

IN AMBUSH

Russian Cossacks Check Advance of the Japanese.

FACTORS LOSE VERY FEW MEN

They Catch the Japanese on the Remotest Part of the Coast and Badly Shatter Their Advance Column.

Liao Yang, July 18.—General Samoff seriously checked the Japanese advance in the direction of Yinkow on July 11. His Cossacks ambushed the Japanese column, and put 1,000 out of the Japanese into the water. The Japanese attempted to advance to Yinkow along the coast, but they were hindered by the marshy country, which also increased their difficulties in carrying off their dead and wounded during the retreat. The Russians had expected a movement in this direction, and a company of cavalry with two guns lay in ambush in the high grass, catching the Japanese in the remotest part of the coast and shattering their advance column. The artillery fire of the Russians was splendid and the Japanese were unable to make effective reply. They were forced to retreat. The Russian losses were six killed and seven wounded.

Japanese Flag Is Hoisted.

New York, July 18.—The Japanese have hoisted their national flag on the island, in Chemulpo harbor, says a Herald dispatch from Seoul, Korea. The Korean fortifications thereon are still permitted to fly the Korean ensign, but this is dwarfed by the larger emblem of Japan. Native agitation against the granting of a concession covering the stream and vacant land rights continues unabated, although the Japanese minister is still pressing the Korean foreign office to a favorable conclusion, stating that the Koreans lack the finances the executive ability requisite to a proper development of these resources.

Salvage operations continue on the sunken Russian cruiser Variag. It is hoped to have her on an even keel this month. The work of raising the sunken merchantman Sungari is rapidly proceeding.

PREDICT RUIN FOR PANAMA.

Merchants Strongly Object to American Custom House.

Panama, July 18.—The decree of Governor Dais establishing a custom house in the canal zone has created excited comment here. The principal merchants of Panama and Colon assembled in the Commercial club to discuss the situation, and, unanimously decided that the establishment of a custom house in such form means the ruin of the commerce of Panama and Colon, and consequently of the republic.

The canal commissioners and officers of the government have discussed the situation, which is believed by all to be extremely serious unless the decree is revoked and the interests of Panama considered.

The newspapers have started a campaign to prove to the people and the government of the United States the injustice of the measure, which is the cause of excitement in all circles.

Yesterday morning the steamship City of Peking, of the Pacific Mail Steamship company, arrived from San Francisco, which port she left on June 19. On arriving at Corinto, the City of Peking got clearance papers for Panama, and the captain of the port of Panama refused to receive the steamer claiming that under the treaty with the United States all ports in Panama are under the jurisdiction of the Panamanian authorities. The captain of the port also made a protest on the action of the Pacific Mail Steamship company, which he considers against the rights of the republic, and sent a copy of it to the president and to the agents of the company.

Ovation to Skrydloff.

Vladivostok, July 18.—Vice Admiral Skrydloff received a great ovation at a fête today under the auspices of the Thirtieth rifle regiment. The horses were removed from his carriage, which was then hauled by officers and men of the regiment. After the banquet the admiral telegraphed to General Kuropatkin that the assembly had drunk to the health of the officers and men of the Manchurian army, adding: "The toast was received with tremendous applause, a tribute to your strategic and tactical ability."

Begin to Fear Russian Defeat.

St. Petersburg, July 18.—Discouragement is beginning to manifest itself even among the most persistent advocates of war, who realize that Russia is extraordinarily backward, politically, as well as economically and socially, and that there is only the remotest chance that she will be able to draw herself together in time to defeat the Japanese. It is reported that M. Witte, minister of finance, stated recently that Russia was already beaten.

Settlers Fly From Forest Fires.

Vancouver, B. C., July 18.—Owing to the long dry period, forest fires along the British Columbia coast have given unusual trouble this year. A bush fire is now raging at Walfishon bay, a large area having been burned over. Settlers at Roberts creek have barely escaped with their lives, all their property having been destroyed, according to reports brought down by steamer today.

CITY FRIENDS OF GOOD ROADS.

Will the Farmers Accept Their Aid or Treat Them as Meddlers.

Among those interested in road improvement, the farmers of course stand first. The character and condition of the roads are of vital interest to them every day of the year. The farmers, until recently, have been compelled to struggle with the road problem without much help or encouragement from any other class. Now, however, some strong elements of the city population are rallying to their support. Among these may be named the manufacturers of road building machinery; the makers and users of bicycles and automobiles; and the moneyed men of the cities who have money invested in the country. These people are entering into the work for the road improvement with even more enthusiasm and zeal than the farmers.

Just now the farmers who want better roads are brought face to face with a most important question: Will he accept the assistance of these city allies? Will he welcome the aid of the machinery man, the capitalist, the bicyclist and the automobilist? Or will he treat them as schemers who are trying to meddle with his affairs?

The answer to these questions ought to depend on what these city friends of good roads are proposing to do. If they propose to have the country roads improved in order to increase their business and enhance their pleasure, wholly at the expense of the farmer, then he should spurn the proffered alliance. If on the contrary they are proposing, through state and national taxation to lift a large part of the burden off the farmer and place it on the taxpayers of the cities, he ought to bid them welcome, and extend to them the glad hand.

This is a live question for the farmer to consider and answer. Already the opponents of the state and national aid are at work trying to sow seeds of suspicion in the minds of the farmers, and they will do their best to prevent any co-operation between the country and the city friends of good roads.

As a matter of fact state and national aid offer the only hope of general road improvement, and such aid can never be secured if the city people array themselves against it. Unless the farmers are wholly blind to their own interests, they will welcome aid from every source, and will make every effort to secure the powerful aid of the state and federal governments.

MAY TRAP ARMY.

Japanese Seem Likely to Shut In Kuropatkin's Forces.

Chicago, July 16.—The Daily News has the following from the seat of war by a staff correspondent:

Niu Chwang, July 16.—Kuropatkin seems in danger of being shut up in Ta Tche Kiao. The Russians are bewildered by the Japanese movements, which are swift and unexpected. The Russian general had elaborately planned to fight a great battle at Ta Tche Kiao today, but to his surprise the affair did not come off. The Japanese made a feint against Taipingshan, and the Muscovite leader finally discovered that the enemy, instead of giving battle, had marched across his front, taking up a position on some hills to the east of Ta Tche Kiao. To the north of Ta Tche Kiao in the direction of Haicheng and Liao Yang, the Japanese forces are moving in three bodies, while a large fresh reinforcement is advancing toward Ta Tche Kiao from below Kaiping. The Russians remain in their positions dazed and puzzled to know what all this means. The fact that the Japanese have made no attempt to occupy this city seems to mystify them still more. Only a few Russian troops are here now.

Panamanians Take Alarm.

Colon, July 16.—A wharf is in course of construction at Cristobal at which lumber and other supplies for the canal will be landed. The building of this wharf has given rise to misgivings on the part of Panama citizens that it will be a stepping stone to the establishment of a United States port at Colon. The order to the effect that vessels sailing from La Boca, the mouth of the canal on the Pacific side, must receive their clearance papers from the United States authorities, is criticised as a violation of the treaty.

British Fleet Located.

Chefoo, July 16.—The British fleet, whose movements last week were tinged with mystery, has been located cruising in Yang Tung bay, 20 miles from Wei Hai Wei. There is authority for the statement that the fleet is watching the developments at Port Arthur. Chinese refugees from Port Arthur who arrived here today report that the Japanese have recaptured two positions from which they were driven namely, Forts Fourteen and Seven.

American Cruiser at Chefoo.

London, July 16.—The correspondent of the Standard at Chefoo says that the United States cruiser Raleigh has arrived there.

A FATAL WRECK

Twenty-Two Dead Seventy Injured in Collision Near Chicago.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OUT ON A PICNIC

Freight Breaks Down and Curve in Road Conceals Danger From Engineer of Excursion Train.

Chicago, July 15.—This evening 22 members of the Sunday school of Dorcas Congregational church at Thirty-first and Butler streets, went to death with joy in their hearts and a hymn on their lips. Seventy people, mostly children, members of the same Sunday school, were maimed and mangled at the same time.

The carnage occurred in a collision on the tracks of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad between Chicago Heights and Glenwood, 25 miles from Chicago. Today was the annual picnic of the Sunday school, and, as in former years, several hundred of the children, with their parents and friends, had gone to the picnic grounds at Mokena, Ill., for the day. The picnic was over and the train was on the return to Chicago when the accident occurred.

Two accidents combined to make the disaster. The first was the breaking down of a freight train on the north-bound track, on which the excursion train should have proceeded after leaving Chicago Heights, and the other was the breaking of a coupling on a second freight train. Because the first train had blocked the right track the excursion train switched to the south-bound track to run for four miles until it should have passed the station of Glenwood just north of Chicago Heights. As it tore along the track at the rate of 40 miles an hour it rounded a sharp curve and came full upon a second train, which was backing up on the south-bound track in order to take up its lost cars, and trying at the same time to keep out of the way of the coming picnic train, which it believed was on the north-bound track.

There was no time for more than the setting of the brakes, then, with unslackened speed, the train, with its load of 500 men, women and children, crashed at full speed into the freight. There was a shock, a shriek, and over 20 souls were in eternity.

ARMIES CLOSE IN.

Japanese Will Attack Ta Tche Kiao—Victory Will Compel Evacuation.

St. Petersburg, July 15.—Steadily and cautiously General Oku's army from the south, and General Nodzu's army from the east, are closing in on Ta Tche Kiao, where General Kuropatkin is reported to be entrenched. One hundred and thirty thousand men are involved in the movement. The next few days will determine to what extent General Kuropatkin intends to make a stand at Ta Tche Kiao, possession of which by the Japanese would compel the immediate evacuation of Niu Chwang.

The outposts of the armies are scarcely 15 miles apart. The slowness of the advance is apparently due to the natural difficulties in the way of a rapid movement of the Japanese eastern flanking columns.

Lieutenant General Sakharoff reports that General Kuro is massing his troops near the Pkhaimin pass and moving out by both roads upon Haicheng. Heavy pressure from this quarter would render Ta Tche Kiao untenable.

All the Japanese energies now seem to be concentrated on Ta Tche Kiao and Haicheng.

The operations to the north, which throughout may have been feints, have been suddenly suspended.

Immense Meat Shipment Concluded.

Minneapolis, July 15.—Advices received at Northern Pacific headquarters states that the heaviest order of canned meat to cross the Pacific has been successfully delivered on the Pacific Coast and loaded aboard the steamer Shawmut for transportation from Puget sound to Yokohama. The shipment consists of a rush order for 1,000,000 pounds of canned beef for the subsistence department of the Japanese army. It was handled from Chicago by the Northern Pacific in special trains of 40 refrigerator cars.

Britain May Protest.

London, July 15.—There is reason to believe that the foreign office is giving serious consideration to the question of the passage of the Russian volunteer fleet, and if the reports of the operations of the St. Petersburg, one of the ships, which recently passed through the straits, in searching two British vessels in the Red sea are officially confirmed, protest may be lodged both at Constantinople and St. Petersburg.

Japan Breathes Easier.

Tokio, July 15.—It is thought by the treaty between England and Germany removes all possibility of a coalition against Japan, and insures that progressive Anglo-German amity on which the peace of the world has latterly depended. Japan would view with equanimity the extension of "Pacific zone" to include Russia, since such a development would in no wise hinder the fulfillment of Japanese purposes.

LOSS OF KINCHOU CONFIRMED.

General Sakharoff Sends Account to the General Staff.

St. Petersburg, July 13.—Lieutenant General Sakharoff in a dispatch to the general staff, confirms the report of the Japanese occupation of Kaichou. He says that the Russian loss did not exceed 150 killed or wounded. General Sakharoff adds that they are on the Yinkow road.

"Our detachment remained during July 8 at Kaichou station, having its advance posts on the right bank of the Kankhe river, the enemy occupying the heights on the left bank and fortifying themselves thereon," says General Sakharoff. Our battery on the river bridge opened fire at the enemy's patrol which appeared in Kankhe village. Toward noon a fusillade occurred between a detachment of the enemy and our company, which observed the enemy retreating. Our losses were six wounded.

"Toward the evening of July 8 the enemy's force, consisting of four divisions and a brigade, could be made out in front of Kaichou, extending along the seashore. At dawn, July 9, the enemy resumed the offensive upon the rear guard of our detachment, which retired about 6:30 in the morning from Kaichou to 2½ miles northward, toward the Shuanlunsa Pass.

"At 10 o'clock, under heavy pressure our rear guard retired on our position at Makhunts Guiga and Yaolintas, three miles north of the Shuanlunsa Pass. The rear guard held this position under heavy fire until 2 o'clock in the afternoon, when, in accordance with instructions, it retired slowly and in perfect order on the third position at Tehjoutziandandza, just as our main body was concentrating at Datchapu and on the position at Makhunts Guiga."

ACRE DISPUTE NEARS END.

Peru and Brazil Will Come to an Amicable Understanding.

Washington, July 13.—Information has come to the state department of a prospective settlement of the Acre boundary dispute, which for a long time has been a source of friction between the governments of Brazil and Peru. The contention involves the ownership of a large tract of country, rich in rubber production, which is claimed alike by both countries.

The information reaching the state department is to the effect that the plenipotentiaries of the two countries, who have been meeting at Rio Janeiro and Petropolis, Brazil, have come to an agreement on the disputed questions. The nature of the agreement is not known here.

Recently Brazil secured a quit-claim to a certain portion of the disputed territory made by Bolivia and was in turn met by the demands of Peru, which also laid claim to portions of the tract.

SULTAN GIVES IN.

Threat of American Fleet in Turkish Brings Him to Time.

Vienna, July 13.—A dispatch from Constantinople says that American Minister Leishman has handed a note to the Porte saying that unless a prompt settlement of the school question was arranged a United States fleet would appear in Turkish waters. The Sultan ordered the Grand Vizer to comply with the minister's demands. The American demands on the sultan are for privileges of schools and colleges conducted by American teachers equal to be given to foreign teachers, for permission for American professional men to practice on equal terms with foreigners, and for the direct access of the American minister to the sultan in the transaction of business.

Reform of Congo Judiciary.

London, July 13.—A dispatch from Brussels to the Daily Telegraph says that King Leopold has decided to reform the judicial system of the Congo Free State in order to avoid the establishment of British consular tribunals. Henceforth only judges and magistrates belonging to the Belgian courts will be allowed to sit in the Congo Free State, so that the best guarantees of justice can be given all foreigners there.

Anti-Christian Riots.

London, July 13.—The Chefoo correspondent of the Standard, in a dispatch says: The American consul general, John Fowler, received news last night that anti-Christian riots have broken out at Chao Yuen, about 65 miles from west of Chefoo. Immediate assistance was asked. The Taotai dispatched troops and telegraphed the authorities at Hwang Heien and Tengchou Foo also to send assistance if required. Foreigners are not believed to be in danger. The cause of the riots is not known.

Smolensk Sails From Suez.

Suez, July 13.—The Russian volunteer fleet steamer Smolensk, which passed the Bosphorus from Sebastopol, July 6, has sailed southward, from here. The vessel took two Red sea pilots, one for herself and one for the volunteer fleet steamer St. Petersburg, which passed the Bosphorus July 5, coal-laden, and which was reported at Port Said on Saturday. It is rumored here that the transports intends awaiting the arrival of the Russian squadron.

Captured Eight Guns.

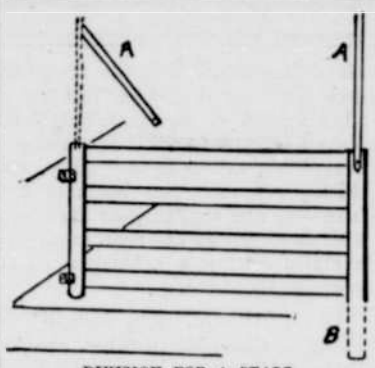
London, July 13.—Special dispatches to the Daily Telegraph and the Daily Mail from Tokio assert that the Japanese captured eight guns during the fighting around Port Arthur, July 4, and that they reconnoitered from a war balloon.



Dividing a Stall.

In some barns the stalls are sufficiently wide so that they may be divided when occasion requires if some temporary division can be easily made, put in place and removed when desired. A plan for doing this is shown in the illustration. A gate is made of proper material reaching from the manger to the end of the stall. The post of this gate at the end is made about a foot longer than the lower rail and a hole is made in the floor through which this post is slipped when put in position and thus makes the gate or fence firm. At the manger-end the fence is fastened to the manger by a pair of gate hinges.

Two stiff sticks are fastened to the joist above with a bolt, one over the manger-end and one over the other end. In the lower end of each of these sticks a notch is cut which comes over a staple on the fence and holds it, the fence, firm. When the fence is



DIVISION FOR A STALL.

not in use it may be lifted from the hinges and put away and the sticks folded up against the joists. The illustration shows the points mentioned clearly. The cost of such a contrivance will be small and it will be found exceedingly useful. — Indianapolis News.

Soda for Potatoes.

In growing tomatoes nitrogen in the soil is the least desired of the plant foods and the best results will come from phosphoric acid and potash liberally applied broadcast. Much has been written regarding the use of nitrate of soda for tomato growing and while this chemical is good, it should be used with caution. Its function is to cause the plant to make a quick growth; in other words give it a start which will be kept up by the phosphoric acid and the potash.

This being the case the best way to use it is to watch the plants closely as they grow and if any shows lack of vigor sprinkle a teaspoonful of the nitrate of soda about the plant. Usually one application will be sufficient to start such plants off in good shape and once they get a good start there will be no trouble if the soil has been properly enriched and proper cultivation has been carried on.

Best Food for Fattening Lambs.

Very careful experiments at the Ontario Agricultural College have shown that an even mixture of peas and oats made the most profit in feeding lambs. Peas alone make the most gain, but at a somewhat greater cost of feed. Corn and peas made a slightly smaller gain than the other feeds. But the difference was so small that the convenience of procuring the feed is the largest element in the case. As peas and oats may be grown together very conveniently and cheaply, this crop secures some advantages over others which may give it a preference in this regard.

Thrifty Melons.

Sow melons in a light rich soil; poultry manure produces rapid growth. If the season is very warm and moist the vines may need to be pinched back to secure early fruiting. Musk-melons require a season of about three and one-half months and watermelons about four and one-half months, hence the crop is rather uncertain in this latitude. The crop is made more sure if seeds are first started in a hotbed and transplanted when they begin to run to vine.

Six Days Enough.

I have been observing things for many years and I never knew a man to prosper who habitually worked on Sunday. Some men will spend a day or two in town during the week and then they will feel that they are so far behind that they must plant corn on Sunday to catch up. The man who gets a dollar by fraud will lose it and another with it. The man who gains by laboring on Sunday may make the temporary worldly gains, but will lose that which is infinitely more valuable to him than all of this world's goods. — Cor. Iowa Homestead.

Soft Wood for Ties.

On account of the scarcity of oak, chestnut and other hardwood timber commonly used for railroad ties, railroads have been successfully using the softer woods, which have been treated with chemicals such as creosote, zinc chloride, etc. Preservative treatment can make a beech, red oak or pine tie outlast a white oak tie. The use of screw spikes instead of nail spikes enables the soft wood to resist the strain and hold the rails in place. The use of soft wood is likely to improve

the market for those grades of timber suitable for the purpose.

Water Before Feeding.

Horses should be watered before their grain feed. This story has been put to the experimental test. A horse was fed with four quarts of whole oats, and immediately after given water to drink. Soon after the horse was killed and opened. Scarcely a quart of oats was found swimming in the water in the stomach, the remaining three quarts having been forced by the water into the intestines. Another horse was given water first, and then about four quarts of oats. Fifteen minutes after this horse was slaughtered, and the entire quantity of oats was found in the stomach, and already digestion was setting in. Horses require more water in hot weather than in cold, and more when at work than when idle. Horses at full work should be watered frequently; three times a day is not too often. The hay and grain should always be pure and sweet.

Care of Horses' Necks.

Nine out of every ten farm horses suffer from abrasions of the skin on the neck during the spring work and this is so severe in many cases as to keep the horse from doing a full day's work. Try this plan of treating the farm horse during the season of hard work. After feeding the horse brush off or, better still, wipe it off with a large cloth. Then, with tepid water, sponge the head, neck and shoulders and wipe dry with a clean cloth.

If the shoulders show indications of soreness rub over them a little vaseline and let it remain over night. See that the collar worn fits well and after taking it off wipe it thoroughly with a damp cloth and hang it where it will be thoroughly dry in the morning. It will pay well to take this little additional care of the horse during the working season if at no other time. — Indianapolis News.

Grain Feeding.

In some observations recently made in the feeding of grain to lambs, one of the most noticeable results was the early maturity of those that had grain from birth. For instance, in one trial the lambs fed with grain from birth attained an average weight of 113 pounds seven weeks earlier than those that had no grain previous to fattening, and this weight was reached at a smaller cost in the instance of the lambs fed on grain from the start. It is a hard matter to estimate the amount of grain to feed, owing to the variation in the consuming capacity of sheep. In starting it has been customary to feed from half a pound to one pound. A month later the wethers will probably be taking from one to two pounds, and during the last month from two to three. — American Cultivator.

Field Beans and Soy Beans.

The average results for six years at the Ontario station show that the following varieties of field beans have given the highest yields: White Wonder, Day Improved Leafless, Medium or Navy, Pearce Improved Tree and Schofield Pea. Based on the experiments with soy beans at the college, the Early Yellow is recommended for the production of grain for feed, and the Medium Green for ensiling with corn.

Horses or Steam Wagons.

A firm of English millers have made an interesting test of the comparative cost of hauling grain by horses or by steam motors. The cost of keeping seven horses for the year was about \$2,500. At the end of 1902 they sold the horses and purchased a five-ton steam machine, ran it 5,275 miles, carried 3,875 tons, and burned 41½ tons of coal at a total cost of \$1,849, showing a decided gain for the steam machine.

Farm Notes.

Keep all young animals growing and gaining.

Avoid working horses in the rain as much as possible.

Ground feed is better than whole grain for growing colts.

Sweet food for hogs is better than that which is fermented and soured.

All rubbish and prunings from the garden and orchard should be burned.

A falling appetite is generally the first indication of an animal being out of condition.

Coal ashes, as well as wood ashes, should be saved and applied on wet, heavy soils.

Conveniences for watering and feeding stock are items in saving time, labor and feed on the farm.

Corn and oats, half of each, ground together, make one of the best kinds of feed for cows in milk.

The best way to get rid of the current worm is to dust the leaves with white hellebore.

In nearly all cases, the best animals are the offspring of mature parents on both sides.

Be ready to cut clover when the largest number of plants are in bloom and are turning brown.

It should be the aim of every breeder of horses to raise well-bred and well-trained animals.

In the management of clover for hay it is important not to cure too dry, and to store under shelter.

On many farms, exposure to the weather injures farm machinery fully as much, if not more, than use.

The offspring of immature, undeveloped animals is inferior to that of mature and full-grown parents.

It is the steady, quiet horse that can do the biggest day's work when the weather is extremely hot. — Pointers.