

SHUTS OUT RIVALS

Standard's Deal With Railroads Betrayed.

RATES PUT BEYOND REACH

Oil Monopoly Paid Railroads for Forcing All Kansas Oil Through Its Pipe Lines—No Private Tank Cars.

TOPEKA, Kan., March 9.—In the hearing of the recharter suit against the Santa Fe, ex-Attorney-General Monett, of Ohio, introduced a letter purporting to come from a former employee of the Standard Oil Company at Joplin, Mo. The letter alleges that upon the completion of the Standard Oil Company's pipe lines an agreement was entered into between the Standard and the Santa Fe, the Missouri Pacific, the M. K. & T. Railway, and possibly others, whereby the tariff for the transportation of oil over these railway lines should be placed at an exorbitant and prohibitive figure. The railways were to profit from this transaction through distribution among the railways of 19 cents on every barrel of oil run through the Standard's pipe lines.

This made it impossible for the independent companies to ship crude oil and had the effect of eliminating competition with the Standard Oil Company. The theory is that the Standard made the producer stand this expense by reducing the price of crude petroleum a corresponding amount. Evidence was brought out today in the testimony of W. J. Healy, auditor of freight receipts of the Santa Fe Railroad, which indicates one form of discrimination which the railroads impose upon competitors of the Standard Oil Company. The following paragraph from a circular letter of the trans-Missouri freight bureau, containing rules regulating freight traffic on the lines within the jurisdiction of that bureau, explains the discrimination:

"Hereafter the shipments of petroleum and the products of petroleum in tank cars will only be received when destined to consignees who have storage tanks or facilities for the prompt releasing and unloading of the tank cars.

"Can you tell me why the rule prohibiting the acceptance of oil consigned to the parties who have no storage tanks was adopted?" asked Mr. Monett of Mr. Healy.

"To provide against the detention of the tank car as a storage tank at its destination."

"Would private tank cars owned by Webster's refinery, at Humboldt, or any important refinery, be accepted for shipment, if consigned to a destination where there would be no storage tank to receive the load?"

"No; the consignee must have capacity to take care of the load, in order not to detain the equipment."

During the course of the examination it was brought out that the railroads refused to accept demurrage charges on tank cars which were not unloaded within a specified time. It was also brought out that demurrage charges were collected on cars containing other commodities which were not unloaded by any consignee at any point.

RUINS KANSAS OIL OPERATORS

Effect of Standard Edict Against Low-Grade Oil.

CHANDLER, Kan., March 9.—The order of the Prairie Oil & Gas Company, run no more oil below 30 degrees, which practically means a renewal of the boycott of the Kansas field, will, it is believed, result disastrously to these individuals and companies which, figuring on a return of full buying and better operations, have resumed operations. E. C. Martin, president of the investment producers in the field, said: "It is another act of defiance. It is another effort to crowd the Kansas producer to the wall. It will bring independent refiners here and make a market for fuel oil."

HE WANTS A KENTUCKY WIFE

Baker County Man Tries to Use Postmaster as Matrimonial Agent.

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky., March 7.—Postmaster Broadbent has received the following interesting letter from a former resident of Kentucky, who for several years has resided in Oregon. Mr. Broadbent was unable to comply with the request contained in it, so he gave it to a local newspaper for publication. The letter reads: "Ezra, Ore., Feb. the 5, 1905.—Mr. Postmaster: Will you please hand this note to some old tobacco raiser. I want 5 dollars worth of home made tobacco from old K. Y. for chewing. I want an old tobacco pipe and a tin of snuff. I want to pay what it is worth. Would like it if it is twisted. Whoever gets this note answer at once. I use to live in K. Y., in Livingston co., and in the town of good old mild or a widowed lady a few years ago told me to write to me if they want to change their name for a better one. I was married once in K. Y. I got my license at Smithland, was married in love's chapel, close to carville. I got a fine lady. I want a mother one from old K. Y., who are the people and most respected. Believe me, your friend. "A. J. BESS."

Breakers of Parole Captured.

NIUCHWANG, March 9.—Japanese soldiers last night surrounded the European Hotel here and captured four Russians. One of them claims to be a German, and it is suspected that he is a parole-breaker from Port Arthur.

TIE PASS IN MANCHURIA



WHERE KUROPATKIN EXPECTS TO MAKE HIS NEXT STAND AND WHERE THE JAPANESE ARE SAID TO HAVE SURROUNDED PART OF HIS ARMY.

TRAP IS CLOSED

(Continued from First Page.)

most energetic attacks south of the Hun River. It is rumored that they have transferred thither some of their forces from the northwest in anticipation of a night attack.

The Russian forces in the district of Teanvanche, north of the Mukden station, rested under arms throughout the night. Shortly before dawn a large Japanese force approached the Sottratz regiment. This regiment allowed the Japanese to approach within 200 paces and then discharged a volley from its rifles and opened on them with quick-fire guns, simply mowing down the Japanese, who were routed.

Among the prisoners brought in on Wednesday were a number of privates in new uniforms who were from a recently organized Japanese reserve division. There is reason to believe that another division is being landed in the northern part of Corea for the purpose of making a demonstration against Vladivostok.

On Wednesday there were furious attacks northwest of Mukden against the villages of Santaitz, Tangshihun and Ushuntun. These attacks were all repulsed.

The wind today attained hurricane force. The soldiers are covered with mud and dirt, so that their faces are scarcely recognizable. General Kuropatkin and his staff are in little better plight.

Civilians are streaming northward out of Mukden.

TENTH DAY OF GREAT BATTLE

Struggle Becomes Test of Endurance—Fanatic Pluck of Japanese.

MUKDEN, March 9 (4 A. M.).—Militant closed the tenth day of the titanic struggle for the possession of Mukden and the mastery of a great empire; the tenth day of unceasing conflict under exploding shrapnel, the roar of cannon and the whistling of bullets; the tenth day without sleep and without food. The combat is fast reaching a point where it is a question not so much of turning columns, of tactics and of strategy as of whose strength, energy and cartridges will last the longer.

Gray-coated Russians, patient, uncomplaining, strong of soul, cling doggedly to positions against an enemy whose attacks go to the very point of insanity and desperation. For 48 hours the Japanese have not eaten. They are starving and exhausted, but Field Marshal Oyama himself has told them that the city will fall and the slaughter stop on Friday and their confidence in their leader increased their strength tenfold.

On Wednesday, when the Russians took Ushuntun, a few dozen Japanese clung to the thick-walled temple and were brought to surrender. Cannon were fired up and breached the walls, but the dauntless courage of the defenders continued under the fire and finally, when defense was hopeless, they blew themselves skyward with the ruins of the temple. One survivor, rather than surrender, threw himself into a stone-miner's well and perished.

Iron Band Closes Tighter.

The interior leaders are as unshrinking themselves as of the men whom they led to death. Sern Oyama drives and drives his troops northward toward the city. With every fresh flanking movement the iron band closes nearer the railroad and under this menace the first and third armies were forced last night to abandon the mighty fortification on the Shauke River, give up the impregnable Pushoff Hill and retire to the line of the Hun River.

Today the Japanese are pushing their columns north and northeast, bombarding villages which are keys of the defense, and hurling men, some of them veterans of years' campaigning and others middle-aged reserves fresh from Japan, against Russian positions. Often

they are repulsed and some times they master the advanced line, but at enormous cost.

Individuals and small parties have reached the railroad, but the telegraph wires and telegraph lines are so damaged that they are quickly repaired and the perpetrators usually killed or wounded.

Around the village of Pachiatzu there raged a fierce struggle. A veteran regiment of the Imperial Rifles distinguished itself especially.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sapoznik, a brilliant and beloved officer, one of the heroes of Liao Yang, was killed at Pachiatzu.

Sits Amid Hall of Shells.

Just behind Pachiatzu, under the shadow of a clump of pines, in the park of the Imperial Tomb, sits the commander of another division, Colonel Lantitz, directing the attack on Santaitze and the defense of Ushuntun. With a swish like that of the silken skirts of a well-dressed woman, shimee shells hurtle past and small bullets whistle by. Every few minutes the bell of the telephone at his feet jingles and he reports to the commander of the army. Now a Cosack orderly gallops up and reports that the Russian troops are leaving Pachiatzu; that the Japanese have seized the village and with it the bodies of Sapoznik and half his regiment.

Another of the dead is Prince Mookoff, commander of the same regiment.

The Russians appear to be gaining ground, but in an instant of comparative stillness is heard the muffled thud and shuffle of the feet of Japanese reserves advancing on the Russians to restore the balance. Unusually sleeps Mukden tonight. The cool night is full of the low rustle of movement. Near the station in overfilled hospitals are heard low groans.

The wounded arrive in a never-ceasing stream of carts. The eternal piles of straw above the tombs of the Chinese Emperors. In the fields watchfires are burning. The sky is lighted with the glare of burning stores and evacuated villages. The forces are gathering for today's fight.

CAN ONLY SAVE A REMNANT

British Military Critics Say Russian Doom Is Sealed.

LONDON, March 9.—In the opinion of English military critics, General Kuropatkin's forces are doomed to complete disaster. Careful study of all the possible avenues of escape and the disposition of the victorious Japanese armies leads to the conclusion that the best Kuropatkin can hope is to save a mere remnant of his army after devoting whole divisions to slaughter. Much importance is attached to General Kamamura's mysterious unlocated army, which is momentarily expected to complete the closing in of the net around the defeated host by appearing somewhere in the extreme east, in the neighborhood of Yingfan, thus blocking the sole remaining route from Yingfan to Tie Pass.

WHOLE LINE WAS EVACUATED

Delayed Telegram Tells of Russian Flight From Shakhe.

MUKDEN, March 9.—(Noon, delayed in transmission.)—An artillery demonstration south of Mukden began at 10 o'clock Tuesday night, and the evacuation of the entire Shauke-Machun position occurred at midnight.

General Rennenkampf on the east, who had been attacking eight consecutive days and who had been holding his own with other commanders, desired to be permitted to remain in the position.

The Japanese are advancing to the Hun, where the Russians will have no difficulty in making a stand.

The telegraph is now at all times threatened and this morning it was reported to have been broken.

NORTH FRONT IS ATTACKED

Russians Invent New Name for Vanguard of Retreat.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 9.—The general staff has received the following dispatch from General Kuropatkin, chief of staff, dated today: "Several fierce attacks on our northern front were made during the night. They were all repulsed. In other directions no night was quiet."

(General Sakharoff's reference to the Russian "north front" would seem to indicate that a Japanese force is between Mukden and Tie Pass. Though the Japanese may have cut the telegraph lines along the railroad, it is possible that field telegraph lines have been run between Pushun, where Kuropatkin may have his headquarters, and Tie Pass, thus accounting for the seeming conflict in the advice from Tokio and St. Petersburg regarding the severance of the Russian line of communications.)

DESTROY RAILROAD TO NORTH

Japanese Close in on Enemy's Line of Retreat.

TOKIO, March 9 (4 P. M.).—The headquarters of the Japanese armies in the field reported today as follows: "In the Sinking (Yenden) direction, our force, after defeating the enemy at the Shauke River, is still pursuing him in the direction of the enemy's headquarters, and dislodged the enemy from his positions, pressing his force toward the Hun River."

The whole district west of the railroad and south of the Hun River is in our hands. On the right bank of the Hun River the operations continue. The enemy in the neighborhood of Tangshihun and Likuangao still makes a stubborn resistance. The enemy made several counter-attacks, but were repulsed, and we inflicted heavy loss. Our force is now pressing the enemy toward Mukden.

In the district north of Mukden, despite the enemy's obstinate resistance, we have secured the possession of a northwest of Mukden; Pachiatzu, six miles northeast of Shaochihun, and Santaitze, five miles north of Mukden. Our forces destroyed the railroad north of Mukden."

A second dispatch received from headquarters says: "The enemy has frequently and fiercely shelled our killed and wounded, who were being removed on stretchers and in carriages from Ninkuantan, near Yangshihun."

KUROPATKIN'S MANY FRONTS

He Says Japanese Are Attacking Each of Them.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 9.—A dispatch from General Kuropatkin, dated March 8, says: "On the right bank of the Hun River, the enemy has assumed the offensive toward Mukden from the northwest and the north."

"On the eastern and left flank of our armies have fallen back without fighting on the entrenched positions on the right bank of the Hun River."

"The enemy attacked us on the north front, driving small detachments of outposts from the village of Padiasi, about two miles northwest of the village of Trestian."

"During the fight Colonel Sapoznik, knight of the Order of St. George, was killed. He had distinguished himself by his gallantry."

The attacks of the enemy on one of the Russian positions in North Mukden have been repulsed with heavy Japanese losses."

"On the west front the enemy attacked our positions near the village of Niustuan, but were driven back."

"In the attack on our center we captured a large number of prisoners. They were not fighting elsewhere during the day."

HURRYING TO UNITE WITH NOGI

Kuroki's Flying Column Moving West Towards Railroad.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 9 (6:40 P. M.).—The most important known development of the day is the report that a flying Japanese column is appearing northwest of Mukden and is heading rapidly west. This probably is part of General Kuroki's army, which is making a detour by forced marches, and swinging around to effect a junction with General Nogi. If the maneuver succeeds the net will be closed.

It is said here that General Kuropatkin, his headquarters, is now at Pankiating Station on the railroad, ten miles below Tie Pass. The general staff admits that the carriage in the battle will probably succeed anything in modern warfare, although the staff officers insist that the

Japanese must have sustained the heaviest losses. The Russians believe they surely will reach 50,000.

In addition to the Eastern Chinese Railway and the Mandarin road, it turns out that the Russians have a narrow-gauge railroad connecting Mukden with Tie Pass, over which to effect their withdrawal from their positions.

WHOLE ARMY IS SURROUNDED

Nogi and Oku Combine to Trap Eighty Thousand Russians.

NIUCHWANG, March 9, via Tientsin.—The Russians have not been reinforced from the direction of Harbin since March 1.

General Nogi's army made a forced march of 25 miles daily, and arrived in conjunction with General Oku's army, surrounded 80,000 Russians in the direction of Tie Pass and cut off their supplies.

The hurrying Japanese armies passed a division of Russians without giving it any attention until the enveloping movement was completed, when they crushingly attacked the Russians on all sides.

JAPANESE HARASS RETREAT.

Fierce Fight North of Hun River—Confusion Among Russians.

WITH THE JAPANESE LEFT ARMY, Wednesday, March 9, noon, via Fushun. March 9.—The left armies have cut and destroyed the railroad between Mukden and Tie Pass. Details are not obtainable at present. The Russians are in retreat over the northern roads. The column of these armies is at Likampu, seven miles north of the Hun River and five miles west of the railroad, and has had a fierce fight with a Russian force three times its number. The Russian casualties number 10,000. The Russian center is retreating in great confusion.

HAVE INVESTED TIE PASS.

Japanese Talk of Forcing Kuropatkin to Surrender in a Week.

NIUCHWANG, March 9, via Tientsin.—It is reported here that Tie Pass has been invested by the Japanese and that General Kuropatkin, having no alternative, will probably be forced to surrender within a week.

Hills Stormed in Silence.

GEN. RENNENKAMPFF'S HEADQUARTERS, Madyan, Manchuria, Tuesday, March 7 (morning).—In pursuance to orders to retake at any cost the positions at Oubenshan lost at nightfall, the Russians at midnight stormed and recaptured the hills in the center. A wild review preceded the attack as the regiments selected for this service filed past General Rennenkampff. In doing silence, with pale, set faces illuminated by the rays of the moon. As the last set of fours passed the General turned his horse and said, "Send me word when you succeed."

His confidence was justified, for without a shout or firing a shot the storming column swept like a tidal wave over the successive ridges covering the hills. Among the Russian and Japanese dead on the hills was a Japanese General in full uniform.

Have Been Fleeing Since Monday.

NIUCHWANG, Wednesday, March 9.—(Midnight).—Chinese refugees report that a general Russian retreat towards Tie Pass began Monday. The Russians fighting a rear-guard action northwest of Mukden, the whole front is said to be honeycombed with mines, and this fact is expected to hasten the march of the Japanese. The Russians on the right attempted a counter-attack, but it was repulsed.

The Japanese have a large force at Taira, on the main road, 15 miles north of Fushun, and a larger force to the northwest on both sides of the railroad.

Early this morning the Japanese captured Chinese couriers carrying route notes and beheaded them at Laopien.

Russians Again Driven Back.

MUKDEN, March 9.—No news was received today from the Eastern army. Throughout yesterday the Japanese attacked from the west and north. The Russian division on the extreme right was hard pressed, and during the night the pressure of the Japanese, who were reinforced and who placed an additional battery in position, became so great that the division had to retire. The adjoining division on its left also retired.

The night did not pass uneventfully. There was heavy rifle fire, and the Japanese during the night blew up the huts in that part of the village of Ushuntun occupied by them at midnight. They then retired. This morning matters generally were quiet in that quarter.

Threaten to Seize Railroad.

TIENTSIN, March 9 (2 P. M.).—The Japanese have requested the transportation of 600 tons of rice to Simintin. Unless the request is complied with the Japanese threaten to seize the railroad. It is believed to be a test of Russia's constant shipment of wheat and coal to Simintin was not interfered with, and the Japanese demand impartiality. Today they again seized the telegraph office at Simintin.

Japanese Reach Railroad.

MUKDEN, March 9 (noon).—The Japanese during the night broke through the Russian lines, reached the railroad and slightly damaged the line. The Russians later drove them away. The line was repaired and traffic resumed.

Early this morning heavy fighting was in progress against the Russian right flank division, and a report was received of the presence of columns of Japanese far northward and marching westward.

Kuropatkin's Line of Retreat.

PARIS, March 9.—Mr. Burget, the military critic of the Temps, and chief apologist for Kuropatkin, asserts that the Russian plan contemplates a steady withdrawal northward through Fushun, where the mountain defiles offer natural advantages for a retrograde movement. He further declares that the first and third armies will slowly evacuate Fushun, leaving a rear guard to contest the Japanese pursuit through the defiles.

Respect Chinese Superstition.

TOKIO, March 9 (Noon).—Field Marshal Oyama, in an order directing the pursuit of the retreating Russians yesterday, prohibited his troops from entering Mukden en masse, in order to preserve respect for the tombs and sacred places of the Imperial Chinese household and to protect the welfare of the inhabitants.

New Russian Loan is Deferred.

PARIS, March 9.—One of the banks forming the syndicate which is floating the new Russian loan said today that the negotiations in Paris and St. Petersburg were practically completed, excepting the details. However, he added, the issuance of the loan will not occur before May, and may be further deferred. The amount is now fixed at \$100,000,000. The rate will probably be a shade higher than 4 1/2 per cent. This and other conditions are still under discussion, as the French bankers insist that the conditions should be exceptionally favorable, in order to secure a ready sale of the bonds. In the meantime the syndicate has privately underwritten the entire amount of the loan, which will not be offered to the public until its formal issuance.

Backache, "The Blues"

Both Symptoms of Organic Derangement in Women—Thousands of Sufferers Find Relief.



How often do we hear women say: "It seems as though my back would break," or "Don't speak to me, I am all out of sorts." These significant remarks prove that the system requires attention. Backache and "the blues" are direct symptoms of an inward trouble which will sooner or later declare itself. It may be caused by diseased kidneys or some uterine derangement. Nature requires assistance and at once, and Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound instantly asserts its curative powers in all those peculiar ailments of women. It has been the standby of intelligent American women for twenty years, and the ablest specialists agree that it is the most universally successful remedy for women's ills known to medicine.

The following letters from Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Cotrely are among the many thousands which Mrs. Pinkham has received this year from those whom she has relieved.

"I have suffered everything with backache and womb trouble—I let the trouble run on until my system was in such a condition that I was unable to be about, and then it was commenced to use Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. If I had only known how much suffering I would have saved, I should have taken it months sooner—for a few weeks' treatment made me well and strong. My backaches and headaches are all gone and I suffer no pain at my menstrual periods, whereas before I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I suffered intense pain."

Mrs. Emma Cotrely, 109 East 12th Street, New York City, writes:

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FREE ADVICE TO WOMEN.

Remember, every woman is cordially invited to write to Mrs. Pinkham if there is anything about her symptoms she does not understand. Mrs. Pinkham's address is Lynn, Mass., her advice is free and cheerfully given to every ailing woman who asks for it. Her advice and medicine have restored to health more than one hundred thousand women.

JAPANESE ADVANCE ON MUKDEN.

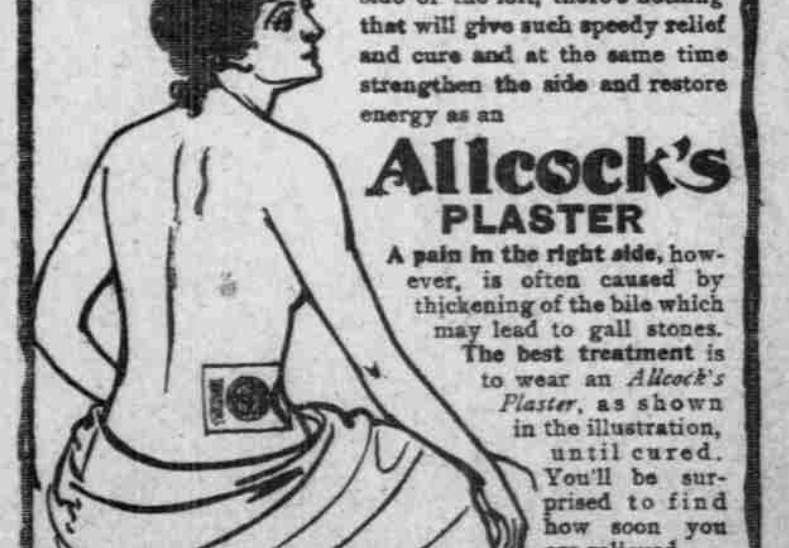
WITH THE JAPANESE LEFT ARMIES, Tuesday, March 7 (8 P. M.), via Fushun, March 9.—The Japanese made two attacks today on the village at the angle of the railroad and the Hun River. The Russians are making a strong resistance in a Japan village in this vicinity, and are burning large quantities of supplies. A movement of the Russians northward was visible this afternoon. It is uncertain whether it is a retreat or a reinforcement of the right wing. The Japanese left armies advanced perceptibly during the plain in the direction of Mukden during the afternoon. A heavy artillery fire continues this evening.

BABY'S VOICE

Is the joy of the household, for without it no happiness can be complete. How sweet the picture of mother and babe, angels smile at and commend the thoughts and aspirations of the mother bending over the cradle. The ordeal through which the expectant mother must pass, however, is so full of danger and suffering that she looks forward to the hour when she shall feel the exquisite thrill of motherhood with indescribable dread and fear. Every woman should know that the danger, pain and horror of child-birth can be entirely avoided by the use of Mother's Friend, a scientific liniment for external use only, which toughens and renders pliable all the parts, and assists nature in its sublime work. By its aid thousands of women have passed this great crisis in perfect safety and without pain. Sold at \$1.00 per bottle by druggists. Our book of priceless value to all women sent free. Address BRADFIELD REGULATOR CO., Atlanta, Ga.

MOTHER'S FRIEND

THAT PAIN IN THE SIDE



No matter whether in the right side or the left, there's nothing that will give such speedy relief and cure and at the same time strengthen the side and restore energy as an Alcock's PLASTER. A pain in the right side, however, is often caused by thickening of the bile which may lead to gall stones. The best treatment is to wear an Alcock's Plaster, as shown in the illustration, until cured. You'll be surprised to find how soon you are relieved.

Alcock's Plasters are not an experiment—they are a standard remedy; have been used by the American people for over 55 years; have been imitated but never equalled and are without question the most successful external remedy in the world to-day, and the safest, for they contain no belladonna, opium or any poison whatever.

Insist Upon Having Alcock's.