

READY TO SPRING

Twenty-Two Japanese Warships In Track of Russians.

WILL WAIT FOR THE ENEMY

Great Naval Battle Seems to Be Next Scene in the Military Drama in the Far East.

London, March 16.—A dispatch to Lloyd's, dated at Singapore, 6 p. m., says the British steamer Hongwan I reports having passed 22 Japanese warships off Horeburg, 20 miles east of Singapore, at the entrance to the Straits of Malacca.

The appearance of Vice Admiral Togo's fleet in the track that would be used in any attempt by Vice Admiral Rojstvensky to make for Vladivostok is the most interesting news of the day. It is not known whether Vice Admiral Togo himself is with the fleet.

According to the Daily Mail's correspondent at Singapore, who visited the fleet, the officers were unusually reticent. Two Japanese officers landed and conferred with the Japanese consul, and it was understood by the correspondent that the squadron would soon sail again, as it required nothing.

The presumption is that Rojstvensky's squadron is still off the coast of Madagascar, but, as the ice in the harbor of Vladivostok is beginning to give way, the Russian admiral must soon make a decision whether to dash for Vladivostok or return to Russia.

Naval experts here believe that Togo will not come much further in quest of the Baltic squadron, on the ground that he cannot afford to run unnecessary risks.

STORM ON BRITISH COAST.

Many Shipwrecks and Serious Loss of Life Result.

London, March 16.—A storm of hurricane force burst over the Irish and English coasts during the night, and it is feared that many disasters have occurred. The telegraph lines are broken at many points. The British ship Khyber has been wrecked off the Cornish coast. Twenty-three of her crew were drowned and three were saved. The Khyber sailed from Melbourne, Australia, October 29, for Queens-town.

The storm swept over the north of Ireland early this morning, and did great damage to property. Fears are entertained for the safety of the fishing fleets.

The high winds have caused terrible havoc along the coasts of the United Kingdom. Telegraphic communication between London and many points is cut off. The lifeboat stations are busy, and shipping everywhere is seeking shelter. Numbers of minor wrecks, accompanied by loss of life, have been reported.

READY ON TIME.

Lewis and Clark Fair Will Be Complete on Day of Opening.

Portland, March 16.—With the exposition more than two months away, exhibits from all parts of the world are daily reaching the exposition grounds. There are now a hundred cars or more of exhibits stored in the various buildings and word has been received that many more shipments are en route from Eastern points and ports.

The significance of this is that the various displays can be arranged more effectively than has ever before been accomplished at an exposition. Since the exhibit palaces are nearly all completed and the others will soon be done, there can be no delay in getting the exposition ready, and it is announced as the intention of the exposition management to have the fair in a state of readiness even to the slightest detail on June 1.

Poles Don't Want to Fight.

Warsaw, March 16.—Reservists who were waiting in the barracks at Wolowek, government of Grande, formed a conspiracy to foment organized disturbances among the troops in order to avoid being sent to Manchuria. The offenders were court-martialed, five of them were condemned to death and executed on March 13, and four were sentenced for life and eight to 20 years' penal servitude. The mobilization of the Fifteenth and Nineteenth corps, stationed in Poland, is expected to begin in a few days.

Russian Guns Sunk in Rivers.

Ninchwang, March 16.—The military men here advance the theory that the difference in the number of guns the Japanese are reported to have captured and those General Kuropatkin is reported to have lost, is owing to the Russians, when routed, dropping their guns into the rivers through the ice and abandoning others in ravines and gullies. It is expected that, as soon as the present rush at Mukden is over, search for the lost artillery will begin.

Tie Pass Taken.

Tokio, March 16.—The Japanese occupied Tie pass at midnight, March 15. Details of the occupation of Tie pass have not yet been received at imperial army headquarters. An official bulletin reports the action and that the Japanese are in hot pursuit of the retreating Russians, but it does not mention any particulars about the fight.

ROASTED TO DEATH.

Nineteen Persons Perish in New York Tenement House Fire.

New York, March 15.—Nineteen persons were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the five-story tenement house at 165 Allen street early today. More than 40 are injured and only a few of the sleeping inmates escaped unhurt. Several of those who perished were roasted to death in plain view of the thousands in the streets.

Coroner Goldenkranz declared after an investigation that he had reason to believe the blaze was the work of an incendiary. He issued subpoenas for the fire marshal, tenement house commission and building owners and health and police officials to appear before him at the inquest Thursday.

The fire started in the basement occupied by Isaac Davis, his wife and three children. Davis had been out last night, and returned early this morning, going into his store upon the same floor just in time to see the kerosene lamp in the rear explode.

He says he woke his wife, and both tried to put out the flaming lamp, but without success, and then gave all their attention to getting their children out of the building. A policeman who heard the cry of alarm rushed to the scene, and every effort was made to rouse the sleeping persons in the house.

In the meantime the flames had spread with startling rapidity, and when the persons who had been asleep in the upper floors awoke they found themselves confronted by a wall of flames on every side. The panic-stricken people, fighting for their lives, rushed to the fire escapes, only to find them littered with rubbish of all descriptions and almost impassable. Down through these narrow passageways flowed a stream of humanity.

WHOLE LAW DEAD.

Congress Unintentionally Abolished Lien Land Selections.

Washington, March 15.—Without intending to do so, congress has apparently repealed the lien land law in its entirety. It doing so it has erased from the statute books the law which has been responsible for more fraud than any other public land statute; it has put an end forever to a system of exchanges by which the Federal government has actually been cheated out of millions of dollars' worth of valuable timber land.

In the closing hours of the last congress, the senate passed a bill that had long been on its calendar, intended to restrict lien selections to non-timbered lands. It was a bill that had previously been passed by the house, but which had been amended by the senate committee. Because of this amendment, the bill was sent to conference, and there it was again altered until it was amended out of shape and accomplished a very different purpose from what it did as it passed the house and senate.

Although the bill retained its title, "An act prohibiting the selection of timber lands in lien of lands in forest reserves," its text was so changed that it not only prohibited the selection of timber lands, but all lands in exchange for lands in forest reserves.

FINANCIERS MAY BRING PEACE

Refusal of French Bankers to Lend Money is a Blow to Russia.

London, March 15.—The revolt of the French bankers is considered by the London newspapers as the most hopeful and important news of the day, promising an early conclusion of peace between Russia and Japan. Apparently the proposed loan has not been absolutely refused, but only "postponed." This, however, is regarded here as being tantamount to a refusal, and is expected to speak louder to the Russian war party even than Kuropatkin's reverse at Mukden.

It is the general belief that by the death of M. Germain, the late governor of the credit Lyonnais, Russia lost her strongest financial friend in France, and that, had he been still alive, no difficulty would have been experienced. With the American and English markets closed to her, it is thought that Russia can only turn to Germany, which is not likely to be much more responsive than France, and the only alternative would seem to be to make peace.

Island Officers Get More Pay.

Washington, March 15.—Hereafter the ten per cent additional pay allowed the officers serving in the insular possessions will be computed on the basis of their regular salaries, with longevity pay added, according to a decision rendered by the supreme court of the United States. The question was involved in a suit instituted by Lieutenant Colonel Stephen C. Mills, who served two years in the Philippines. His salary was \$3,000 and his longevity allowance \$1,000. He was paid 10 per cent additional upon the \$3,000.

Price of Linoleum Will Advance.

New York, March 15.—Leading manufacturers of linoleum have agreed, says the Journal of Commerce, to advance all inland goods 10 per cent and all printed goods 20 per cent the increase to take effect on all goods manufactured from today. Present stocks will be sold at the old prices between now and May 1, after which nothing will be sold except at the new figures. This action has been prompted by radical changes in the cost of raw material.

Nebraskans Will Keep Passes.

Lincoln, Neb., March 15.—The house today, by a vote of 42 to 40, agreed to indefinitely postpone the bill making it a crime to give or accept railroad passes. Today's action disposes of all the anti-pass measures, every one being defeated.

ONE MUST LEAVE

Secretary Hay and His Assistant Don't Agree.

DOMINICAN TREATY THE CAUSE

Loomis Its Chief Promoter—Action on Ratification Will Decide Which Must Go.

Washington, March 14.—Unless some conciliatory bird of peace shall perch itself in the State department soon, either Secretary Hay or his first assistant, Francis B. Loomis, will resign within a month. That there has been a rift in the department has been known for some time, but that it had reached a serious point is just manifest.

The whole trouble is said to be due principally to the fact that Secretary Hay is not in thorough accord with President Roosevelt in his policy toward Santo Domingo, as emphasized by the much criticised treaty now under consideration in the senate, while Secretary Loomis is the power behind it in the State department. It is well known that Secretary Hay has a large following in the senate and much of the opposition to the treaty, as sent to the senate, is due not only to the objections of the senators to the treaty, as it stood, but because of their desire to uphold the hands of Mr. Hay.

By those closest to the parties concerned about three weeks is the time given within which one or the other will resign. Much will depend upon the action of the senate on the pending treaty and still more on the success of the president and his friends in healing the breach between Hay and Loomis. Among the leaders of congress here the loss of Secretary Hay to the cabinet is regarded as impossible.

Mr. Adee is acting secretary of state today. Secretary Hay being in attendance at a meeting of the Carnegie institute and Mr. Loomis having left for a trip to California.

HUGE BOOTY AT SINGKING.

Japanese Capture Outfit of an Army and Annihilate a Division.

Tokio, March 14.—The following report was received today from the headquarters of the Japanese armies in the field:

"It is estimated that the spoils which fell into our hands in the direction of Singking (Yenden), since the occupation by us of Tsinkentchen on February 24 has been as follows:

"Rifles, 22,000; machine guns, 6; small ammunition, 320,000 rounds; shells, 11,500; entrenching tools, 6,000; wire, 1,200 bundles; materials for a light railway of 33 miles; wagons for the latter, 450; garments, 10 cartloads; coal mining machinery for eight pits; timber, 4,000 pieces.

"Besides these we took large quantities of cereals, fodder, tents, beds, stoves, maps and telephones, as well as a great number of bullocks and horses.

"The enemy left about 1,200 dead on the field. We took 80 prisoners.

"It is estimated that the enemy's casualties were about 20,000.

"Prisoners say that the Seventy-first division was almost annihilated."

NOT YELLOW FEVER, MALARIA.

Secretary Taft Says That is Health Problem of Isthmus.

Washington, March 14.—Secretary Taft, after a brief talk with the president today, said it was a mistaken report that yellow fever was on the increase in the American zone of the Isthmus of Panama.

"In fact," said the secretary, "it is not yellow fever that will give us the most trouble on the isthmus, but malaria, which is very prevalent. Eventually, while there are some cases of yellow fever in the American zone, we shall be able to stamp out that disease. It will be a hard fight, however, to reduce trouble arising from malaria."

Millions for Great College.

Montreal, March 14.—Sir William C. MacDonald, the millionaire tobacco manufacturer, today laid before the Protestant committee of the council of public instruction a proposition to endow an agricultural training college and a college for the training of school teachers in the sum of from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000. Sir William has selected Professor Robertson, the man who developed the Canadian dairy business, as the director of the scheme. The college will be located at Stanne de Bellevue, 30 miles from Montreal.

Storm Brings Joy and Sorrow.

San Francisco, March 14.—California, from its northern boundary to San Diego, has been visited by a drenching rain storm, which in many quarters proved a blessing to agriculturists, but in others did damage not yet estimated. Along the coast and in the extreme south the storm was accompanied by a gale which left in its trail levelled buildings, uprooted trees and prostrated telegraph poles. A number of vessels are overdue.

Mankato Loses Large Building.

Mankato, Minn., March 14.—The Glass block, one of the largest buildings in the city, was entirely destroyed by fire tonight and a number of adjacent buildings were damaged. Loss, \$150,000.

UTAH LAND FRAUDS DISCLOSED

Great Tracts of Coal Land Filed on as Farm Land by Syndicate.

Salt Lake City, Utah, March 14.—Special agents of the Federal government are reported to have been engaged for some time past in investigating public land frauds in Utah. The Salt Lake Herald today states that hundreds of thousands of acres of valuable coal lands have been acquired by corporations by questionable methods.

Vast tracts of coal lands are said to have been filed on and patented as agricultural and grazing land, and then transferred to the coal companies. In many instances, it is said, lands have been filed on as coal lands, under the law which permits every adult citizen to acquire 160 acres of coal lands by purchase, upon payment of \$10 an acre for such lands when situated more than 15 miles from any railroad, and \$20 an acre when situated within 15 miles of a railroad. Later these filings have been allowed to lapse, and the same lands have been acquired as agricultural or grazing land at \$1.50 an acre.

More than 2,000 of these coal entries have been made in the Salt Lake land office, but not more than one in 50 of the persons who made the filings has completed the purchase, the filings lapsing and title being secured as agricultural or grazing land from the state land office through state land selections.

Forty filings made in 1901 within a period of 60 days have recently been investigated, and 30 of the 40 claimants are found to have been represented by an employee of a big coal corporation, exercising power of attorney. The land was filed on and held for 14 months, as is permitted under the law, without being paid for, but in none of these cases was the purchase completed, title being acquired through the state land office at a nominal figure under proceedings instituted while the land was covered by the coal land filings.

DEAD IN HEAPS.

Oyama Reports Results of the Battle of Mukden.

Tokio, March 14.—The following report has been received from Field Marshal Oyama:

"The number of prisoners, spoils and the enemy's estimated casualties against all our forces in the direction of the Shakhe follow, but the number of prisoners, guns and spoils are increasing momentarily:

"Prisoners, over 40,000, including General Nakhimoff.

"Killed and wounded, estimated at 90,000.

"Enemy left dead on the field, 26,500.

"Flags, 2.

"Guns, about 60.

"Rifles, 60,000.

"Ammunition wagons, 150.

"Shells, 200,000.

"Small arms ammunition, 25,000,000 rounds.

"Cereals, 15,000 koku (about 75,000 bushels).

"Fodder, 55,000 koku.

"Light railway outfit, 45 miles.

"Horses, 2,000.

"Maps, 23 cartloads.

"Clothing and accoutrements, 1,000 cartloads.

"Bread, 1,000,000 rations.

"Fuel, 70,000 tons.

"Hay, 60 tons, besides tools, tents, bullocks, telegraph wire and poles, timber, beds, stoves, and numerous other property.

"No reports have been received from our forces in the direction of Singking."

BRIEF LULL IN THE PURSUIT

Resumption of Japanese Advance is Expected Any Time.

Tie Pass, March 14.—The Japanese, it is reported, have ceased their pursuit, at least temporarily. Some of the Japanese are 25 miles below Tie pass. A resumption of their advance is expected. Rumors are in circulation that the Japanese are already attempting another wide turning movement to drive the Russians from Tie pass.

The Russian troops here have been arriving with hopelessly mixed units, in consequence of the change in the front. The troops are being sorted out and organizations reformed and assigned to places to defend the new positions, but whether Tie pass will be held or abandoned probably will not be decided for several days.

Kuropatkin Needs a Rest.

London, March 14.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times says: "General Kuropatkin has asked the emperor's gracious permission to hand over his command, alleging that he is in urgent need of physical and mental rest. I learn on the best authority that the Japanese twice have approached Russia on the subject of peace negotiations, but that in each case the proposal failed because Japan demanded an indemnity and a pledge that Russia would not keep warships in the Pacific for 25 years."

Spotted Fever in the East.

New York, March 14.—That cerebrospinal meningitis, or "spotted fever," is killing about 40 persons a week in this city was asserted tonight by Commissioner Darlington, of the health department, and reports received from cities and towns in Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania show that Pennsylvania is not alone in fighting against the ravages of this dread disease, which kills about 50 per cent of those attacked by it.

Iroquois Theater Trial March 15.

Chicago, March 13.—March 15 was fixed by Judge McKewen today for the opening of the trial of Manager Will J. Davis on the charge of manslaughter, growing out of the Iroquois fire.

SANTO DOMINGO

The Improvident Little West Indian Republic...

The recent determination of the United States to assume temporary control of the finances of the Dominican republic once more brings that restless little West Indian government into public view, writes William K. Lane. It has been apparent that affairs in the republic have reached a critical stage. Its chief difficulty, eliminating the ever present tendency to revolutionize at the slightest pretext, seems to be a wonderful capacity to get into debt and a corresponding incapacity to get out again.

The national debt of the tiny mulatto republic now amounts to the respectable total of \$35,000,000, which in consideration of the comparatively unimportant figure cut by Santo Domingo in the congress of western nations is altogether too great. That has been the opinion of its impatient creditors for a long time, and more than one of them has protested that some settlement should be effected. Some of them have even declared their willingness to undertake a receivership, promising to wind up the affairs of the improvident republic with amazing celerity.

Such a proposition from a foreign state—Santo Domingo has shown a

bloody in their periodical revolutions. They are for the most part mulattoes of Spanish and negro origin. The few Spanish families that have not intermingled with the prevailing type constitute the aristocracy of the republic and hold themselves loftily aloof from their less fortunate neighbors.

Education in its proper sense is practically unknown. The average Dominican has not yet awakened to the necessity of adding to the knowledge with which nature has endowed him. The mulatto population, numbering at least half a million, is not inclined to be quarrelsome, but trouble is fomented by political tricksters who are trying constantly to obtain an opportunity to loot the public treasury. The people are for the most part industrious and patient, submitting to continual misgovernment and official peculation with remarkable good nature.

The president of the republic is practically a dictator. As often as suits his convenience he submits to an election, and he is careful to have it occur at a time when there is no well organized opposition. The general system of government is copied after that of the United States. Officials are plentiful, and the national revenues are far from sufficient to maintain the annual expenditure. Add to this the fact that a large proportion of the legally collectible revenue never reaches the national treasury, and the cause of Santo Domingo's bankruptcy becomes apparent.

The annual revenue is \$1,700,000, and the military establishment, including the navy, costs \$4,500,000 a year. All the officials are the personal appointees of the President, and the army is composed of men friendly to his interests. Judging from the past, the chief object of each administration has been to mulct the people of the largest possible amount before a



ENTRANCE TO SANTO DOMINGO HARBOR.

remarkable impartiality in the selection of her victims, many of them being European—could not be tolerated by the United States. The shade of the late James Monroe would rise in indignant protest at the mere suggestion. If there is any adjusting to be done it is clearly the privilege of the United States to do it. There does not seem to have been the slightest objection to that way out of the difficulty. It is most satisfactory to the foreign creditors, and the Dominicans themselves were so enthusiastic over the proposition that they tried at once to borrow more money on the strength of it.



SANTO DOMINGO'S NATIONAL PALACE.

In the carrying out of its interference it will be necessary as a preliminary first step for the United States to restore the republic to a condition of internal quietude. When this is effected the American readjusters will proceed to take charge of the country's revenues and pay off its obligations, those to American citizens receiving first attention. Reduced to its final terms, the proposition seems to be that the United States shall make the Dominicans behave themselves long enough to pay their debts. When that is accomplished the dusky republicans will be free to resume their spendthrift career if they so elect. It is possible that by that time they may become so enamored of the thrifty business methods of their guardians

revolution brings about a new division of the spoils. Under these circumstances politics has become the chief business of the republic, and other and equally important interests have been neglected. Agricultural and commercial pursuits have suffered so greatly from the rapacity of the government and lack of encouragement



VIEW OF THE COAST.

that they are practically at a standstill.

Santo Domingo is the garden of the western tropics. Nature has given it a soil adapted to a wider range of products than can be found in any corresponding area in the West Indies. The list is a long one, including cocoa, tobacco, all kinds of tropical fruits, sugar cane, coffee, vanilla, rubber and many other valuable things. In the interior mountainous region forests of mahogany and other timber abound. The whole country is in a state of constant verdure, and thermal fluctuations are almost unknown. General Carlos F. Morales is the present head of the Dominican government.

Animal Instinct in Winter.

With many forms of life the readiness for winter is not to secure a place to protect them from cold or even from freezing, but for security against sudden changes of conditions and of temperature. It is a protection in some cases similar to that of the plants on the lawn that were covered with straw by the gardener when he made them ready for winter. In some places of the kind, for instance in the squirrel's nest, there is undoubtedly real animal warmth and coziness. Fish seek the deepest parts of pools, where the temperature of the water is a little above freezing, and where it remains very near this point until spring.—St. Nicholas.

Yet We Are Matchless.

Some 4,000,000 feet of pine lumber is made into matches in this country alone each year.

Nothing takes the conceit out of some men like being compelled to serve on a jury.