

IN FULL RETREAT

Russian Army to Make a Stand at Tie Pass.

JAPS MAY DRIVE THEM FURTHER

Left and Center Beaten — Japanese Draw Near Mukden and Camp Followers Stampede.

Tokio, March 4.—While a few official dispatches from the army before Mukden have been received, nothing has been given out officially. Other reports state that the Japanese attack against the Russian left and center has been entirely successful. The right wing of the Russians has held so far, but it is believed that, on account of other reverses, it is only a question of a few hours until General Kuropatkin's whole army will be in flight before the victorious Japanese.

The Russian general's objective is to reach Tie pass in the hope of establishing another line of defense there. The elaborate and complete campaign planned by Marshal Oyama, if carried out exactly as outlined, will make this extremely difficult of fulfillment, however. It is probable that Mukden must be entirely abandoned by the Russians, or that they must face surrender eventually.

From the front have come reports of continued heavy fighting last night. The heavy cannonading could be plainly heard and the greatest confusion reigns in Mukden, according to the latest reports. Every means of transportation is being utilized by the people, who are hurrying away before the Japanese.

Heavy artillery firing has been the feature of the fighting again, the Japanese continuing to hide their movements under the smoke of the large guns. The attacks developed under this cover and during the night time have been fierce and in most cases effective.

Admit They are Beaten.

St. Petersburg, March 4.—It is now generally admitted that after the long and heavy battle which has been waging before Mukden, General Kuropatkin has been forced to abandon at least a part of his most advanced position under the fierce attack of the enemy. The next stand will probably be made at Tie pass, and little doubt is expressed of the ability of the Russian commander to bring his forces safely from the scene of the present conflict and firmly establish himself in a new position.

DOINGS IN CONGRESS.

Tuesday, February 28.

The senate spent almost the entire day discussing amendments to the Indian appropriation bill. It was agreed that no funds should be used for church schools. An amendment was adopted appropriating \$500,000 to carry into effect an agreement entered into with the Klamath Indians.

The house today considered the general deficiency appropriation bill, but reached no conclusion. The bill amending the homestead laws as to unappropriated and unreserved lands in South Dakota and Colorado so as to allow selection of 640 acres instead of 160 acres was also discussed. A number of minor bills were passed.

Wednesday, March 1.

During the day the senate considered

and passed three supply bills, aggregating an appropriation of over \$357,000,000, and at night took up a fourth bill, carrying over \$67,000,000. The bills passed were the postoffice, pension and river and harbor bills. The sundry civil bill was not completed at time of adjournment. A large number of minor measures were passed.

The house passed the general deficiency appropriation bill, the last of the great supply measures to be acted upon during this congress. The total amount carried is \$31,224,079. The bills amending the homestead laws as to certain lands in South Dakota and Colorado were passed.

Thursday, March 2.

The senate today passed the sundry civil appropriation bill, carrying about \$68,000,000. The general deficiency bill, carrying \$29,769,466, was passed. An agreement cannot be reached on the bill for the government of the canal zone and it is possible the present law will continue.

The house agreed to the conference reports on the fortifications, agricultural and river and harbor appropriation bills. The naval appropriation bill was sent back to conference.

Both houses have decided to send committees to attend the opening of the Lewis and Clark fair, and \$10,000 has been appropriated to defray their expenses.

Friday, March 3.

The last day's session of the house before the final adjournment of the 58th congress at noon tomorrow found that body almost through with its work. The conference reports on the Indian and postoffice appropriation bills were agreed to. At the evening session the sundry civil, the river and harbor and general deficiency bills were agreed to as reported from conference.

The conference reports were agreed to by the senate on the same measures the house acted on. The present temporary government for the Panama canal zone was continued.

The statehood bill is dead and the house will resurrect it in the next congress.

Saturday, March 4.

Both houses met at 10 o'clock. According to custom a resume of appropriations made during the present congress was given. The total appropriations were \$697,048,104, while the estimates for the next fiscal year were \$725,590,515. The customary resolutions were adopted thanking Speaker Cannon and President Pro Tem Frye. Speaker Cannon was presented with a handsome loving cup by the members of the house. At 11:50 the senate, after swearing in the vice president and new senators, adjourned sine die. The house adjourned without day at 11:55.

More Facts About Land Laws.

Washington, March 3.—Additional reports sent to congress today by the president from the public land commission include much material gathered by the special agents of the land office. They relate to grazing on public land, leases for grazing purposes, operations under the timber and stone act and under the homestead and the desert land laws. These reports were not made in time to secure any action at this session, but will furnish information upon which legislation can be founded in the next congress.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 85c; bluestem, 92c; valley, 87c per bushel.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.35@1.40; gray, \$1.40@1.45 per cental.
Hay—Timothy, \$14@16 per ton; clover, \$11@12; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$12@13.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 17@17½c per dozen.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 27½@30c.
Potatoes—Oregon fancy, 85@90c; common, 60@75c.
Apples—4-tier Ralldwins, \$1.25@1.50; Spitzenbergs, \$1.75@2.
Hops—1904, 24@26c per pound.
Wool—Valley, 19@20c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 12@17c; mohair, 25@26c per pound for choice.

WILL IGNORE LAW

Western Railroads Decide Upon Livestock Rates.

WILL MAKE TEST CASE IN COURT

To Obey Decision of Interstate Commerce Commission Would Mean Heavy Loss To Roads.

Chicago, March 2.—Executive officials of Western railroads today decided to ignore the order of the Interstate Commerce commission requiring them to charge no higher rates for livestock than are charged for the transportation of the products of livestock. By the advice of general counsel the matter will be tested in the courts, as the railroads have determined that it will be impossible either to lower the livestock rates or to increase the rates on packing house products. There is an inclination to do the latter, but the contract which the Great Western road has with the packers for an 18-cent rate between Chicago and the Missouri river makes such action impracticable.

A reduction in livestock rates in compliance with the decision of the commission would mean a minimum reduction of 3½ cents per 100 pounds and a maximum reduction of about 8 cents, and the reductions would affect fully 40 per cent of all the livestock traffic west of Chicago. A compliance with the commission's order by a reduction in the livestock rates would mean, it is now estimated, a loss to western railroads of at least \$2,000,000 annually. They say that such a loss, in view of the contention of the railroad officials that the rates are even now unremunerative, is not to be thought of.

Estimates of Russian Strength.

Tokio, March 7.—According to estimates which have been prepared here, the forces under General Kuropatkin between the Shakhe river and Tie pass total slightly over 400,000, composed of 335,000 infantry, 33,000 cavalry and 35,000 artillery, with 1,504 guns. These estimates do not include the Vladivostok and other garrisons, the railroad guards or the civil employes. The grand total of the Russian strength east of Baikal is estimated at 700,000. The Japanese strength is not given but is believed to equal Kuropatkin's.

Dodging Military Service.

Vienna, March 7.—As a result of inquiries which were commenced in December last it has been discovered that in Upper Hungary there has been a system of falsification of records, such as the changing of names, false entries of deaths, etc., by which many thousands of young Hungarians have avoided obligatory military service. These practices have been in vogue in certain localities for the past 12 or 15 years, and the authorities declare that those guilty of the falsifications will be severely punished.

Suspected Assassin Caught.

St. Petersburg, March 3.—The police at Tsarskoe-Selo, who since the assassination of Grand Duke Sergius have redoubled the ordinary precautions for the protection of the imperial family, have arrested a suspect, who claimed to be a nephew of General Fock, but whose papers are irregular, and who was found to be armed with a loaded revolver. An investigation is on foot.

Warsaw Strikers Warlike.

Warsaw, March 3.—Strikers today drove the officials and clerks from the offices of the gas company and then marched to the gas works, which are occupied by the military. The strikers merely jeered at the soldiers, shouting: "You will only stay there till Sunday; then we will clear you out."

CRASH HEAD-ON.

Express and Freight Trains Meet on Curve in Montana.

Missoula, Mont., March 7.—Two men are dead and six people injured as the result of a collision of a freight train and the west-bound Twin Cities express on the Northern Pacific at Bearmouth this afternoon at 2:30.

The express was 30 minutes behind time and the freight had orders to wait at Bearmouth siding. Engineer Sheehan misunderstood his orders and proceeded east. As the freight rounded the curve east of Bearmouth it crashed head on into the express.

A high bank shut off the view of both engineers, and no attempt had been made to slow down. Both engines were thrown from the track and the mail and express cars telescoped, but the passenger coaches came to a dead stop and remained on the track.

The dead and injured were brought to this city on a relief train. The injured are being cared for in the company hospital. Traffic has been resumed.

FEAR RUSSIANS WILL FLEE.

Japanese Eager to Decide War with Present Battle.

London, March 4.—A dispatch from Tokio to the Daily Telegraph states that the Japanese are endeavoring to force a decisive battle in Manchuria, but it is feared General Kuropatkin will retreat, fighting a rear-guard action.

Reports from the Shakhe river indicate, says the same correspondent, that the Russian morale is seriously impaired and that there are numerous voluntary surrenders, not only of Poles and Jews, but of recently arrived European troops. They relate that the rumors are current in the army that General Kuropatkin has been recalled, and knowledge of the internal troubles in Russia causes a deep impression in the army.

Reports are current in Tokio, but not confirmed officially, that the Japanese have occupied Sakhalien.

Cannon Roar on All Sides.

Mukden, March 4.—The thunder of artillery is heard from all positions. Poutiloff and Novgorod hills are hidden by the smoke from the guns. The bombardments were resumed after the repulse of an infantry attack by the Japanese. A heavy bombardment is also in progress in the neighborhood of the Shakhe river, apparently in preparation for an attack in that quarter. The weather continues fine and warm. The Chinese are preparing to sow grain.

Japanese Squadron Sighted.

London, March 7.—The German steamer Numidia, according to the correspondent of the Daily Mail at Hong Kong, reports having sighted two Japanese squadrons on Saturday, 100 miles southeast of Hong Kong. The first squadron, comprising nine battleships and cruisers, was seen at 2 o'clock in the morning, going at full speed with all lights out, and the second squadron, of 13 large warships, was sighted in the afternoon.

Soldiers Keeping Lodz Quiet.

Lodz, March 7.—The town is quiet. Strong military patrols guard the streets. There are 7,000 workmen from the Pozznanski cotton mills on strike. The outlook is not promising. The workmen are indignant because several mill owners are remaining abroad and threaten to cause trouble unless the latter return.

Knows Nothing of Arid Land Grabs.

Washington, March 4.—Replying to a resolution of the house, the secretary of the interior today gave the information that the general land office had no knowledge of the "surreptitious" acquisition of land set apart for irrigation uses, as alleged by resolutions of the National Business League of Chicago.