

VOL. XXIII.—NO. 33.

PORTLAND, OREGON, SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 14, 1904.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

SEA BATTLE ON

Japanese Come Upon Vladivostok Ships

OFF THE TSU ISLANDS

Engagement at Port Arthur the Greatest in History.

JAPANESE DARING AS EVER

Russians Threw Away Their Only Chance of Escape by Staying by the Crippled Flagship Czarevitch.

TOKIO, Aug. 14, 1 P. M.—The Russian armored cruiser *Burik* was sunk in the engagement in the Straits of Corea. The armored cruiser *Rosina* and *Gromobol* escaped to the northward heavily damaged.

TOKIO, Aug. 14, noon.—The naval engagement in the Straits of Corea is still in progress.

TOKIO, Aug. 14, 9 A. M.—The protected cruiser *Takushimo* has reported by wireless telegraph to the Admiralty at the Takushiki naval establishment that a Japanese squadron was engaging the *Vladivostok* fleet off the *Tsu* islands, in the Straits of Corea, at 5 o'clock this (Sunday) morning.

CHEFOO, Aug. 4, noon.—A Japanese squadron sighted the *Vladivostok* fleet in the Straits of Corea at 5:10 this (Sunday) morning. Fighting began 50 minutes later.

GREATEST OF NAVAL BATTLES

Port Arthur Engagement is Shown by Official Reports.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 14 (4:10 A. M.)—Not since the beginning of the war between Japan and Russia has anything so obviously affected Russian spirits as the gradual revelation of the extent of the Port Arthur squadron's reverse. Details of Rear-Admiral Witthof's fatal sortie are not known to the general public even at this hour, though the contents of the report of Captain Matouevitch, Admiral Witthof's Chief of Staff to the Emperor, gradually permeated official circles in the course of the day. The Captain's statement was issued late tonight in the form of an official report.

Captain Matouevitch makes it clear that the Port Arthur squadron fought what probably was the greatest battle of ironclad steel since the contents of the report of Rear-Admiral Witthof's fleet, which consisted of six battleships, 11 cruisers of various classes and approximately 30 torpedo-boats.

According to this statement, there were in line of battle some 200 vessels reported destroyed. This gives an indication of Japan's naval force which Admiral Togo has hitherto concealed.

Japanese Daring as Ever.

A Russian account of the battle between the Japanese and Russian fleets indicates that the Japanese torpedo-boats sustained their previous reputation for daring by making a midnight attack upon a squadron in battle formation, and admits the effectiveness of these frail, daring craft which seriously impeded the movements of the Russian fleet.

The wording of the official report that the battleship *Czarevitch* "turned" to try to go in the direction of Vladivostok arouses some comment here. Assuming, as the report seems to indicate, that the battle was off the Shantung Peninsula, the turning of the *Czarevitch* to go towards Vladivostok would most probably indicate that the remainder of the squadron was going back in the direction of Port Arthur. At the same time, the report that the day after the battle four Russian battleships were sighted off Shanghai makes it possible that the battle occurred further south in the Yellow Sea than the report of Captain Matouevitch indicates, and that when the *Czarevitch* "lost sight of the remainder of the squadron," the Russian fleet was actually proceeding south. This opens an interesting question as to the ultimate destination of the remaining Russian battleships.

Regret Mingled With Admiration.

The fact that the crushing nature of the blow to the Russian fleet was largely due to the feeling of comradeship which prompted the squadron to halt for the purpose of protecting the disabled *Czarevitch* is viewed here with grim satisfaction, and regret is mingled with admiration.

TO SHIP TO JAPAN

Steamer Will Carry Portland Flour.

SIGNS OF A NEW DEAL

Portland & Asiatic Company May Charter Quito.

OFFER OF HERO WITHDRAWN

R. P. Schwerin Announces That New Steamer Will Be Put on Coast Run—W. J. Burns Defends Chamber of Commerce.

RUSSIAN SHIPS AGROUND.

Two Destroyers Located Twenty Miles Off Wei Hai Wei.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—The Japanese Legation late today received a cablegram from Tokyo, as follows:

"According to a telegram from Chefoo, two Russian destroyers were found stranded 20 miles east of Wei Hai Wei, on August 11."

Beached and Blown Up.

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Sailors From Stranded Ships.

CHEFOO, Aug. 13.—Launches containing 40 Russian sailors are said to have entered Wei Hai Wei today. The sailors belong to two torpedo-boat destroyers, which are reported to have gone ashore in the vicinity of Wei Hai Wei.

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Before the Russian fleet emerged from Port Arthur on August 10 the Japanese batteries could reach the warships there with shells and the docks were exposed to a fire the severity of which was increasing constantly. It is doubted if these ships will be able to go to sea again without first undergoing repairs, and it is expected that the Russians themselves will destroy them before Port Arthur falls.

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CHEFOO, Aug. 14, 4 A. M.—The correspondent of the Associated Press at once visited the Chinese flagship, where he was told by Admiral Sah that no Japanese or Russian vessels had been seen during the night.

HEAD OF HARRIMAN WATER LINES ON PACIFIC COAST; IN PORTLAND

Launch turns turtle at Potomac regatta and ten people at drowned. Page 23.

Good week's racing at Irvington. Page 23.

Astoria to be the Mecca of yachtsmen and oarsmen during regatta. Page 22.

Pacific Coast League scores: Portland 6, Tacoma 4; Seattle 2, San Francisco 0; Oakland 6, Los Angeles 2. Page 2.

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Favorable weekly statement of New York banks. Page 15.

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Portland and Vicinity.

F. H. Newell discusses Northwest irrigation projects. Page 1.

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Classified advertisements. Page 24-27.

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Social. Pages 18-19.

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TO START WORK

Beginning On Malheur Project This Fall.

F. H. NEWELL IS SANGUINE

Success Depends On Co-Operation of the Settlers.

PALOUSE PROJECT IS NEXT

People of Klamath Lake District Must Choose Between Private Enterprise and Government Aid—Echo in the Balance.

NEWELL ON IRRIGATION.

MALHEUR PROJECT—Government is ready to start work as soon as the people of the district are