filled with wounded, indicating the seriousness of the fight that was in progress. The Japanese, like madmen, threw themselves upon the regiment occupying a position east of the old railway embankment and drove it eastward, where the same attack was met by stern resistance. Toward evening the fighting slackened on the railroad and the cannonading was stilled, but in the twilight the Russians, by a brilliant attack, captured Podym and Padaton. Through the utter darkness of night the same regiments were engaged in a series of fights, giving other regiments and batteries in the rear a chance to rest.

Charge Through Hail of Lead.

At dawn on March 6 began a fight long to be remembered in the history of war. It was of terrific grandeur, and might be compared to a vast thunder storm of lead, shrapnel and bullets pelting mercilessly a strip of land 20 miles long and seven miles broad, mowing down victims by thousands, with the explosion of Japanese shells and the scything work of six-inch shells razing whole villages. Through this inferno Japanese and Russians charged and counter-charged by regiments.

Though some of these have been pounded by batteries for six days, they fought with determination and firmness. Regiments were reduced to companies, and companies to squads, but these managed to unite, and with fresh troops took up the fight.

RESISTANCE IS WEAKENING.

Direction of Cannonade Indicates Retreat Is Cut Off.

MUKDEN, March 8.—The situation, so far as the Russian army defending Mukden is concerned, remains most serious, and the resistance is undoubtedly weakening. In fact, it now seems certain that the present contest cannot last another three days, and that the Russian forces will be compelled to retreat, and even another day may finish it.

The center remains firm, but the Russians on the southwest are falling back rapidly, and the several commanders admit that they cannot much longer withstand the rushes of the Japanese, who, regardless of life, are driving back the Russians. Fighting is now general all along the line, and last night's cannonading could be heard to the northward of the city. This is believed here to indicate that the Japanese flanking movement has been successful and that the Russian columns dispatched to maintain the "open road" failed to reach the designated positions in time.

Absolutely no information can be obtained from the Russian Press.

NO PARTY LINES

Santo Domingo Treaty Will Escape Them.

QUICK ACTION ASSURED

Committee Will Report to Senate Without Delay.

CRITICISMS ON PRESIDENT

Bacon Wants Investigation, and Says Authority Was Exceeded in Making Treaty—Morgan Would Investigate Debits.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Without

determining any question of policy in regard to the Santo Domingo treaty, the Senate decided today that the treaty should be reported as soon as possible from the committee on foreign relations and the entire question fought out in executive session. This was the sentiment of the foreign relations committee, as well as the Senate, and in two sessions of the committee the proceedings were with a view to reporting the treaty tomorrow if possible.

The amendments offered in committee were confined to a reduction of an alleged surplus of words. They were offered verbally and taken down by a stenographer. They are to be printed and considered when the committee meets tomorrow. By a tacit understanding, the policy involved in the treaty was not taken up by the committee, and it was understood that the action in submitting amendments in this manner did not commit any Senator to support the treaty. The programme was merely to facilitate action and remove all chance of its being made a party question in the committee.

The prompt action of the foreign relations committee undoubtedly will result in a much earlier decision in the Senate. Nearly every Senator who discussed the treaty today expressed a desire that the measure be kept from becoming a party question. To prevent this Senator Bacon offered to withdraw his resolution offering yesterday that the committee on foreign relations make an investigation of the protocol of an agreement made January 31, 1903, by which the United States undertook to regulate the collection of customs of the Dominican government and pay the claim of the Santo Domingo Improvement Company and modify it.

WITTE HAS RESIGNED OFFICE

Strong Man of Russia Says Czar Shows Lack of Confidence.

BERLIN, March 7.—The Lokal Anzeiger's St. Petersburg correspondent says that M. Witte, president of the Council of Ministers, has tendered his resignation to the Emperor on the plea that the latter has evinced a lack of confidence in him.

VLADIMIR MUST DIE NEXT

Terrorists Lie in Wait for Another Uncle of the Czar.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 7 (4:30 A. M.)—Grand Duke Vladimir, it is reported, has again been marked for assassination by the imperial receipt issued March 3. On account of the receipt issued of several warnings and terrorist notifications, which were doubled and ordered to exercise special watchfulness.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 7.—A report that an attempt had been made by a man in a General's uniform to gain access to Grand Duke Vladimir was incorrect, though the Grand Duke received warnings that such an attempt would be made. There is reason to believe that many of the threats received by him do not emanate directly from terrorists, but from persons actuated by a desire for private vengeance at the loss of loved ones on January 22.

A. M. PALMER DIES SUDDENLY

Famous Theatrical Manager Carried Off by Apoplexy.

NEW YORK, March 7.—A. M. Palmer, the theatrical manager, who was stricken yesterday with apoplexy, died today in a hospital. Mr. Palmer was for years the most prominent theatrical manager in America. He was 57 years of age and had been a native of Connecticut. For 10 years beginning 1872 he was manager of Union-Square Theater, and afterward of Madison-Square Theater and Palmer's Theater. He was a founder and for 18 years president of the Actors' Fund of America, and one of the founders and vice-presidents of the Players' Club of this city. Lately he had been manager for Richard Mansfield.

DR. DAVID MURRAY DEAD.

NEW YORK, March 7.—Dr. David Murray, a well-known educator, is dead at his home in New Brunswick, N. J., aged 72 years. In 1872 Dr. Murray accepted an appointment as Imperial Minister of Education in Japan, where he remained until 1875.

tering upon any plan for their payment. He stated in some particulars that for this country to engage in the business of debt-paying until the obligations of Santo Domingo had been investigated and sifted. To enter upon payment of these debts without any knowledge of their extent or whether they were honest or fraudulent, he contended, would involve this country in untold trouble and controversy with creditors. He took the position that the treaty should not be ratified until such an investigation had been made.

TREATY WILL BE RATIFIED.

Senators Give President Assurances, but They May Amend It.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Before the meeting of the Cabinet today, President Roosevelt received scores of visitors, who merely desired to extend their good wishes.

While the informal reception was in progress, the President incidentally discussed with some of the Senators, who were among his visitors, the treaty with Santo Domingo. The consensus of opinion among the Senators, including Nelson of Iowa, Spooner of Wisconsin, Allison and Clapp of Minnesota, Carter of Montana, Hopkins of Illinois and Hays of North Dakota, was that the treaty would be ratified within a reasonable time. It seems quite likely that the treaty will be amended in some particulars before ratification, but the amendments suggested will not render it ineffective.

KUROKI NEARLY AT MUKDEN

Russians Try to Break Through His Lines, But Are Beaten.

GENERAL KUROKI'S HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD, March 7 (via Fusan).—(Delayed in transmission.)—The tenth day of the Japanese attack finds the battle progressing favorably. Its long duration was expected, and it will probably continue several days more before it is concluded. The Japanese forces have reached nearly to Mukden, within two miles of the railway, and are bombarding strongly.

The Russians everywhere are making a desperate resistance, frequently trying offensive operations and arranging every defensive device of modern warfare. The fighting resembles a siege more than a field battle.

The past two nights there have been fights in front and east of Witosan. The enemy was closely engaged while the Russian batteries shelled the trenches and the action in the morning. The Russian batteries were used to illuminate the battlefield. Hand grenades are employed freely in close fighting.

Last night the Russians attempted to break the Japanese line by crossing the river west of Witosan, but they were repulsed.

TRYING TO HOLD RAILROAD

Bole Purpose of Russian is to Cover Main Army's Retreat.

GENERAL OKU'S HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD, March 8 (via Fusan).—(Delayed in transmission.)—General Oku's army continued the attack on the village in the angle formed by the railway and the Hun river, capturing two of them.

The Russians are making a fierce resistance, desperately attempting to hold the railway until the main army retreats. Both sides have brought into play many heavy guns.

Will Retain Kuropatkin.

LONDON, March 8.—The Times' St. Petersburg correspondent says that according to trustworthy information the majority of the war council is in favor of retaining General Kuropatkin.

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GOTHAM TIED UP

Strike on the Railways Blocks Business.

COLLISION IN THE SUBWAY

Mad Rushes for Seats on Few Trains and Cars.

AUTOMOBILES FILL STREETS

Paralysis of Traffic in Great Metropolis Caused by Almost Total Suspension of Subway and Elevated Roads.

NEW YORK, March 7.—With one

collision in which 29 persons were injured, New York has passed through the first day of the general strike on its rapid transit systems. Besides this accident and some minor casualties due to the abnormal conditions, the sum total of the day was annoyance and vexation to a million or more people usually dependent upon the Interborough lines for transportation to and from business. So far there has been little disorder. Sporadic encounters between individuals, some bad language and the action of a few hoodlums in throwing missiles at passing elevated trains tell the phase of the strike. The annoyance to the multitude was increased by a wet snow, which began falling this afternoon.

Service on the elevated roads and the subway, while not tied up, was crippled badly. Trains were run on irregular schedules in the underground, beginning this morning, and with scarcely any lessening of speed rounded two curves which form a letter "S" more than 100 feet above the ground at 116th street. The train was brought to a stop at 116th street. The motorman was so crazed that he attempted to jump to the street, but was restrained by a policeman. Women fainted and men shouted when the train was in flight.

Thousands of New Men Hired.

Manager Hedley announced this evening that he had secured 5000 men to replace the strikers, or 5000 short of the usual complement. These men came from all parts of the country, a batch of 300 arriving from Philadelphia tonight. Several of the better dressed said they were students of the University of Pennsylvania.

The company is so confident of filling the places of the strikers that it has published a schedule for the subway and elevated roads differing very little from the regular schedule, to take effect tomorrow.

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FIGHT IS FURIOUS

Armies Contend With Savage Ardor.

URGED BY HUNGER

Russians Kiss a Victorious General.

FOOD IS WON BY BAYONETS

Famished Japanese Driven From Meal by Enemy.

RUSSIANS TAKE SMALL GUNS

Plains Swept by Hail of Cannon, Which Levels Villages—Trenches Captured and Recaptured Again and Again.

MUKDEN, March 7 (4:35 P. M.)—

Fighting of the fiercest kind, which is likely to decide the fate of the battle which has been in progress for ten days, began at dawn today and has continued uninterruptedly up to the present time on a front 14 miles long, west of the railroad and on a line with the Shakhe River. The Japanese also have made a desperate attack on Bentshikupuz, and reports are arriving here that fighting was renewed this morning on the extreme left of the Russian army.

Both sides are fighting with desperation to the westward, though the troops are well exhausted. The issue of the battle may depend largely on the relative physical condition of the rank and file. In its main features the combat is very much like that at Liao Yang, and if the Russians should be able to crush the flanking force victory may be regarded as won.

The losses in the ten days of battle on both sides are always far greater than were the casualties in the battle of Liao Yang, and are likely to increase as the days pass before the issue is fully decided.

Beginning at 2 o'clock A. M. the Japanese made a succession of desperate attacks on General Terpiatsky's division, on the west front, south of Mukden, repeating the assault at intervals of two hours with constant reinforcements. About 50,000 Japanese, with 200 pieces of artillery, participated. All the attacks were repulsed, there being enormous losses on both sides.

Kias Victorious General.

One extremely important position changed hands several times. Finally General Terpiatsky, on horseback, placing himself at the head of his troops, led his regiments to the attack, with colors flying and music playing. The attack was successful. After it was over the victorious soldiers crowded around Terpiatsky, shouting praises and even kissing his hands and feet. The Russians captured several quick-firing guns and many Japanese prisoners, including officers.

It was reported that Major-General Gornogorov, of the East Siberian Flotilla, toward evening had taken greater losses from the west front. The majority of them are wounded, and all appear downcast and ravenous, many of them crying.

Battle for a Breakfast.

Monday night the Japanese attacked Yenbhelu, Alanpu and Ershaitzu and also made four furious attacks on the village of Lohantun early this morning. On the fourth attack the Japanese were temporarily successful in driving out the Russians and rushed directly toward the field kitchens, where the morning meal was being prepared, and commenced to bolt the food. The Russian troops, however, with a shout of "Save our dinner, brothers!" fell upon the Japanese like a hurricane and drove them out of the village at the point of the bayonet.

A captured Japanese said they had had nothing to eat since Sunday and they had been told this morning either to capture the Russians' dinner or starve.

At Erdogur, on the center, a regiment of Chasseurs made a night attack, but the Russians were caught by the Japanese flank and many of them were killed, 59 being captured.

At Bentshikupuz the Japanese stormed as far as the wire entanglements, but were repulsed with great loss.

Japanese Guns Captured.

An attack on the east front early this morning resulted in the capture of several Japanese positions near Oubensupua and the seizing of two Japanese quick-firing guns. The Japanese made

(Continued on Fourth Page.)