

TAKES REFUGE IN A CHINESE BAY

Russian Fleet Is Said Now to Be to the North of Hongkong.

JAPAN PROTESTS TO CHINA

Tells Government to Order the Vessels of the Czar to Leave for the Open Sea at Once.

SPECIAL CABLE.

HONG KONG, April 18.—It is reported here that the Chinese government has received information that the Russian fleet under command of Admiral Rojostevsky has taken refuge in a bay on the Chinese coast north of Hong Kong.

It is stated that the Japanese government has made an urgent demand that the Chinese government send word to the Russians to get out at once, and also that Japan has told China that she will be held strictly accountable should the Russians use neutral harbors for the purpose of taking on stores or resting.

A report is in circulation here, but is not confirmed, that the American Maru, a Japanese scouting ship, has been damaged as the result of a conflict with a Russian cruiser. It is impossible to trace the origin of this rumor.

Sighted Off Hongkong.

PARIS, April 18.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg to the Echo de Paris states that Vice-Admiral Rojostevsky, with a portion of his squadron, has been sighted off Hongkong, sailing northeast. This is not confirmed from other sources.

QUESTION OF NEUTRALITY.

London Papers Are Discussing the Kamranh Bay Incident.

LONDON, April 18.—In the absence of further information regarding the position of the Russian and Japanese fleets, the London morning papers are keenly discussing the neutrality questions, for the most part in a strong pro-Japanese tone. The Morning Post takes the milder view that Kamranh Bay is a mere fishing port and unable to provide coal and other supplies to the Russian squadron, which probably took shelter there to replenish from its own coaling, and that though a technical breach of neutrality had been committed, the French authorities could hardly be held responsible unless it can be proved that they had previous knowledge of Rojostevsky's intentions.

AT ANCHOR IN KAMRANH BAY

Russian Vessels Are Coaling and Revictualing.

SAIGON, April 17.—It is reported here that Admiral Rojostevsky's squadron is at anchor in Kamranh Bay, where the ships are coaling and revictualing. Kamranh Bay is a port on the east coast of Cochinchina, north of here.

COAL SHIPS ARE CAPTURED

Japanese Make Seizure Off Cochinchina Coast.

SAIGON, April 17.—The Japanese recently captured a large number of colliers off the coast of Cochinchina. Six men, supposed to be Japanese, landed some days ago at Cape St. James, near there, from an Annamese junk, and after a brief stay re-embarked.

Seen at Turan Bay.

LONDON, April 17.—A special dispatch from Hong Kong says that a portion of the Russian fleet was seen yesterday at Turan Bay, about 50 miles north of Kamranh Bay.

British Steamer Confiscated.

NAGASAKI, April 17.—The appeal in the case of the British steamer Nereida, seized by the Japanese cruiser Tashima December 26, off the coast of Korea, and condemned as a prize, January 5, has been rejected. The vessel and her cargo have been confiscated.

Plank Saves Sailor's Life.

SAIGON, April 17.—The Russian sailor who fell overboard in the Straits of Malacca, and who was rescued 12 hours later on a plank, was brought to Saigon, whence he has joined the squadron.

Japan's Fifth Home Loan.

LONDON, April 18.—The correspondent at Tokio of the Standard says that a fifth domestic loan of \$50,000,000 has been satisfactorily arranged on the same terms as the fourth domestic loan.

Torpedo-Boats Shipped East.

SEVASTOPOL, April 17.—Several torpedo-boats which left St. Petersburg, N. Y., have been shipped up here have been completed and getting up to Vladivostok.

Included in Defense Zone.

TOKIO, April 18.—The navy department today declared Tsuruga Straits a zone of defense, with the usual maritime restrictions.

tack the Russian vessels without violating France's neutrality. Many persons continue to believe the Russian squadron will speedily leave Kamranh Bay and continue its voyage northward.

Halts to Get Information.

PARIS, April 17.—The dispatch from Saigon announcing the presence of Russian warships at Kamranh Bay is considered as showing that Admiral Rojostevsky is not moving northward as fast as expected. The fact that Admiral de Jonquieres, the French naval commander at Saigon, is proceeding to Kamranh Bay, and the departure from Saigon last night of a vessel having on board a cargo of Russian stores combine to indicate that the Russian rendezvous is not far distant from Saigon, and that probably it is in or near Kamranh Bay.

The officials here say that no governmental dispatches have been received. They have been, however, informed that the Russian squadron was off the coast of Indo-China two days ago, but are positive that the squadron is now farther north, probably sheltering along the coast of Annam. This locality is considered particularly dangerous, owing to the rocky coast, the currents and the prevalence of tropical storms.

The appearance of a case of beriberi at Saigon causes apprehension, as the malady resembles yellow fever and is similarly infectious.

The object of the Russian squadron was due to Admiral Rojostevsky's desire to have an opportunity to communicate with St. Petersburg and gather information regarding the movements of the Japanese.

Chance to Whip Togo.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 17.—A high Admiral expressed to the Associated Press today the firm conviction that Admiral Togo would not give battle near the Pescadore Islands, Furmooa Straits. He said:

"It would be a great tactical error to concentrate his squadron 800 miles from Japan and run the risk of having Rojostevsky slip by when, by remaining in home waters, Rojostevsky must come to him in order to reach his only base, Vladivostok.

"All the Tokio dispatches about the proclamation of martial law in the Pescadore Islands and the probable presence of a Japanese squadron in Formosan waters are serious bluffs. We do not know Rojostevsky's plans. He has worked them out himself, and knowing the Admiral, as I do, his own flag Captain was probably in the dark when he entered the China Sea.

"We have complete confidence in Rojostevsky's resourcefulness. He labors under disadvantages so far as the speed of his vessels is concerned, but the reports of the condition of his ships and crews and the latter's skill in gunnery as shown by their target practice are better than we considered possible, and we firmly believe he has more than a fighting chance of whipping Togo in an open field."

Guards Against Torpedo-Boats.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 17 (U. S. A. M.).—The news that vessels of the Russian squadron have put into Kamranh Bay, north of Cape Padaran, off the east coast of Cochinchina, bears out statements contained in these dispatches a week ago to the effect that Admiral Rojostevsky probably would seek shelter off that part of the Cochinchina coast, and there coal and make his final preparations before embarking on the final stage of his journey. No definite information is obtainable as to the length of the squadron's stay at Kamranh Bay, or whether the warships have already sailed. The Admiral, even if it knows, being naturally silent on this point.

"You must be sure," said an officer, "that every precaution will be taken against a torpedo attack. Rojostevsky can be relied upon to protect his ships."

Among naval men the idea that Admiral Rojostevsky has divided his squadron is not entertained.

Sighted Three Dozen Vessels.

HONG KONG, April 17.—The German steamer Brunhilde arrived here today from Singapore and reported that she was stopped for two hours by three Russian cruisers, April 14, 30 miles north of Cape Padaran. The Brunhilde sighted altogether about 33 vessels steaming northwest at ten knots. The ships appeared to be in good condition. A report is current that a portion of the Russian squadron has reached a bay in Chinese waters northward of Hong Kong.

Cape Padaran is off the east coast of Cochinchina, not far south of Kamranh Bay, where it is reported a number of Russian warships are anchored and revictualing.

Tells of Cavalry Skirmish.

TOKIO, April 17 (2:30 P. M.).—The following official report was issued today from the headquarters of the Japanese armies in Manchuria:

"On the night of April 15 five squadrons of the enemy's cavalry entered Sanyuen-shan on the Fakoman-Pengtung road. Our forces made a night attack and captured the enemy northward. The enemy was panic-stricken and left eight men dead on the field. Our losses were two men killed."

"Frequent collisions between cavalry are occurring at various places. Otherwise there has been no material change in the situation."

Sighted No War Vessels.

LABUAN, Borneo, April 17.—The United States torpedo-boat-destroyers Barry and Chauncey arrived here this morning from the Philippines to join the United States cruiser Raleigh, which, however, had already left. The destroyers did not sight any Russian or Japanese vessels.

(The Raleigh left Loban, heading north, on the morning of April 14.)

SESSION AT NIGHT

Commissioner Garfield Investigates Standard Oil.

COMING TO PACIFIC COAST

Conditions in Texas Will Be Looked Into and the Work Undertaken Then Will Be Completed in Kansas.

INDEPENDENCE, Kan., April 17.—Commissioner Garfield is holding a night session in the office of Secretary Parker, of the Kansas Oil Producers' Association. A number of oilmen are being examined as to the methods of the Standard Oil Company in this state.

Mr. Garfield will go to Neodesha tomorrow and return here on Wednesday. He will go to Kansas City Wednesday night and expects to leave for a few days for California. On the return from the coast he will investigate conditions in Texas and complete his work in Kansas. He will then go East and investigate Eastern fields.

Jewett's Answer Is Filed.

TOPEKA, Kan., April 17.—Mullvane & Gault, attorneys for Warden E. Jewett, today filed Warden Jewett's answer in the oil refinery case, being the mandamus suit brought by Attorney-General Coleman against Jewett today and Kelley and Warden Jewett to issue the oil refinery bonds. Among other causes, the answer sets forth that the oil refinery law is unconstitutional for a number of reasons.

"That it does not directly appropriate the taxes provided therefor; that it creates a public debt which is not a public improvement or an expense of government; that it makes the state a party to the work of internal improvement; that it is against the Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, in that it interferes with private business; that the branch Penitentiary is only a subterfuge, and that the real object of the law is to build the oil refinery."

One Day at Independence.

INDEPENDENCE, Kan., April 17.—James R. Garfield, Commissioner of Corporations, arrived here early today and began his search for facts and figures bearing on the oil cases.

Officials of the Prairie Oil & Gas Company, a branch of the Standard Oil Company, assured Mr. Garfield that they would gladly furnish him all the information they had and tendered him the services of their office force to assist him. Mr. Garfield spent the day in the office of the Prairie Oil Company, going over the concern's books.

"We are getting a great deal of information," Mr. Garfield said. "We are finding the facts and that is what we came for."

SHORTS IS IN THE SADDLE

New President of Panama Railway Expected to Make Good Showing.

NEW YORK, April 17.—The following new board of directors of the Panama Railroad Company was elected today: Theodore P. Shonts, J. F. Wallace, Charles E. Magoon, Mordecai T. Endicott, E. H. Hains, E. M. Harrod, O. R. Ergey, William N. Crowley, William B. Parsons, Clarence R. Edwards, J. B. Oldfield, R. L. Farnham and Edward A. Drake.

It is understood that Mr. Shonts will be elected to the presidency of the reorganized company. The new board went into executive session immediately upon its election to organize. Secretary Taft left the city about that time, stating his intention to return immediately to Washington. It is understood that practically all of the stock of the railroad company is now in the hands of the Government. Before leaving for Washington Secretary Taft said:

"With Mr. Shonts at the head of the Panama Railroad Company, it is certain that its affairs will be conducted most satisfactorily. His experience as a railroad man will enable him to operate this railroad just as the Panama Canal may desire, while the work of construction is in progress. The tire official board of the company will be comprised of either members of the Panama Commission or of men who are interested in the work of constructing the canal."

"I expect that the canal commission will have concluded its investigation of conditions and will be able to report its plans and recommendations to Congress in December. It is the intention of the Administration to have appointed at an early date a board of consulting engineers, which will advise on the work we desire to have on this board a representative from Germany, France and England, and with this end in view, the three nations will be urged to appoint one representative each."

"The Government is in complete control of all the stock of the company. It is absolutely essential for us to control the affairs of the railroad in the interest of the work of construction of the canal. We desire to have the affairs of the railroad conducted in harmony with the commission, which will have charge of the general construction work."

The following officers were elected by the new board: President, Theodore P. Shonts; vice president and general manager, John F. Wallace; secretary and treasurer, E. A. Drake; assistant treasurer, Sylvester Deming; assistant secretary, Thomas H. Rosbottom; general counsel, William N. Crowley; controller, Nelson Nelson; Charles E. Magoon, William Nelson, Cromwell and C. R. Edwards.

The board ordered the double-tracking and re-equipping of the railroad, and made an appropriation of \$1,270,000 for that purpose. The directors and officers of the company held a protracted session, at which President Shonts made an informal statement. The directors adopted a resolution to the effect that the president, vice-president and general manager of the railroad shall draw no salaries except those to which they are entitled as officers of the commission.

The directors will draw no fees for attending meetings of the board. All traveling expenses incurred in connection with the work of the commission or railroad company will be paid. President Shonts said that he was not prepared to give any details regarding the re-equipment of the railroad, and he added that nothing has yet been done toward the increasing of the efficiency of the steamship service to the isthmus.

Boast Was Not an Idle One.

NORFOLK, Va., April 17.—Thomas Yandaw, a conspicuous figure in Norfolk for over 50 years, claimed up to the time of his death that he was entitled to a large fortune in California. Five years ago he was adjudged insane and sent to

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25c Embroidered Voile 17c
Today we offer Embroidered Voile, the most popular wash fabric this season, for suits and shirtwaists. Solid grounds, all colors, and fancy checks, embroidered dots and figures. Regular price 25c. Today at... 17c

20c New Suiting 11 1-2c
Today we offer Galatea Cotton Suitings, just the fabric needed for shirtwaist suits, in fancy tweed mixtures, black and white, blue and white, green and white. Regular price 20c. Today at... 11 1/2c

25c Satin Taffeta Ribbon 14c
Today we offer 3500 yards HEAVY ALL-SILK SATIN TAFFETA RIBBON. You will find every wanted color in this lot, also black; best ribbon offer this season. Regular price 25c, today at... 14c

\$35 to \$25 Unmade Lierre Lace Robes \$14.75
35c Laces 18c 50c Pers'n Bands 23c

\$2 Doz. Val. Lace 50c \$1 Laces 37c
\$1.50 Unmade White Lawn Waist Pattern 98c

\$17.50 Shirtwaist Suits \$8.75
\$25 Tailor-Made Suits \$13.75

\$17.50 Box Covert Coats \$9.50
\$3.00 White Lawn Waists \$1.49

\$2.50 White Embr'd Waists \$1.49
50c Dress Goods 39c 75c Pongee Silk 55c

65c Dress Goods 47c 85c Pongee Silk 67c
\$1.00 Dress Goods 79c \$1.10 Pongee Silk 85c

\$1.50 Dress Goods \$1.19 \$1.00 Foulard Silk 75c
\$2.50 to \$2 Imported Novelty Dress Goods \$1.29

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HEAVY LOSS TO ORCHARDS

Frost Creates havoc as Far South as Carrollinas.

LA FAYETTE, Ind., April 17.—Reports received by the Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station today state the damage done to fruit by frost was severe. In some localities the cherry and plum trees have been stripped of blossoms. Apples and peaches have also suffered severely. The loss to fruitgrowers will be heavy.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., April 17.—Abnormally low temperatures prevail generally today, with heavy and killing frosts in the Pacific Coast States, Tennessee and North Georgia, and east through Virginia, while light frosts are reported from Southern Alabama and Northern Florida. Snow flurries occurred in the Ohio Valley.

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., April 17.—Snow to the depth of two inches was on the ground today, and ice formed in all small streams last night. The weather was the coldest known here for the season in many years, and all fruit is believed to have been killed.

SPRINGFIELD, O., April 17.—Farmers report that the freezing weather has damaged the fruit crop thousands of dollars. They declare that the pear, plum and cherry crops are badly damaged, if not ruined.

CAIRO, Ill., April 17.—A severe frost in this section has severely damaged fruit and vegetables. It is estimated that fully 90 per cent of the fruit crop is ruined.

NORFOLK, Va., April 17.—The formation of ice throughout the vast Norfolk country trucking section last night did great damage.

GREENVILLE, S. C., April 17.—A killing frost visited this section this morning, fruit and early vegetables being badly damaged.

Robbed on Lighting Contracts.

NEW YORK, April 17.—Before the legislative committee which is investigating the gas and electric lighting conditions in this city, Robert Grier Monroe, ex-commissioner of water supply, gas and electricity today told the story of a combination that prevented competitive bids for the city lighting contracts during Mayor Low's administration. He testified that the time in 1892 was absolutely no competition; that there was usually but one bid for each kind of light, and that the city was "made to pay dividends on the inflated capital."

The price of open flame burners for street lamps was \$1.50 per year, when gas lamps were \$2.50 per 1000 to the private customer.

Duel With Real Swords.

HAVANA, April 17.—One of the results of the seizure on April 14 by six Nationalist Congressmen of papers in the case of alleged improper acts by Nationalist Councilmen and officials of the City of Havana, was a duel with swords today between Congressman Carlos Mendieta and Armando Andre, a government employee, who had written a letter to a newspaper strongly condemning the Nationalist and other Congressmen concerned in the seizure of the papers.

Mendieta is said to have inflicted a trifling wound on his opponent's arm and the honor of both the duellists was considered to have been satisfied.

Lighting of Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, April 17.—The North American tomorrow will say: An ordinance will be introduced in the city of Philadelphia today which extends the term of the lease of the city's gas works for 50 years from December 31, 1907, to the Equitable Illuminating Gas Light Company, which is owned by the latter concern now has a 30 years' lease on the city's gas plants which expire in 1937.

It is proposed that the gas company shall pay into the City Treasury in one lump sum of about \$15,000,000.

Two Changes in Rank.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—As a result of the promotion of Colonel James Buchanan to the grade of Brigadier-General, Lieutenant-Colonel G. P. Gordon of the Fifth Infantry, at Plattsburg, N. Y., has been promoted to Colonel and assigned to command the Twenty-fourth Infantry at Fort Harrison, Mont.

Tired and nervous women find held in Hood's Sarsaparilla. It enriches their blood.

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CAUCUS IN SECRET

President of Society Indorsed by Equitable Agents.

DESIRE STRIFE TO CEASE

Forty General Agents and Managers Keep Away From Meeting Whose Attendants Are Pledged to Decision Reached.

NEW YORK, April 17.—To discuss and take action on the unsettled condition of the Equitable Life Assurance Society's affairs, 18 general agents and district managers of the society held a caucus behind closed doors in the Hotel Netherlands tonight and adopted a resolution indorsing President J. W. Alexander, of the society, but containing an emphatic request that the present factional strife cease.

There are approximately 220 agents here tonight, but the 40 Equitable representatives who did not attend the meeting tonight have been called for this city May 5, to form a defensive alliance against the mineowners and coal distributors. The avowed purpose of the movement is to develop methods for quicker delivery of coal by the operators and its better preparation for shipment.

According to some of those interested, the retailers claim to have not received fair treatment of late at the hands of the shippers, because of which many small dealers and a few large ones have been forced out of business.

It is said the new association will not attempt to regulate prices beyond trying to secure lower freight rate concessions from the carrying roads.

Representative of the Attorney-General's department will be present at the hearing. Governor Higgins was asked tonight if there were any developments that suggested the expediency of a legislative investigation of the affairs of the Equitable Society. He replied:

"I have not yet learned of anything which has convinced me that a legislative investigation of this insurance company at this time would be of any value."

The Governor repeated his belief that the investigation which is being conducted by the State Department of Insurance will be entirely satisfactory.

HAS LEAVE TO INTERVENE

Equitable Stockholder Would Prevent Mutualization.

NEW YORK, April 17.—Leave to intervene in the action of Franklin B. Lord against the Equitable Life Assurance Society to prevent the mutualization of the society, was granted today to H. Van Rensselaer Kennedy, of New York City, holder of 18 shares of Equitable stock. Mr. Kennedy, in the action, also represented an administrator of the estate of Rachel Lennox Kennedy, owner of four shares.

The application was granted by Justice Maddox, of the Supreme Court, in Brooklyn, and was unopposed. A large number of general agents of the Equitable Society have arrived in this city from various parts of the country. They will remain here about a week, and will hold meetings beginning tomorrow.

Coaldealers in Defense.

NEW YORK, April 17.—A meeting of retail coaldealers throughout the country has been called for this city May 5, to form a defensive alliance against the mineowners and coal distributors. The avowed purpose of the movement is to develop methods for quicker delivery of coal by the operators and its better preparation for shipment.

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