

THOUSANDS TAKEN

Less to Kuropatkin's Army Estimated at 200,000 Men.

TWO ARMY CORPS ARE CUT OFF

Almost Without Supplies and Capture Seems Certain — Will Greatly Increase Number Taken.

Tokio, March 11.—All news reaching Japan, both official, semi-official and from some other sources, emphasizes what has been patent to military students for the past week, that the present movement at Mukden is the greatest strategy of the war and is being attended by what is really a series of stupendous battles that will go down in history as one of the bloodiest and most terrific military conflicts of ancient or modern times.

From most closely informed quarters it is learned that conservative estimates of Russian casualties exceed 150,000, while 50,000 Russians were taken prisoners at the culmination of Marshal Oyama's great flanking strategy. While no figures are obtainable here on the Japanese losses, there is no reason to believe that they were much less than the casualties suffered by the enemy, although, of course, no Japanese have been captured. Neither army has spared men in the supreme encounter.

While the present distribution of General Kuropatkin's army, other than that part of the main body which is being harassed in retreat to the north of Mukden, is difficult to determine it was semi-officially reported yesterday that two army corps were still west of Mukden in an isolated position almost without supplies. They have small chances of cutting through the Japanese cordon and will in all probability be added to the great mass of prisoners taken when Mukden fell.

The Russians are attempting to concentrate toward the south and southeast of Mukden with the Japanese occupying the city threatening their rear. In this vicinity, however, where Russians are massing in front of the Japanese right is expected the fiercest fighting for the next few days.

General Nogi is still marching to the eastward completing the circle and cutting off every possible loophole of escape. The disorderly character of the retreat indicates that the rapid movement of Japanese columns caught General Kuropatkin entirely unprepared. The latest news is that a portion of the Japanese center is pressing the Russian main body northward.

FUNDS FOR COLUMBIA JETTY.

As Finally Passed, Bill Allows Expenditure of \$700,000.

Washington, March 11.—From letters which he has received, Senator Fulton finds there is a general misunderstanding in Oregon as to what appropriation was actually made in the river and harbor bill for improving the mouth of the Columbia river. The fact is this:

The bill as enacted carries a cash appropriation of \$400,000 and authorizes the expenditure of \$300,000 additional, which latter amount will be provided in the sundry civil bill to be passed next session. As the bill passed the house, it carried \$300,000 cash and authorized an additional \$300,000 in the next sundry civil bill. Senator Fulton appealed to the senate committee to increase the cash appropriation, but his request was turned down. When the bill was being considered in the senate, he offered and secured the adoption of an amendment increasing the cash appropriation to \$450,000. The bill then went to conference and Chairman Burton endeavored to restore the house ap-

propriation, but the senate conferees would not consent. A compromise was finally reached and \$50,000, one-third of the amount added by the senate, was cut off. As the bill finally passed, it carried \$100,000 more than was provided in the house bill.

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 employe 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.

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.

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."

Government Men May Join.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 14.—Permission has been granted labor leaders to organize all government workmen who may wish to become members of labor unions. This announcement was made today by Frank Buchanan, president of the National Association of Bridge and Structural Ironworkers, who is here in connection with the hoisting engineers' strike. Mr. Buchanan says President Roosevelt last week gave consent for representatives of the union to go among the government workmen for the purpose of discussing unionism.

DEMORALIZED MOB

Retreat of Russian Army Turned Into a Rout.

SUPPLIES AND GUNS GIVEN UP

Rough Estimates Make Total Losses Over 100,000 Men—Japanese Follow Up Advantage.

Tokio, March 9.—Defeated all along the line, with thousands of men killed and wounded, his army turned into a demoralized mob of men who no longer obey the orders of their officers, an enormous percentage of his munitions of war and artillery lost to him, having been abandoned to the victorious Japanese or destroyed to prevent falling into their hands, General Kuropatkin is at last reports making frantic efforts to save something from the wreck and is withdrawing all of his reserves northward to a point where he can reasonably hope to reorganize his defeated army. In the meantime, the Japanese soldiers on the right, left and center are pressing in on the fleeing Russians and will make an attempt to completely annihilate the soldiers of the czar.

The result of the fortnight's fighting south of Mukden is the worst disaster to the Russian arms of the whole war.

Even the bold cossacks who, in other days have repeatedly proved their valor on bloody fields, have been compelled to give way and run before the steady, relentless pressure of the troops of the mikado, who, scorning death in every form, have continued battering away at the Russian entrenchments and piercing them one by one.

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.

Vote on Treaty Soon.

Washington, March 13.—Many senators are indulging in speculation as to the length of the session required to take action on the Santo Domingo treaty, and whether party lines will be drawn taut when the treaty comes to a vote. Thus far it has not developed that either party will caucus, and, in fact, so much difference as to the fate of the treaty has been manifested that it is not believed there will be any attempt to line up the forces.

Few senators were at the capitol yesterday, but nearly all of those who were in their committee rooms expressed the opinion that, if there should not be a line-up, and they are agreed that one is not likely, the treaty will be brought to a vote by the end of the week, and that the special session may be adjourned sine die on Saturday.

Four of His Ships Useless.

London, March 10.—According to the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, a telegram from Vice Admiral Rojestvensky, not yet published, states that four of his warships are incapacitated for firing because they are too heavily armed, and that the problem of coaling has become so difficult that he feared he would be unable to proceed to the Far East. Reports are current at Dover that all the ships of the Baltic fleet have been ordered to return to the English channel pending further instructions.

Whole Army is Surrounded.

Niuchwang, March 10.—The Russians have not been reinforced from the direction of Harbin since March 1. General Nogi's army made a forced march of 25 miles daily, and, acting in conjunction with General Oku's army, surrounded 80,000 Russians in the direction of Tie pass and cut off their supplies. The hurrying Japanese armies passed a division of Russians without giving it any attention until the enveloping movement was completed, when they crushingly attacked the Russians on all sides.

Indian Lawyers Get Big Fee.

Washington, March 11.—The secretary of the treasury has issued a warrant for \$750,000 in favor of Mansfield, McMurray & Cornish, lawyers residing in the Indian territory, as fees for services rendered by them to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians. The secretary of the interior declined to approve the claim on the ground that it was excessive. Congress, however, directed the payment on the showing that it was regular and in accordance with the contract that had been made with the Indians.

Need Not Decide Question Yet.

Washington, March 10.—There is authority for the statement that the question as to whether the Isthmian canal shall be made a sea-level waterway or constructed on the lock system need not be determined at the outset of the work. In fact, it is stated that work could progress for five years or more before this matter would necessarily be decided and without in any way retarding the progress of construction or causing any delay.

Alaskan Telegraphs Work Well.

Washington, March 10.—General Greely has received a report of the operations of the Alaska telegraph systems during January. The wireless work runs uninterruptedly 107 miles across Norton sound, and the land lines are 1,500 miles in length. Various interruptions from snow and severe storms averaged, however, less than three hours per station, which is only one-sixth of the interruptions in January, 1904.