

# JAPANESE UNITE IN SUPREME EFFORT TO REDUCE PORT ARTHUR—BOMBARD FOR PRESS FROM ENTIRE FRONTAGE

## STRONGHOLD'S CAPTURE IS BELIEVED IMMINENT

Consul Says All Other Battles Have Been But Skirmishes.

### CANONADE IS TERRIFIC

Russian Guns Reply With Dogged Steadiness and Great Regularity—News of Missing Cruisers is Received.

(Journal Special Service.)  
Chefoo, Aug. 20.—It is believed, and that belief founded on reports from many sources, that the supreme effort of the Japanese to reduce Port Arthur is taking place today. The heaviest firing heard since the opening of operations was distinct and pronounced here last night and all fishermen and neutral ships arriving here today bear out the story that bombardment, in which every possible gun is brought to bear, is proceeding unceasingly.

At daybreak this morning the batteries on Zit heights opened and this, according to all advices, continued all along the line until the cannonade became terrific.

The Russian, at last accounts, were answering with dogged steadiness and clock-like regularity, their answer being timed perfectly and great damage being done the more venturesome attacks of the Japanese.

At noon the Japanese consul from Tien Tsin arrived here and says that today's assault against the fortress is being directed along the entire front of the fort.

"It is," he said, "Japan's supreme effort, compared to which all recent battles were but preliminary skirmishes. I firmly believe that Port Arthur will soon be in our possession, and would not be surprised to hear at any moment that this has been accomplished."

Among other reports received this morning was one from the captain of a small coasting steamer, who says that last night the bombardment of the fort was kept up by different batteries, evidently with the intention of harassing the Russian garrison in preparation for today's great attack.

For the past two days, according to these reports, the Japanese have been making all preparations for a general advance, and there has been a steady encroachment on the Russian lines, troops bivouacking close to central points in expectation of a general forward rush.

From this it is believed that the plan embodies a terrific and perhaps continued bombardment from the latest positions taken and then at the last an overwhelming rush from all possible points. Those who are familiar with the situation and have been watching the course of events, doubt that the fortress will fall in one great battle, but are inclined to think that even though the outlying forts and perhaps the main position of the town itself may be gained, the Russians will be able to fight and hold a central ground for many days.

### FASTER PRAISES JAPAN.

Tells Soldiers That Fate is Reversed, and Haze Is to the Swift.

(Journal Special Service.)  
Cassel, Prussia, Aug. 20.—After a review of the troops by the Kaiser today His Majesty summoned the senior officers at the garrison and delivered the following address:

(Continued on Page Two.)

## DESPERATE BATTLE WITH FOREST FIRES

Flames at Boring Endanger Mills, Wind May Fan Them to Life Again and Devastate the Region.

Portland Has Fire Fight of Its Own and Suburban Church and Dwellings Are Saved After a Hard Struggle.



CARROLL BRYCE, THE SIX FOOT CLUBMAN AND A. H. PRICE, THE FIVE FOOT JANITOR WHO TERRORIZES HIM.

## MIDGET JANITOR BLUFFS A GIANT

(Journal Special Service.)  
New York, Aug. 20.—Carroll Bryce, the six-foot clubman and athlete, has set New York to laughing again by his latest move in his tilt with A. H. Price, the five-foot janitor of the flat building in which he lives. Mr. Bryce's purpose was to buy the building and discharge the janitor, whom he fears. He has made an offer of \$500,000 for the house, and it is not improbable that the owner will close the deal.

## WHEAT PAST \$1.16 IN CHICAGO PIT

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Chicago, Aug. 20.—Today's prices on wheat are the highest yet reached since 1893. The market in detail shows:

|            | High       | Close      | Rise    |
|------------|------------|------------|---------|
| New, Sept. | \$1.13 1/4 | \$1.10 1/4 | .01 1/2 |
| Old, Sept. | 1.12 1/4   | 1.12 1/4   | .01 1/2 |
| December   | 1.12 1/4   | 1.12 1/4   | .01 1/2 |
| May        | 1.16 1/4   | 1.15 1/4   | .01 1/2 |

Prices in the wheat pit today received a material advance and touched the highest point reached since 1893. The advance of yesterday, which was the most sensational of the season, was still quite fresh in the minds of the pit crowd this morning when the market opened.

Today's market and subsequent advance was very sensational inasmuch as it was unexpected. Since the market has made some very wonderful rises of late and the crop damage reports are not of such extensive character everywhere, was expected a lower opening and a reaction in prices all down the list during the session.

Instead of an opening at lower prices the advances in the various options was even more pronounced than yesterday. The high figures ruling in the northwest markets were a big boom to the "bull" feeling here. In Minneapolis September option had a very strong closing at \$1.19 1/4, while in Duluth the same option was \$1.19 bid, although Minneapolis is doing the most buying.

The closing in New York on September was but \$1.15 1/4 bid, but the tone there was somewhat mixed. In Kansas City September wheat closed at \$1.00 1/4, but in St. Louis the market held strong with the closing figure at \$1.14 1/4.

## FUNSTON MAY RETAIN COLUMBIAN COMMAND

(Journal Special Service.)  
Washington, Aug. 20.—There is some question as to whether General Funston will take command of the department of the lakes. The military authorities will permit him to express a preference and he may elect to remain at Vancouver barracks. He is now on duty in Alaska.

## DESPERATE BATTLE WITH FOREST FIRES

Flames at Boring Endanger Mills, Wind May Fan Them to Life Again and Devastate the Region.

Portland Has Fire Fight of Its Own and Suburban Church and Dwellings Are Saved After a Hard Struggle.

One hundred men made a desperate fight last night in the timber four miles east of Boring station to save L. Gerlinger's saw mill from destruction by fire. The houses and goods of all the employees were also in danger, and the men fought for their own property as well as for that of the company.

At one time the fire was within 200 feet of the mill and the homes of the men, and they removed all their household goods and loaded them on a flat car that had been left for that purpose by the trainmen of the Oregon Water Power & Railway company. The locomotive pulled all other cars of the company down to Boring and then remained with calling distance so that the engine could run in and get the flat car and household goods should the men be unable to check the fire.

The fire is now raging between the Gerlinger mill and the Linderman mill, and it is reported at Barton, two miles distant, that the Linderman mill is burning.

Wind May Start Fires.  
Brown & Hicks, wood dealers, have 1,700 cords of wood half a mile from the Gerlinger mill, and Mr. Brown was on the scene all last night, organizing men to drive the fire away from this wood. It is reported today that the wood is safe for the present, but an unfavorable wind is feared.

A farmer named Judd had just harvested his grain and stacked it in the field. The entire crop, two stacks of wheat and a stack of oats, was destroyed by yesterday's fire.

The timber in this vicinity is a mixture of green fir and dead timber and settlers have ranches but a few miles from the fire. They are working night and day to check the spread of the flames.

Twelve Miles of Fire.  
Winds Fan Flames in Mountains About Albany.  
(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Albany, Or., Aug. 20.—The forest fire in the mountains of this county threatened to become dangerous yesterday, and many men went out to help fight the flames. In the deadening at Cedar bottom, 14 miles east of Lebanon, the wind fanned the fire until they spread rapidly and last night the line of fire was fully 12 miles long but the flames are still in the old timber and little green wood has been burned.

If the winds do not rise the fire will be controlled without difficulty. At Waterloo yesterday a fire in the woods for a time threatened the town with destruction. The inhabitants were able to execute the deeds and pay over the money.

Change of Plans.  
But a resurvey of the route of the canal by the government engineers has resulted in some slight changes in the original plan, and this has involved a renewal of the negotiations with the owners of some of the land. Questions have also arisen as to the precise terms of the conveyances to the state, and the grantors now insist upon reservations and restrictions which were not contemplated by the state board.

In the case of the O. R. & N., the company is willing to convey all that the state could obtain by a condemnation suit, and in order to determine exactly what the state's rights are it is proposed to bring such a suit. It is understood that the railroad will make no appeal, so that the proceedings will be disposed of as soon as a court convenes at The Dalles. Even a short delay at this time, however, is extremely unwelcome.

Governor's Position.  
Governor Chamberlain is not inclined to put to rest the attitude of the O. R. & N., as a necessary indicative of an intention to block the plans for the portage road, but he declares that if the company does show such a disposition he will be in favor of very aggressive action.

"Up to the present time," said the governor in discussing the situation, "the O. R. & N. has not seemed inclined to put any obstacles in the way of the"

(Continued on Page Two.)



SENATOR DUBOIS, WHO IS MAKING A CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE MORNING INFLUENCE IN IDAHO POLITICS.

## PORTAGE ROAD IS AGAIN DELAYED

Change in Surveys for Canal Will Involve Litigation with O. R. & N.—The State Must Wait.

Unexpected obstacles are delaying the acquisition of the right of way for the Cello canal, with the inevitable consequence that the plans for the portage road are also held in suspense. Before formal negotiations can be undertaken with the government for permission to construct the road over the land which is to be given by the state for the canal, it is first necessary to secure that land and deed it to the government.

Ever since the special session of the legislature the state board of canal commissioners has been engaged in securing the land required for the canal, and its labors were supposed to be practically completed with the conclusion of the condemnation suit against I. H. Taffe, for terms had been substantially agreed upon with all the other owners. The prices to be paid by the state for the several parcels of land had been fixed and apparently nothing remained but to execute the deeds and pay over the money.

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## ALGOA WILL LOAD HERE

Asiatic Company Charters Big Freighter For Orient Trade.

### CARRIED RECORD LOAD

Vessel That Will Be Sent to Take Surplus Cargo Once Took From This Port Largest Flour Cargo Ever Shipped.

Yielding to the demand of the exporters who have persistently insisted upon being provided with adequate transportation facilities, R. P. Schwerin, general manager of the Harriman water lines, has decided to send the steamship Algoa to Portland to load flour and other freight for Japan and China. Word to this effect was received in the city this morning by local officials of the Portland & Asiatic company. The ship is now lying at the Bay City and it is intended to have her here by the middle of next month.

The Algoa has the distinction of having loaded one of the largest flour cargoes at Portland that was ever carried from any port in the world. Last November she took 85,000 barrels of flour to the orient, which is about 26,000 barrels in excess of any other cargo exclusively of flour ever taken from any other port. Weighted down with this mammoth burden the steamer drew only 23 1/2 feet of water and reached the sea without a mishap.

But it is not thought probable that she will go out with such a record-breaking cargo on this trip. In addition to the Algoa, the Astor, another Pacific Mail liner, will load here during September and the Arabia is temporarily out of commission. The company is desirous of establishing a schedule once more. The sailing of the Arabia by the Vladivostok fleet was the means of temporarily demoralizing the market, but it is said that matters will shortly be straightened out in a satisfactory manner.

About three months ago the Algoa was badly damaged in the harbor at San Francisco. She was returning from the orient with a full cargo of general merchandise. Just before reaching port she ran onto an uncharted rock. Several large holes were torn in her bow. It was necessary to place her on the drydock and her repairs have just been completed before her last trip. The Algoa is a comparatively new steamer. She was launched at Sunderland in 1896, and has seen service as a government transport. The vessel is 455 feet long, 48 feet across the beam and 23.4 feet deep. She is of 4,897 net registered tons and 7,575 gross. Her dead-weight carrying capacity is in the neighborhood of 16,000 tons.

The Niocemida is expected to arrive from the orient next Tuesday. She is bringing a full cargo of general freight, but the officials of the company say that they will have her ready to sail on the outward trip by the last of the month. Her entire shipment will go to Hongkong.

A cable message announcing the safe arrival of the Aragona at Yokohama has been received, and it is now generally believed that all danger to commerce in oriental waters is past.

## BORROWS \$5, BUYS PISTOL, ENDS LIFE

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Tacoma, Wash., Aug. 20.—Frederick William Round, a railroad fireman, 32 years of age, borrowed \$5 from his mother yesterday, bought a revolver and was found in bed this morning by his mother with a bullet through his brain. Imaginary troubles and brooding over a love affair are given as the cause.

He was a brother of Fred A. Round, a wealthy contractor, now near Vancouver, Wash., looking after mining interests, and had a younger brother, Harold, a clerk in the Vancouver postoffice, and a sister, Mrs. E. A. Fender, a resident of Vancouver.

(Continued on Page Two.)

## The Sunday Journal

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## The Sunday Journal