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ASTORIAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

THE MEANING OF HARBIN.

A recent issue of the Daily Consular Reports, published by the department of commerce and labor, throws an instructive side-light upon the war in east Asia. The report which it contains was written two months before the war began and was, of course, not intended as in any sense a partisan document. It aims simply to give a truthful account of conditions in Manchuria, and it does so with much comprehensiveness and detail. But in so doing it strikingly reveals some of the circumstances which formed the basis of the provocation of the Russo-Japanese controversy, and which thus led more or less directly to the present war.

Note, for example, what is said of Harbin, the city to which the Russian viceroy has retired from Port Arthur. It is not to be found on even the best maps of a few years ago, for it is a new creation. It has been built by the Russians since the beginning of their "temporary" occupation of Manchuria. It is now a city of more than 60,000 inhabitants, exclusive of soldiers. It is built in a most substantial manner. "It is," says the American consul, "as distinctly a Russian city as though it were located in the heart of Russia, and none but Russians and Chinese are permitted to own lands, construct buildings or engage in any permanent enterprise. The city has been created by the Russian government. The land for many miles in each direction has been secured so as to make it impossible for any foreign influence to secure a foothold close to the city, and foreigners are not recognized as having any rights whatever, but are permitted there by sufferance." And it is in the very center of Manchuria.

In such absolute and evidently permanent fashion has Russia been establishing herself in Manchuria, while at the same time declaring her occupation of that country to be only temporary and brief. In such fashion has she been monopolizing vantage points in that country to the practical exclusion of Americans and all other foreigners, while at the same time professing attachment to and promising maintenance of the "open door." There certainly seems to have been a marked contrast between her profession and her practice, which this story of Harbin, to go no further, makes clear. It was largely that contrast and the uncertainty as to how much further professions might be superceded by contrary practices that caused Japan to seek a more definite understanding than had hitherto existed concerning those parts of the Asian continent in which she regarded her own interests as vital.

LOW-PRICED NEWSPAPERS.

With the price of raw cotton abnormally high and the cost of cotton goods of all classes bound to be much higher than now, and with the price of loaf bread, rolls and "cracker" products already advancing in response to "dollar wheat" and higher, the public's attention is called to the really absurdly low cost at which it gets its newspapers, remarks the New York Commercial.

No daily newspapers are sold in the metropolitan district at a price higher than three cents a copy; the great bulk of the enormous output costs the reader only one cent. In most instances that does not pay the cost of the white paper to the manufacturer. Just now most of the leading dailies are under extraordinary expense from the cost of special war news. A cablegram from Nagasaki in Japan to San Francisco costs 50 cents a word. Add to that the rate of two to five cents per word for transmission from San Francisco to various eastern cities and some faint idea may be gained of the money invested in the war bulletin from Korea that you read so carelessly. A column "story" straight from the seat of war to a New York newspaper costs all the way from \$800 to \$1500 in telegraph tolls alone, according to the extent of the skeletonizing and the use of a "code." There are, of course, combinations of newspapers employing the same correspondent and dividing the expense of tolls, but in any event, the added expense in war times is enormous.

But the price of the newspaper to the reader never advances, and the extra demand for it by reason of its war news is infinitesimal compared with the extra cost of production.

Think of that when you read your morning

newspaper today and munch your breakfast rolls advanced 20 per cent in price!

ARTIST AND ARTISAN.

Beyond dispute, there are in this modern manufacturing civilization of ours thousands of workers whose minds must necessarily be completely suspended as they toil at their monotonous tasks, says the Saturday Evening Post. But the critics of the modern industrial system who take this fact as a text for sermons on the good old times when the craftsman had the joy of creation have given the matter very little thought.

In the first place it is manufacturing alone that enables millions to live in comfort where thousands were barely able to live in squalor less than a century ago. Fully to appreciate this one must have read thoroughly enough to realize how few human beings were in the least comfortable before the age of factories—or in the least intelligent, or in the least aspiring, or even hopeful for better things in this world. In the second place, it is manufacturing that has so multiplied the employments in which the brain can be used and developed.

Today, for the first time in history, the man with a mind gets a chance to use it, and the man whose mind is rudimentary is comfortable and has long hours of leisure. Conditions might be better. But they have always heretofore been worse.

The Japanese have an advantage in their campaign against Port Arthur in the fact that they once before captured that place and held it for a time, says the New York Commercial. They thus know its plans, its soundings, its ranges and all other details about as well as the Russians themselves. Their persistent attacks upon that place indicate they mean either to block the harbor or to capture it, and not to sit down patiently to a long siege. Their order for the day is to push things. In that they are probably wise. Their best chance of winning in this war seem to lie in gaining all possible advantage at the outset, and especially of perfecting their control of the sea by capturing or destroying every Russian ship in those waters and closing every Russian port. If they should wait until Russia could improve her railroad service and send unlimited reinforcements to her Manchurian army, and then try to fight her on land, the Land of the Rising Sun might see her setting sun.

If you are ready at all times to do what you are called upon to do you will establish the habit of reliability. You can form no habit that will be worth more to you. If you are trustworthy you will command the respect and esteem of every one, while if you are careless and not to be depended upon people will not care very much for you. You are to lose nothing and have everything to gain by following this rule. It will cost you very little effort to become master of yourself and be reliable in everything you do. The sooner you start it the easier it will be.

Advices from Europe say that the nephew of the sultan of Turkey ran into a pyramid with his automobile. We shall probably next hear that the empress Tsi An ran her machine into the great wall of China.

An enthusiastic labor leader declares that United States greenbacks should bear the union label. Up to the present the laborers have not refused them as they are.

Thirteen democratic senators voted with Gorman against the canal treaty. It is hoped that the Maryland senator is not superstitious.

The people of Montana have appealed to President Roosevelt to prevent Canada from stealing the water of one of their rivers.

If Mr. Cleveland would send his articles to the Commoner, Mr. Bryan might not be so hostile to the ex-president.

With the present possibilities of war, it is very risky for a public man to oppose the building of a large navy.

In trying to get an issue out of the Panama canal Senator Gorman must feel like the hen that set on a nest egg.

Harmony has been established in the populist party, but there are few members left to enjoy it.

Panama has a constitution of 30 type written pages. Surely this is enough for such a small country.

The daughters of the Santo Domingan revolutions include every woman in that small republic.

Russia and Japan might arrange for a mimic war at the Lewis and Clark fair.

The name of the Japanese Hobson has not yet been given to the public.

The politicians will now turn the canal over to the engineers.

What are you doing for the sea wall?



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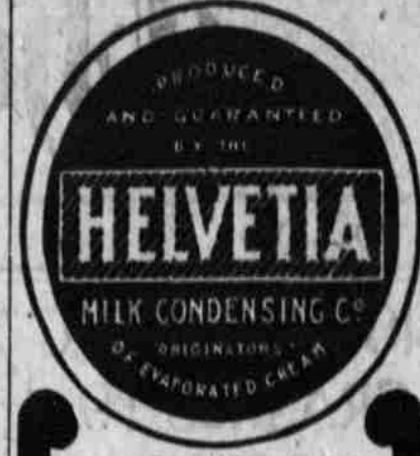
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8:00 a.m.	Portland Union Depot	11:10 a.m.
7:00 p.m.	Portland Union Depot	9:40 p.m.

ASTORIA

7:45 a.m.	For Portland and Way Points	11:30 a.m.
6:10 p.m.	Way Points	10:30 p.m.

SEASIDE DIVISION

8:15 a.m.	Astoria for Warrenton, Flavel, Stevens, Hammond and Seaside	7:40 a.m.
11:35 a.m.	Stevens, Hammond and Seaside	4:00 p.m.
5:50 p.m.	Stevens, Hammond and Seaside	10:45 a.m.

6:15 a.m.	Seaside for Warrenton, Flavel, Hammond, Stevens & Astoria	12:50 p.m.
9:30 a.m.	Hammond, Fort Stevens & Astoria	7:30 p.m.
2:30 p.m.	Stevens & Astoria	9:25 a.m.

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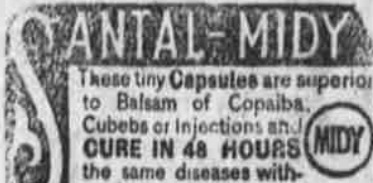
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