

EVENTS OF THE DAY

GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE TWO HEMISPHERES.

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting to Our Many Readers.

Fire at Brookport, N. Y., did great damage to property.

Russia is pouring troops into Port Arthur at a rapid rate.

The United States has ordered troops to Panama to relieve garrisons.

Two members of a desperate robber band have been captured in California.

Russian military officials are confident the war will be over by September.

General Charles Dick appears almost sure to succeed the late Senator Hanna.

Japan has offered to aid China in requiring the Russian gunboat to leave Shanghai.

W. Bourke Cockran has been elected to the seat in Congress vacated by Mayor McClellan, of New York.

France gives sympathetic support to the note of Russia declaring that Japan has violated international law.

President Roosevelt will favor the Oregon Senators and reappoint Booth and Bridges at the Roseburg land office, despite the protest of Hitchcock.

The fear of war between Turkey and Bulgaria is increasing. Germany has been informed that Bulgaria is buying large quantities of munitions of war.

Turkey and Montenegro are on the verge of war.

John Mitchell is expected to succeed Wright as labor commissioner.

Secretary Hay has addressed another note to the powers in regard to China.

Senator Hoar accuses Senator Foraker and others of misrepresenting him on his Panama stand.

Turkey and Bulgaria are both making great preparation and war in the Balkans is considered near.

Senator Foster must give up his bill or the state of Washington will not be divided into two judicial districts.

Burton, of Ohio, has joined the opposition to the naval appropriation bill, contending the amount is too large.

John Garber, of San Francisco, has declined the appointment as canal commissioner, but some California engineer is almost sure to get the appointment.

Seven life convicts in the New Mexico penitentiary overpowered the superintendent and made a dash for liberty, but were subdued by guards.

Senator Hansbrough has introduced a bill to end the lieue land evil.

The czar is much discontent over the war and appears little in public.

Fourteen people met death in a Paris factory from an explosion.

Russians expect Japan to lay siege to Port Arthur and are preparing for a long resistance.

The czar will likely proceed to the front in the spring to take personal command of the army.

Japan has had a dispute with China regarding a Russian gunboat which took refuge at Shanghai.

General Kourapatkin is to command the Russian army, aided by two grand dukes, uncles of the czar.

The Porto Rican has demanded that they be admitted to statehood or that the island be granted independence.

Perry S. Heath has resigned as secretary of the National Republican committee. Elmer Dover will temporarily succeed him.

Presbyterian churches of the United States have agreed upon a plan of union.

Russia has abolished the censorship on all news excepting war movements.

Mitchell is sure to head the interoceanic canal committee if Platt does not want the place.

St. Louis constables precipitated a riot, in which six men were shot, by attempting to close a poolroom across the river in Illinois.

Russia is said to be preparing to evacuate Port Arthur and make Harbin her headquarters. This is claimed to be a much better point of vantage.

The British press warns the nation to be prepared for an alliance by the powers against her.

The house is considering the naval appropriation bill. It is the desire to have a navy which will be second to none in the world. The bill carries \$14,000,000 more than last year's appropriation.

Insurance companies find the Baltimore fire losses were overestimated.

Canada is placing heavy modern guns in all of her coast fortifications.

The house has passed the fortification bill.

Abner McKinley is seriously ill. A number of his relatives have been called.

Tillman has re-introduced his bill in the senate to grant ex-Queen Liliuokalani a gratuity.

A number of additional indictments will be made in connection with the Hyde-Bonson land conspiracy.

Two hundred and fifty picked shipwrights have been sent to Port Arthur to hurry repairs on Russian war vessels.

CANAL NOW SURE.

Senate Ratifies Panama Treaty by a Large Vote.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The United States Senate yesterday ratified, without amendment, the treaty with Panama for a canal across the Isthmus of that name by a vote of 65 to 14. The result was a foregone conclusion, the interest in the matter being only in the division of the vote on the Democratic side, which was not known definitely until the roll was called, all the Republicans being for ratification. Fourteen Democrats voted for ratification and 14 against. Two Democrats, Clark of Montana and Stone of Missouri, were paired in favor of the treaty and three Democrats, Overman, McClaurin and Martin, were paired against, so in the total vote 16 Democrats were for the treaty and 17 against it.

The only other vote was on the amendment offered by Senator Bacon, providing for an arrangement to compensate Colombia for loss of the territory of Panama. This was rejected by a vote of 24 to 49. It was a party vote on the affirmative side, and also on the negative side with the exception of Gibson and McEnery, Democrats, who voted with the Republicans. Senators generally commend the management of the treaty by Cullom, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, who has had charge of the measure during both the plain and stormy sailing. The vote was taken much earlier than was anticipated at first, when its opponents were vigorously trying to secure executive votes and prevent ratification.

HANGED AS SPIES.

Russians Discover Japanese Trying to Destroy Railroad.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—It was officially announced today that three members of the Japanese staff, disguised as coolies, were captured while attempting to blow up a bridge on the Manchuria Railway over the Sungari River, and after an immediate trial by drumhead courtmartial, they were hanged to the very culvert they had tried to destroy.

The three Japanese were Colonel Asai, one of the most expert of Japanese engineers, and one of the instructors at the War College; Lieutenant Zouki Ascha and Lieutenant Kaourata; the latter were two expert sappers.

The disguise of the Japanese is declared to have been perfect, but they were caught while in the act of placing the explosives in place and were recognized by a Russian officer, who was formerly stationed as a military attaché at the Russian Legation at Tokio. There was no question of their guilt. In fact, they did not even take the trouble to deny it. They were granted but a short time to prepare to die. The execution was witnessed by all the Russian troops at the post and a large number of natives.

The newspapers of Port Arthur, dated February 4, reached St. Petersburg today, indicating that they were less than three weeks in transit. Troop trains probably require a longer time on account of the difficulties at Lake Baikal, where provisions and troops are crossing, both on ice trains and sledges.

SAYS IT HAS ANNEXED COREA

London Journal Reports That Japan Has Deposed the Emperor.

London, Feb. 25.—The Chronicle has a dispatch dated Harbin, which states that news has been received there to the effect that the Japanese Minister to Corea has deposed Emperor Yi Heui, and has issued a proclamation annexing Corea to Japan.

According to a Chefoo dispatch to the Morning Post, the Russian troops are deserting by wholesale in Manchuria. The Corea correspondent states that the report that Japanese have landed at Pigeon Bay and near Dalny is confirmed.

The Standard prints a dispatch dated Seoul stating that a force of 2,000 Chinese are harassing the Russians at Liaoyang. The correspondent states that several important bridges on the railway between Harbin and Vladivostok have been destroyed.

Chinese Troops Go to Front.

New York, Feb. 25.—The World has the following cable from its Tientsin correspondent: "The transportation of Chinese troops from this point to outside the great wall began today. Four trains filled with cavalry were dispatched. Several Japanese officers were at the station to inspect the proceedings. Apart from the 10,000 Chinese now being forwarded about 9,000 are distributed along the railway line, 2,250 at Liaoyang, 1,500 at Chin-chow, 1,800 at Singlung and 750 at Tien-chuanai. The movements of the Russian troops are being strictly guarded from observation cars."

Vladivostok Fleet Can't Be Located.

Tokio, Feb. 25.—It is impossible to secure any news of the Russian Vladivostok squadron. It is expected that the Japanese Diet will meet about the middle of March, at which time the government will introduce bills to provide the finances for carrying on the war. It is expected that these measures will provide for an annual revenue of military purposes of 60,000,000 yen (\$30,000,000), but the exact nature of the measure will be kept secret.

Russians Can't Repair Ships.

Wei Hai Wei, Feb. 25.—All the mechanics at Port Arthur, Dalny and Vladivostok are Chinese, and it is impossible for the Russians to repair their damaged warships.

FOUR SHIPS LOST

JAPANESE FOOL RUSSIANS BY USE OF SIGNALS.

Torpedo boats at Port Arthur captured and crews made prisoners—Alexiff goes to Harbin—Port Arthur is now strictly a naval stronghold—Only 20 foreigners remain.

London, Feb. 24.—The Nagasaki correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, cabling under date of February 22, reports that the Japanese squadron has captured four Russian torpedo boats at Port Arthur by using Russian signals. This dispatch appears to confirm reports from various quarters of a fresh attack on Port Arthur by the Japanese. The report reached Nagasaki from Chefoo, and it adds that the Russian crews of the four torpedo boats have been transferred.

No other news of this attack has been received in London, but the Crefoo correspondent of the Morning Post, in a dispatch dated February 22, says the statement is correct that the Japanese torpedo-boat destroyers in the attack on Port Arthur on February 14 sank or damaged two Russian battleships, in addition to the torpedo boat already reported.

Viceroy Alexiff's retirement to Harbin is now an accomplished fact, and a correspondent of the Associated Press cables that Port Arthur is now strictly a naval stronghold and the forts are being manned by naval gunners. Only 20 foreigners are now at Port Arthur, and they are traders disposing of their merchandise.

Some of them are under suspicion, and there is likelihood of their being arrested. There are many complaints of unwarranted arrests, unexplained expulsion and defamation of character by the Port Arthur police.

The report that large bodies of Cossacks and other troops are occupying Niu Chwang and Hsin Ming Tin are unfounded.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Hong Kong says a British squadron is concentrating there and that a corresponding French concentration of warships is occurring at Saigon, Indo-China. This is supposedly a result of the Anglo-French understanding.

MANY SUSPICIOUS OF RUSSIA

Believe She is Courting Publicity to Influence French Sentiment.

Paris, Feb. 24.—St. Petersburg, in time of peace one of the most difficult places for journalistic effort, has suddenly become a great center for foreign correspondents. The continental press is at present flooded with long telegrams and letters from the Russian capital.

The sudden rush of the Russian government into publicity has aroused suspicion in many quarters, where the question is being asked: "What is behind the move?" It is inconceivable that the Russian government, which took great pains to conceal every important happening in time of peace, should now want to make public every happening of importance.

A number of leading diplomats and army and naval officers are inclined to believe that in permitting all manner of sensational stories to be spread broadcast, Russia hopes to influence the stock market in France, and thus cause a diversion in favor of Russia.

Blood Poisoning and Puerperal Fever.—Formalin is the most powerful antiseptic agent known to science, and if it is really an antidote for blood poisoning medical practice has made some advancement. Still its use must be accompanied by the greatest caution. It is given subcutaneously by using 1-2000 of formalin in a dec-normal salt solution. Of this, sixty centimeters is hypodermically administered, and in an hour the patient's temperature may be reduced from 104 to 99. The primary effect of introducing formalin into the arterial circulation is to convert the blood itself into an antiseptic solution.

Japanese Order Filled in Record Time.

Philadelphia, Feb. 24.—In consequence of a rush order from the Japanese government for locomotives, a local plant has established a new record by the construction of seven locomotives in a day. The engines ordered by Japan are for the military railroad that will connect Fusan, on the southern coast of Corea, with Seoul.

An order calling for 20 locomotives, to be completed with 30 days, was received late in January. Eight of the 20 have already been shipped to Fusan. The remaining 12 will be shipped this week.

Threat to China.

New York, Feb. 24.—The American prints the following copyrighted dispatch from its London correspondent: "A dispatch to the Express from Shanghai says: It is officially stated that M. Paul Lessar, the Russian Minister to China, has threatened Lion Fang, the vice-president of the Chinese foreign office, with the direct departure from Shanghai harbor of the Russian gunboat Mandjur for lying in wait."

First Ballot for Hanna's Successor.

Columbus, O., Feb. 24.—Separate ballots will be taken in the House and Senate at noon on March 1 for the election of a successor to the late Senator Hanna and a joint session will be held at noon on March 2 to declare the result. This is provided in a joint resolution introduced and adopted in the Senate tonight, and which will be ratified by the House tomorrow.

Philippine Commissioner Confirmed.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The Senate today confirmed W. Cameron Forbes, of Massachusetts, to be a member of the Philippine Commission and to succeed as secretary of the Department of Commerce and Police, Luke E. Wright.

ON TO THE NORTH.

Japanese Land Forces Advancing on Ping Yang.

Wei Hai Wei, Feb. 24.—On February 19 the Halmun arrived at Chemulpo and started for a private anchorage that had been arranged for. Conspicuous at the entrance of the harbor were the wrecks of the Russian vessels that had been sunk after the engagement with the Japanese. Salvage operations had already begun on the Variag and the divers were at work on the sunken cruiser.

Japanese army corps was being landed in three divisions. The 12th division had already disembarked and the Imperial Guards were to follow immediately. A general advance on the road to Ping Yang is expected soon.

The methods of the Japanese excite the greatest admiration from all foreign military experts who witness them. British officers declare openly that it is an improvement over anything in their experience and state that it indicates an organization superior to anything in Europe.

Japan's action in Corea amounts to an acceptance of responsibility for the safety of foreigners throughout Corea and all apprehensions of local disturbances have been allayed.

The original scheme on the part of the Japanese Board of Strategy has been to land at Masampo and march northward, but the naval victories changed all this and enabled the transports to land at Chemulpo. While the Russian-Siberian squadron remains intact at Vladivostok it is regarded as unlikely that Japan will attempt to land troops on the Eastern coast. The road so far as Hwang Ju is good. It is flanked by paddy fields, which are at present frost-bound and covered with two inches of ice.

The conditions are such that it would be almost impossible for the Russians at present to check the Japanese advance. However, the district between the Yalu River and Ping Yang is of such strategic value as to necessitate strenuous efforts on the part of both combatants to occupy it. Success by the Russians in this respect will render Chemulpo untenable as a base by the Japanese. On the other hand, should the Japanese successfully occupy it, they will have a clear field and an open sea behind them, over which they can hurry additional troops as they are needed.

BLACK SEA FLEET MUST GO.

Russia Again Negotiating for Passage Through the Dardanelles.

New York, Feb. 24.—The Herald has the following cable from its St. Petersburg correspondent: "I have received further corroboration that active negotiations are in progress for the passage of the Dardanelles by the Russian Black Sea fleet. I am further informed that this is the reason why such pains have been taken of late to obtain the good will of Austria. Germany will very probably be willing to further Russia's plan, being glad enough to find there by means of realizing her well-known ambitions in Asia Minor and let Russia weaken herself in fighting the Far East. Russia knows all this, but is nevertheless eager to get her ships through, even if it is necessary to adopt the subterfuge of altering their appearance, disguising them as merchantmen. The Porte is almost willing, and if England makes any objection to the passage it will be the signal for an immediate advance toward India."

The Russian government has just chartered from a local firm of shipowners four ships, which sail from Black Sea ports with cargoes of coal. Very high terms were given, and in case of capture the government will pay the full value of the vessels.

"The order of the day is that Japan will be allowed to occupy Corea. The fleet has received instructions not to engage in any fight at present, but to remain quiet on defensive until the beginning of July, when half of the whole Baltic fleet will be dispatched to the Far East."

Bombardment Prevented.

Nagasaki, Feb. 24.—The steamer Stolberg has arrived here from Vladivostok with 20 white foreigners, 1500 Chinese and 50 Japanese. She brings in addition 40 survivors of the Japanese steamer Nakanoura Maru, which was sunk by the Russian cruiser squadron from Vladivostok on February 11. Two men were drowned during their transfer to the Russian ships. The survivors were well treated and provided with return passages. The Vladivostok squadron intended to bombard Hakodate, but a snow storm prevented the vessels from entering the Straits of Tsugaru.

With Japan's Exhibit.

Tacoma, Wash., Feb. 24.—With the most valuable cargo ever brought to the Pacific Coast from the Orient, the American steamship Lyra arrived in Tacoma today from the Orient. The Lyra brought the exhibit of the Japanese government for the Louisiana Exposition at St. Louis, besides a miscellaneous cargo valued at \$1,000,000. It would be impossible to estimate the value of the entire cargo, for in the Mikado's exhibit are articles of such rarity that they are priceless.

To Move County Seat Back.

La Grande.—Petitions have been put in circulation in almost all localities in Union County asking the county Court to submit the question of relocating the county seat from Union to La Grande to the vote of the people at the general election in June. This petition is formulated under the general law of 1903, which provides for submission of the question upon petition of three-fifths of the total of all the votes cast.

To Reduce Rate of Interest.

Astoria.—The Astoria school district has bonds amounting to \$12,000, which can be redeemed on March 1, and the directors have made arrangements to refund them by borrowing money from the state. This will reduce the rate of interest from 8 to 5 per cent and effect quite a saving to the district.

HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

BUY THE DITCH.

Hood River Farmers Effectively Settle Water Question.

Hood River.—There is great rejoicing among the farmers of Hood River, and the thousands of people in the United States who have come to look to this little garden spot of Oregon for their big red strawberries, need worry no longer about their supply of fruit, for the crop this year will be larger and better than ever. The water question, which has been causing the farmers so much trouble the past three weeks, is practically settled, and the irrigation ditch will hereafter belong solely to the farmers.

To pay for the ditch and make necessary repairs to insure a supply of 2500 inches of water will require an expenditure of about \$40,000, equal to 2,000 shares. Where farmers are not prepared to pay cash for water privileges, arrangements have been made to secure loans from the state school fund at 6 per cent. It is figured out that maintenance expenses and interest on the loans will bring the cost of water to the farmers to less than \$3.50 an inch. To those able to pay cash for water right, the cost will be a little over \$1.50. The cost of water each year is regulated by the cost of repairs and expenses apporportioned per acre among the landowners. The ditch itself is to remain entirely free from debt, the farmers assuming all obligations.

As soon as a majority of stock is taken, a call will be issued for a stockholders' meeting, organization will be effected and a board of directors elected. Work will begin immediately toward getting the ditch in shape to have water for the strawberries by May 1.

TERMS OF SALE VIOLATED.

Purchasers of Umattila Timber Land Sell Wood Wholesale.

Pendleton.—Charles Wilkins, agent at the Umattila Indian reservation, says that during the past six months there has been wholesale consumption of timber on ceded lands, which practice is a violation of the laws. The lands were sold some time ago in 40-acre tracts at \$2.25 an acre, but the purchasers were informed that it would be unlawful to convert the timber into wood or lumber until two years after the date of sales.

It is said that many have paid but little attention to this stipulation, and recently have sold large quantities of wood to Pendleton dealers. One man is said to have delivered 800 cords of wood to a fuel firm of Pendleton since last fall.

Mr. Wilkins says the timber lands are out of his jurisdiction, and accordingly it is not within his province to prefer charges against the alleged violators. The lands are in the district governed by the Land Office at La Grande and it will be for the Land Inspector to investigate the irregularities.

A great deal of apprehension is felt. It is believed that many prominent farmers will be included among the violators.

NURSERIES DO A BIG TRADE.

Milton Firms Supply a Large Territory.

Milton.—Two large nurseries do business here, and most now the management is busy preparing for the shipment of nearly 50,000 worth of trees to all parts of Washington and Oregon for spring planting. Shipments will be made during the early part of next month in many cases, other orders going out later. These trees are grown near this city, and all the care and attention have been given by local men. The varieties generally are those that are known to thrive well in this climate and the principal output is apple trees.

During the past decade a large amount of money has been sent out of the country for fruit trees, and a few years ago local capital became interested and a nursery was established to furnish trees for the orchards which seemed to be certain of establishment. The business proved satisfactory, and it is now difficult to get farmers to send away for nursery stock of any kind. Following the success of one nursery, another was established, and now Milton sends out more trees annually than any other place of similar size in the northwest.

Grand Ronde Apples Go Fast.

La Grande.—Within the past three weeks the Blue Mountain Fruit Company in La Grande has shipped to the Eastern markets 15 carloads of Grand Ronde apples, which were held over last fall by the growers. J. D. McKennon, one of La Grande's leading grocers, has shipped out two carloads of apples and several carloads of potatoes of late. About 20,000 boxes of saleable apples were raised in the Cove district alone in the year 1903, and a much larger crop is expected in the year 1904.

Butter—Sweet cream, 32c per pound; fancy creamery, 30c; choice creamery, 25c@27c; dairy and store, nominal.

Butter fat—Sweet cream, 31c; sour cream, 29c. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 12c@13c per pound; springs, small, 14c@15c; hens, 13c@13c; turkeys, live, 15c@16c per pound; dressed, 18c@20c; ducks, \$8@9 per dozen; geese, live, 8c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 24c@25c per dozen. Vegetables—Turnips, 80c per sack; carrots, 80c; beets, 11c; parsnips, 11c; cabbage, 13c@2c; red cabbage, 13c; lettuce, head, 25c@40c per dozen; parsley, per dozen, 25c; tomatoes, \$1.50@2 per crate; cauliflower, 75c@81c per dozen; celery, 65c per dozen; pumpkins, 1c per pound; cucumbers, \$2.25 per dozen. Onions—Yellow Danvers, \$2@2.25 per sack. Potatoes—Pancy, \$1@1.10 per sack; common, 70c@90c; growers' prices; sweets, 2 1/2c in sacks; 2 3/4c crated. Beef—Dressed, 6@7 1/2c per pound. Mutton—Dressed, 6@7 1/2c; lamb, 8c.

Veal—Dressed, small, 8 1/2c@9c; large, 6 1/2c@7c. Pork—Dressed, 7@7 1/2c. Hops—Choice, 26@28c per pound; prime, 25c; medium, 24c. Wool—Valley, 17@18c; Eastern Oregon, 12@15c; mohair, 32@35c.

BATTLE ON LAND.

Russians Badly Beaten in Engagement on Yalu River.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 22.—Authority which prohibits doubting veracity of the report, in spite of the official dispatches stating that nothing is taking place and everything is perfectly quiet, says, outpost engagements have taken place on the Yalu resulting in the Russian advance guards being driven back with considerable losses, which are estimated at 2,500 lives, but whether this means those who fell on the Yalu or the entire Russian losses since the commencement of the war is not exactly clear.

Large Force Engaged.

Niu Chwang, Feb. 22.—A Japanese victory is reported near the Yalu river, but is unconfirmed from any source. According to the report current here a large part of the forces of both Russians and Japanese were engaged. The Russians are said to have lost several thousand men. There are no details of the engagement obtainable.

SEEKING RUSSIAN SHIPS.

Japanese Fleet Wants Battle With Cable-Cutting Squadron.

New York, Feb. 22.—The American's Tokio cable, dated February 21, says: Russian warships are reported between Japan and Corea. Transports carrying troops across are heavily conveyed in consequence. Half the Japanese fleet is occupied in surveying and protecting the landing of troops in Corea and the other half is searching for the Russian Vladivostok warships.

The prefectural office has received a telegram from the chief magistrate of the island of Miyake, south of the Gulf of Corea, reporting that 12 Russians departed in a boat from a vessel in the office on February 19. The subsequent movements of this mysterious party are not reported, but inquiry is under way. The Russians were probably seeking to cut the cable, as three warships were reported off Okushiri Island today searching for the cable.

AMERICA HAS TROOPS PREPARE

Orders Issued That Men Be Ready for Service at Short Notice.

San Francisco, Feb. 22.—Under orders issued by the War Department, the commanders of the various military departments of the United States Army are placing in readiness for service at short notice the organizations under their immediate charge. This work is being done in the quietest possible manner, and the officers in charge are very reticent about talking on the subject.

Although it is not generally known, the San Francisco Presidio is the most active Army post in the work of preparation. The troops of the Presidio are doing extra drill daily, and it is stated on the best of authority that within the next two weeks a large consignment of cold-weather clothing will arrive at the post ready for distribution on 24 hours' notice. The fact that blanket-lined overcoats, fur gloves and heavy Arctic boots are among the supplies to arrive in San Francisco is significant of the intention of the War Department to prepare the troops for a climate more rigorous than that of California.

Another phase of these preparatory measures is the work of the Coast Artillery, which has charge of the harbor defenses. The recently organized school in submarine mining has taken such an interest in its work that a corps of men is daily devoting the hours between sunrise and sunset to the study of the methods of modern harbor defense, while a large force of men is working day and night in the shore batteries.

Wharves preparing platforms such as are used for placing the floating mines.

WAR CALLS FOR '04 MONEY.

Russia Officially Notifies St. Louis She Will Not Participate.

St. Louis, Feb. 22.—Official confirmation of Russia's intention to abandon participation in the exposition was received today in a cablegram to President Francis from Commissioner-General Alexanderovsky at St. Petersburg. The cablegram follows: "Notwithstanding the best of feeling to America and a readiness for participation in the World's Fair, Russian tradesmen think their patriotic duty is to give the money appropriated for its exhibition to the Red Cross and wounded soldiers. I am going personally as the chief delegate of the Red Cross to the Far East. My sincere thanks for your kind attention to our staff and me personally. My best regards to all directors and chiefs."

China Denies Request for Aid.

Tokio, Feb. 22.—Advices to the Japanese government from Peking say that while at Mukden, Viceroy Alexiff asked the Chinese troops to aid in guarding the railroad, so as to prevent the interruption of traffic. The Chinese refused the request and asked for instructions from Peking. The Chinese government told them to inform Alexiff that as Russia had insisted the Chinese were unable to guard the railway in time of peace, surely Russia could not expect them to guard it in time of war.

America is Criticized.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 22.—The refusal of the Commander of the United States gunboat Vicksburg to unite with the Commanders of other foreign warships at Chemulpo to protest against the fighting there on February 8, which resulted in the loss of the Russian warships Variag and Korietz, and the fact that the Vicksburg did not take on board any of the surviving Russian soldiers, has created much unfavorable public comment here.

Arming Black Sea Coast.

Warsaw, Feb. 22.—Heavy siege guns are being mounted on the coast 15 versts (ten miles) from Odessa. This will cover the approach to the harbor. Russia's feverish military and naval activity belies the optimistic official assurances to the effect that nothing untoward is anticipated and that no other power is expected to become involved in the present conflict.