

FIGHT FOE ON SEA

RUSSIANS SINK A JAPANESE TORPEDO BOAT.

Both Sides Suffer an Equal Loss—Russians Came Upon Japanese Unexpectedly in the Night While Out Scouting—Russian Admiral Shows Great Bravery in an Attempt at Rescue.

St. Petersburg, March 14.—The complete story of the fierce fight off Port Arthur between torpedo flotillas, which occurred Wednesday, and the bombardment which followed Thursday morning, was not given out here until after midnight.

Two official messages from Viceroy Alexieff had been received during the day and presented to the emperor, but the public remained in suspense. All sorts of rumors of the information contained in the dispatches were spread among the officials, but they did not have their texts, and were under the impression that Admiral Makaroff had directed the attack upon the enemy's ships. When the texts appeared, it became evident the collisions between the torpedo flotillas had occurred accidentally during the night while the Russians were scouting in search of the enemy.

As far as known here, this is the first time the torpedo boats have engaged each other at sea. Although the odds were against the Russians, as the squadron was supported by the cruisers of the enemy, the Russians made a heroic dash for the foe, and apparently had the better of the combat—sinking a Japanese torpedo boat—until the cruisers got within range and one of the latter's shells crippled the Stereguschchi.

The gallant action of Vice Admiral Makaroff in transferring his flag to the cruiser Novik, and sailing out in the face of the enemy in an attempt at rescue, receives unstinted praise, stamping him at the outset of his command as a man of force and action, who insists on being in the van of the fighting.

IDAHO TO BE SWIFT.

New Battleship Will Also Be Great Fighting Machine.

Washington, March 14.—Unless unforeseen obstacles are encountered, the battleship Idaho will become a part of the United States navy early in the spring of 1907. Under the terms of a contract recently made with the Cramp shipbuilding company, of Philadelphia, the Idaho and her sister ship, the Mississippi, are to be constructed at their yard at an aggregate cost of \$2,999,500, the contract period being 42 months. Plans for these ships have been completed and turned over to the contracting firm, and already steps have been taken looking to the construction of the two vessels.

The navy department has embodied in the Idaho the most modern ideas in naval architecture. While not as great as some of the vessels in modern navies, the Idaho is designed to be an all-around machine, not only capable of withstanding an attack from the enemy, but of being able to engage or give chase to the enemy if need be. In other words, the Idaho embodies the best features of the modern battleship and cruiser combined.

GREATER ATTACK IS IMMINENT.

Japanese Bombardments of Port Arthur Only Preparatory.

London, March 14.—A correspondent of the Telegraph at Seoul describes the recent Japanese attacks on Port Arthur as "successful preparatory bombardment," thereby intimating that a greater attempt to reduce Port Arthur is thought imminent.

A correspondent at Chefoo of the Mail gives alleged information of the Japanese landing movements up to March 9, and says disembarkation is proceeding at Chemulpo and points to the northward with marvelous rapidity. During the last ten days 16 transports have landed 10,000 men at a town the Japanese call Kaishoe. Dispatch boats began to run on Wednesday between Chemulpo and Chinampo.

The Lewis Crusade to St. Louis.

All persons of the name of Lewis, their relatives and friends in America are preparing for the crusade of the Lewis clans to the World's Fair in St. Louis, Friday, September 23, 1904, in honor of the memory of their distinguished tribesman. Capt. Meriwether Lewis. Lewis day, Sept. 23, 1904, will mark the 98th anniversary of the triumphant return of the Lewis & Clark expedition of discovery to the Pacific. August 12, 1905, will be Lewis day at the Lewis & Clark exposition in Portland, Oregon.

Russians Will Be Held at Harbin.

Mukden, Manchuria, March 14.—It is officially announced that in consequence of the many conflicting accounts of the landing of Japanese troops at different points, and the various reports of the intentions of the Japanese commanders, the Russian army corps which has arrived at Harbin will be detained. It will be most difficult to find accommodations for this great body of troops, and their detention at Harbin will entail much hardship.

Crisis at Hand in Cauca.

Panama, March 14.—The internal situation in the Colombian department of Cauca has in no way improved, and appears to be approaching a crisis. The election to the presidency of Colombia of General Rafael Reyes is declared in some quarters to be the only thing that can possibly prevent a movement for Cauca to secede.

WILD GALE RAGES.

Pacific Coast From San Diego to Vancouver Island Wind Swept.

San Francisco, March 12.—The worst rain and wind storm in 13 years swept over this city and along the Pacific coast today, doing much damage to shipping, railroads and frame buildings through the state. The storm extends from San Diego to Vancouver Island, and it is feared that many marine disasters have occurred along the coast.

In this city this morning the barometer reached 29.23, the lowest record, and the wind registered a velocity of 48 miles an hour, while at Sacramento a gale of 64 miles was recorded. Telegraph and telephone wires were prostrated in every direction and for several hours this city was entirely cut off from the outside world.

At the Cliff House on the beach near the entrance to San Francisco Bay tremendous waves dashed against the rocky shore and sent masses of spray over the huge baths, a steel frame building 50 feet high. Numerous small craft on the bay were blown ashore and damage to shipping in San Francisco bay will amount to many thousands of dollars.

Reports from the interior show that the storm extended over practically the entire state. In the southern portion, where the season has been dry, the rain will greatly benefit crops.

SECRETS FOR SALE.

French Officer Offers Japan Important Naval Information.

Paris, March 12.—In spite of official reticence and denials from the Japanese legation here, it is affirmed that a noncommissioned officer named Martin, who was employed in the ministry of marine, and who is now under arrest, attempted to sell French naval secrets to a naval attaché at the Japanese legation.

The discovery of this alleged attempt came as a result of the accidental opening of a letter addressed to the noncommissioned officer by a naval captain of the same name. The letter was from an intermediary, but it indicated the principals in the affair. It is alleged that several women are implicated, and one of them has confessed.

It appears now that only one document is missing from the ministry of marine, but it is possible that Martin photographed and replaced others. It is not probable that the information alleged to have been stolen got beyond the intermediary, and it is said the Japanese naval attaché, who is supposed to have been in indirect communication with Martin, sailed for home on board one of the cruisers which Japan purchased from Argentina.

READY FOR WAR IN BALKANS

Russia, However, Does Not Expect an Outbreak in the Spring.

St. Petersburg, March 11.—Careful inquiry concerning the outlook in the Balkans reveals the fact that the prevailing opinion in government, as well as diplomatic circles, is against an outbreak of war in the spring, although the danger is not considered passed. A perfect understanding exists between Russia and Austria, and besides, the Russian authorities appear to be satisfied completely regarding the attitude of Bulgaria. What assurances the authorities have concerning Bulgaria are not known, but they do not tally with direct information from other sources, representing Bulgaria as having her army under mobilization, with having her plans perfected for an invasion of Turkey, and as being confident that she can defeat the Turks single handed.

Evidently the porte is alarmed at the outlook, as an American, a representative of an ordinance firm, who came here to act as a broker in the sale of South American warships to Russia, has been requested to go to Constantinople immediately, the sultan desiring to purchase a large supply of guns.

Officers Fight Mob Off.

Murphysboro, Ill., March 12.—A mob of 75 men from Carbondale made an attempt at 4 o'clock this morning to take Thomas Vaughn, a negro, from the county jail here. Sheriff Thorp had been apprised of their coming and he and Deputy Woodruff lay in wait. When the mob reached the jail the officers trained their guns on it. The mob quickly dispersed, but not until three of its members had been captured. Deputy Woodruff's gun was discharged prematurely, tearing his arm.

Holds Balkan Situation Alarming.

St. Petersburg, March 12.—A special dispatch to the Vedomosti paints the Balkan situation in dark colors. The correspondent declares that a collision between Bulgaria and Turkey may occur any day and says that it was hoped that the draft of the agreement submitted by M. Natchevitch, the Bulgarian diplomatic agent at Constantinople, to the porte would patch up peace, but the sultan at the last moment refused to sign it.

Now \$12,600,000 a Pound.

New York, March 12.—An importer of rubber here gives out the startling news that the price of this latest product of the scientist has increased \$4,200,000 a pound in two days. The commercial rate last week was \$8,400,000, now it is \$12,600,000. So great has been the demand for a few grains that the supply on the market probably will have disappeared entirely by the end of the present month.

NEW RIOT FEARED

MORE TROOPS HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO SPRINGFIELD.

Saloons Closed and Many Other Lines of Business Practically Suspended—Negroes Keep ON the Streets—One Who Ventures Out After Dark Is Fired Upon—Martial Law Exists.

Springfield, O., March 11.—The situation tonight was considered by the authorities to be more threatening than at any time since the beginning of the present race troubles. The only outbreak up to midnight, however, occurred at 11 o'clock in Short Winter street. Five shots aimed at a colored man were the occasion of three companies of militia being dispatched to the scene of the disturbance. By the time the militiamen arrived the police had restored order, and the colored occupants of several houses were ordered indoors.

While Governor Herrick has not proclaimed a state of martial law, such a condition practically exists in the downtown formerly occupied by the negro resorts. Ten companies of the Ohio National Guard are on picket duty, and seven more companies are expected here before morning. The saloons, without exception, are closed, and many other lines of business have practically ceased. Mayor Bowlds has not only closed the remaining negro saloons, hotels and lodging houses which are under the ban of the mob, but has ordered the proprietors in every instance to move out all the intoxicating drinks, and in some instances even the fixtures, including gambling apparatus.

While there are 15,000 negroes in this city, none was seen anywhere tonight. The body of Dixon, the negro, was privately interred here tonight in Ferncliff cemetery. The order for saloons to remain closed is observed, but no attention is paid to the mayor's proclamation for people to keep off the streets, which was issued at noon.

The mob has at no time shown a disposition to burn property other than that on the levee. The loss from last night's fire is between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

The troops this afternoon, in dispersing a crowd, discovered a quantity of dynamite that was intended for blowing up the remaining negro dives.

HAS BATTLE ON.

Tokio Is Sure Port Arthur Is Once More Under Fire.

London, March 11.—Special advices from Tokio state that there is little doubt that the bombardment of Port Arthur was resumed today, but at the war office all information on the subject is refused. Persistent rumors to this effect are in circulation, however, in quarters where there should be a knowledge of the truth or falsity of the report, and as no effort is being made to deny it, the presumption is it is well founded.

The Russian advance into Northern Corea continues, according to the latest advices received at the war office. It is probable that a serious clash will soon take place in that locality.

The mission of Marquis Ito to Corea, it is emphatically stated, will not be of an administrative nature, but rather a strong expression of the relations the mikado desires to establish with Corea.

From Tien Tsin advices are sent that by a series of rapid marches the Japanese have succeeded in surprising the Russian force sent to throw intrenchments at Fung Wang Chang, and compelled them to abandon the position, the Russians being outnumbered and unable to secure the commanding position planned. The Japanese army then marched northward to an eastern pass to Takung Ling, and is now moving on Hai Tchong and Lio Yang where a force of 35,000 Russians are strongly intrenched. An engagement is imminent at the latter place, and if the Japanese are successful the line of communication with Port Arthur will be cut, endangering the safety of the fortress, while Nin Chwang and its port, Yinkow, are almost certain to fall.

Russia May Need Fleet of Steamers.

New York, March 11.—The Russian steam navigation company is said to have received government instructions which compel it to curtail ordinary operations, particularly outside the Black sea, says a dispatch to the Times from Sebastopol. It is understood the instructions provide for a contingency call on their tonnage by the government. The company's contract with the government provides for the government's acquisition of the whole fleet for troops and other military work within the Black sea.

Her Hope Lies in Second War.

Kieff, Russia, March 11.—The papers here make a feature of an interview with a Japanese correspondent of the Nichi Nichi, who is now visiting the Balkans. He is quoted as saying the Japanese fully recognize they have no hope of defeating Russia, unless her attention is diverted by possible complications in the Balkans. The object of his visit is to ascertain the chances of such trouble breaking out in the near future.

Federal Officers Given Warning.

Washington, March 11.—The secretary of the interior has sent letters to all the federal officials involved in the Bonaparte-Woodruff report on Indian Territory affairs, formally calling attention to the findings and recommendations of that report, and warning that if they retain public office they must separate themselves from the private corporate connections they are accused of having.

ALL EYES ON IT.

Russian Vladivostok Squadron Must Soon Be Located.

Tokio, March 10.—It is believed here that there has already been a decisive naval engagement in the vicinity of Vladivostok, and details of it are anxiously awaited. The Japanese fleet did not, it is said, go to Vladivostok for the purpose of bombarding the town, but to locate and attack the Russian fleet stationed there. It is understood here that when the Japanese fleet arrived there on Sunday last, it found the Russian squadron absent. If this is true, it gave the Japanese squadron advantage in the way of avoiding battle close to the inshore batteries, at the same time putting it in a position to prevent the Russian ships re-entering the harbor. It is doubted that the Japanese withdrew their entire squadron unless the location of the enemy had been discovered, as it meant surrendering the advantage of being in a position between the enemy and the enemy's base.

There is a strong possibility that the Japanese found the Russian ships in the vicinity of Possiet Bay, and gave them battle there. The names and numbers of ships in the Japanese squadron have been kept secret, but it was probably sufficiently strong to divide into two divisions, the one to guard Vladivostok, and the other to cruise in search of the Russian ships. The navy department expects to receive dispatches tomorrow from Gen San, where it has planned the fleet would call after the operation involving an attack upon the Russian squadron had been concluded.

WAR COST NOT A DEAD LOSS.

Russia Figures That Most of the Money Will Go to Her People.

Paris, March 9.—A St. Petersburg dispatch gives an interview with M. Kokovzev, to whom has been entrusted the raising of funds required for the conducting of the war.

"Even on the most unfavorable hypothesis," he says, "the vital forces of the empire cannot be effected. The expenditure must not be looked upon from a European viewpoint, or compared, for example, with the South African struggle. Would Russia have to spend, for example, 380,000,000 francs for the purchase of horses outside of her domains? Hardly. At the maximum she will expend but 10,000,000 francs, and this will be exclusively expended in Russia. The cost of the transport of the troops, and supplies, also, will be paid over to the state railway."

"In a general way, it can be stated that the money expended from the national treasury will not be the dead loss that the cost of the Transvaal war was to Great Britain. Most of it will ultimately benefit the Russian merchants and manufacturers. It would be a gross exaggeration to suppose that the war will entail a gross expenditure on Russia of one-quarter of the total of the cost of the war in South Africa to the British government."

SPLIT ON BILL.

Senators Fail to Agree on Land Reform Measures.

Washington, March 10.—Western senators are hopeful that legislation along the lines recommended in the report of the Public Land Commission, sent to congress yesterday, will be enacted at the present session of congress. The senate committee expects to take up the commission's recommendations at its meeting tomorrow, and an effort will be made to secure a report on a bill repealing the timber and stone act, providing for the sale of government timber, and carrying out the recommendations regarding desert land and homestead commutation laws.

Unfortunately there is a division of the committee on party lines, the democrats, with the exception of Dubois, of Idaho, favoring the outright repeal of the timber and stone laws to take their place. Bard, of California, and Dietrich, of Nebraska, are now with the democrats. All other republicans, except Nelson, favor legislation similar to that recommended by the commission. This leaves the committee standing seven members for absolute repeal, six supporting the commission's recommendation, with Nelson in doubt and Burton absent.

Russia to Have Large Force.

Paris, March 10.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Figaro has sent an interview with General Sakharoff, minister of war, who, while refusing to give the number of men concentrated in the Far East, said the military authorities were well pleased. There was no lack of troops, he said, but the means of transportation beyond Lake Balkal were inadequate, and he was about to send 120 locomotives and 2000 cars beyond the lake in order to move the troops more rapidly. General Sakharoff declared that the number of troops to go to Manchuria had not yet been fixed.

Orders Given by Governor.

Columbus, O., March 10.—Upon urgent representations from Mayor Bowlds, of Springfield, O., that a race war was imminent, as a result of the lynching of the negro Dixon, Governor Herrick tonight ordered eight companies of state militia to that city to preserve order. Adjutant-General Crutchfield at once arranged for the mobilization of the troops. Governor Herrick's first order to Mayor Bowlds was to issue a proclamation ordering the closing of all saloons.

Russia Tears Building Down.

St. Louis, March 10.—The framework for the Russian National Pavilion at the World's Fair, was torn down today on receipt of a cablegram from St. Petersburg by Contractor Lecouer, who has been in charge of the work. The cablegram was from the department of the interior, briefly ordering such work as had not been completed torn down.



Portable Scale Rack. A. J. Kingery, of Illinois, tells how to construct a portable scale rack and sends the St. Louis Republic a sketch. "My scale platform," he says, "is 7x14 feet and I use posts 4x4, seven feet long, with four on a side for uprights. In both ends of the uprights bore a 9/16-inch hole, six inches deep, and take a five-eighth rod and cut in lengths of eight inches and drive in these holes. Next lay 4x4's on the platform of scales, one side at a time, laying the two end ones flush with the ends of the planks on the platform. Then space the other 4x4's equally distant from the ends, then nail on six fence boards, the first board six inches from the bottom of the 4x4's and the rest of them should be eight inches apart. Mark opposite each rod in the 4x4's and bore a three-fourth-inch hole, two inches from the outer edge of plank. Nail the boards on the inside

of the 4x4's. Hang the gates so they can be taken off easily. Use 2x4's for cross ties at the tops of the posts to fit over the iron pins placed in them. Drive a 20-penny nail through the ends of the pieces of 2x4's so they will not pull out when strained. Use staples and hooks for fastening the gates. One man can take this rack off or put it on in a few minutes. To take the rack off first remove the gates. Then take off the cross ties, then lift off the sides. Put on again by reversing the operation."

Use Wood Ashes Profitably. While there is no reason why wood ashes cannot be used on many of the farm crops raised, provided they are carefully used, the best results come from their use on hay lands. Here they may be freely used and will invariably give good results. The writer has used them to advantage in potato growing and in corn, on rather sandy soil well filled with humus or vegetable matter; but dissolved South Carolina rock was always used to mix with the ashes, and the combination was used as a dressing, not dropping out the usual fertilizers applied during the preparation of the seed bed.

In using wood ashes on meadows, one must be sure that they are dry, unleached ashes, or their potash content, their main value, will be small, hence the application will fail to produce satisfactory results, and the expense will be heavy. It is a good plan to submit samples of wood ashes to the experiment station of your State for examination before going into them very heavy.

Angoras at the Fair. Every Angora breeder should be proud of the recognition given Angora goats at the St. Louis Exposition, says American Sheep Breeder. Hon. F. D. Coburn, chief of the live stock department, has offered the same premiums for Angoras as for sheep. There could have been no complaint of injustice had he offered less for goats, owing to the newness

of the industry, and so we all appreciate the liberality of the premiums. The best way for goat men to show their appreciation is to have a large number of the best goats in the country at that great show. It would be well at this early date to select the goats you propose to show there and get them in good condition. This portrait of Mrs. M. Armer, of Kingston, N. M., is reproduced from American Sheep Breeder. Mrs. Armer is known as the "American Angora queen."

How to Catch Sheep. A sheep should never be caught by its wool, says Pacific Homestead. This method not only causes the animal unnecessary pain, but in the case of fat sheep that are to be killed it does much harm to the joint of mutton that lies underneath where the wool was pulled. It causes a dark bruise just in the same manner as our bodies become discolored from being bruised.

The proper way to catch a sheep is to take it either by the hind leg just above the gambrel joint or by putting the hand underneath its jaw or neck. In using a crook it is important that the sheep are not caught below the gambrel joint, as injury to the leg is liable to result from this.

A Successful Frog Industry. Mr. Nathaniel Wetzen, formerly of Kilbourn, Wis., says an exchange, has been remarkably successful in several large business enterprises of an agricultural nature. He acquired the title of "melon king" by making Rocky

Ford, Col., famous for its cantaloupes. He has just now won the title of "frog king" by doing \$40,000 worth of business in bull-frogs at Beaumont, Texas, during the past year. These frogs came from both Louisiana and Texas, and Mr. Wetzel is about to establish near New Orleans the largest frog ranch in the world, where 30 expert catchers will be constantly employed.

Cutting Corn Fodder Feed. The writer recently called on a German farmer who was making his way in the world, but with little capital to work with. He had read much of the advantages of shredded corn stover and of feeding stock roughage run through a cutter if one couldn't have the use of the shredder. Both machines were beyond his means, but he was determined to test for himself the value of the cut fodder. He had evidently proved its value to his satisfaction, for he said that the present was the third winter he had cut the fodder for his three cows each day with a hatchet.

It was an enormous task, but as he had the time to spare and had proved it profitable he continued it. With a smile of satisfaction he said that he had made enough money from the extra milk to pay for a good cutter, which he would have another season. The chances are this man will earn a shredder this time. Many dairymen and farmers with but a few cows decline to do such work or to use a cutting machine, saying that it does not pay when the dairy is small. This is just where many of us make mistakes, for if we would look out for the small profits the larger ones would come by accumulation and later there would be room for the shredder.

Some Winter Work. Among the "odd jobs" that can be done in winter the Southern Planter gives the following: "Pastures, fence rows and borders of streams may be cleared of bush growth. Muck can be dug and left on the edge of the swamp to dry and weather. Do repairing, shingling and painting when weather permits. Study convenience in the barn and set up carriers for hay, manure and slage, and chutes for hay and grain. Make rat-tight grain bins if needed. Have plenty of forks, shovels, measures, brooms, brushes, currycombs, etc., for barn use, and a good place to keep them. Put the harnesses in good order; repair and sharpen tools; sort winter fruit; draw off and mix cider to hasten vinegar making; study farm papers and books, and plan a better system for the farm operations."

Poke for Calves. Paul Wolson, of Kansas, says: "A very good poke for keeping calves or cows from going through the wire fence is made as shown in the sketch. Take four pieces of barbed wire about four feet long, twist together and make a hook at top end. Place over the calf's neck and twist all four together under the neck of the calf and make another hook below. A calf will not make many attempts to creep having one of these on."

Radishes an Easy Crop. Radishes can be grown, like lettuce, continuously from autumn until spring in either hotbeds or hotheads. The radish is the easiest of all vegetables to cultivate. The rapid growth and quick maturity permit planting them in connection with other crops in alternate rows five or six inches apart or in rows about the same distance apart all to radishes. As a rule, the radish crop is not profitable to grow under glass in the fall and early winter. For this reason they are not planted generally until the last of December or first of January or even later. They are successfully and profitably grown in connection with lettuce and beets and can always be grown to good advantage with cucumbers, says Denver Field.

Better Crops from Less Land. It is much labor applied to a small space of ground that produces most profitable results. The amount of fertility removed by a crop should be considered. A ton of apples worth, say, \$20, takes away only 60 cents worth of fertility, while a ton of wheat worth not much more money removed \$6 worth of fertility, or more than is removed by a ton of asparagus, which sells for \$200. Nitrate of soda has increased a crop of timothy from 25 to 65 per cent, when applied very early in the spring, and has actually increased the value of market garden crops over \$200 per acre under the system of intensive gardening.

Dairying in Canada. The outlook for winter butter is good, says a Canadian correspondent of Hoard's Dairyman. Stocks are light, and holders of choice fall creamery are not selling, believing better things are in store for them. Winter creamery butter is not altogether dependent on the export trade for a market. The local demand for this quality is increasing every year, and many factories find a ready market for their winter's output right at home. By all means our dairymen should make butter instead of cheese during the winter.