

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 Stamped.

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.

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.

Czar Welcomes Stoessel.

St. Petersburg, March 4.—General Stoessel, who was given an audience of the emperor yesterday and was invited to luncheon with him, was received by his majesty with a warmth which went far to atone for the cool reception which he was given by several of the newspapers and military factions. General Stoessel is being feted by society. A large dinner was given in his honor last night after his return from Tsarskoe-Selo. No steps have been taken yet toward an investigation of the surrender of Port Arthur.

Cannon Roar on All Sides.

Mukden, March 4.—The thunder of artillery is heard from all positions. Poutloff and Noygorod 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.

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 "surteptions" acquisition of land set apart for irrigation uses, as alleged by resolutions of the National Business League of Chicago.

PEACE IS NEARER AT HAND.

Russians' Only Hope is in a Decisive Defeat of General Nogi.

London, March 7.—The intensely dramatic situation in Manchuria developed by General Nogi's rapid advance and its strategic possibilities have raised excitement in Europe to the highest pitch. English papers for a long time have practically ceased to receive war specials, and in this respect are lacking much information that is available in Associated Press dispatches.

It is believed here that General Kuropatkin is in a very tight place, and the chances of his extricating his army are keenly discussed. The abandonment of Mukden is considered to be inevitable, the only question being whether he will be able to effect a retreat to Tie pass.

An immediate repulse of General Nogi's army, it is held, might save the situation, but failing that, General Kuropatkin will have committed to him the dangerous and difficult task of retiring northward, harassed by flanking attacks by the Japanese army. Whatever may be the result it is felt that peace is appreciably nearer.

According to the Daily Telegraph's Antwerp correspondent, the Russian official purchasing agent there has received orders to cease buying for government account. This is a significant statement, if true, as Antwerp has been throughout the war the principal center of Russian purchases for carrying on the conflict in the Far East.

FOR GERMAN TRADE.

Overtures for Reciprocity Treaty are Being Quietly Made.

Berlin, March 7.—Relative to the German government's overtures for a reciprocal trade arrangement with the United States, it is stated that there is no disposition here to expose Germany to a refusal nor to place the United States in a position where it would be obliged to refuse, provided the American government regards the time inopportune. Therefore the German ministry desires to learn, informally, privately, as it were, how such a proposal would be treated.

That the state department has some idea that the commercial treaty may be discussed is indicated by its intention to retain Consul General Mason here for some months or until it is seen whether a commercial treaty would be considered, instead of sending him to Paris.

The German government has been testing public opinion on the subject by unofficial publications, such as the Commercial Treaty association's recent leaflet advocating a treaty with the United States, arguing that it is one of the natural consequences of Germany's arrangements with other countries. The editorial treatment of the association's letter was generally favorable.

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.

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.

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 Poznanski 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.

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.

POISON IN VIAL.

Mrs. Leland Stanford Drinks a Fatal Dose and Dies in agony.

Honolulu, March 1.—Mrs. Jane Lathrop Stanford, of San Francisco, widow of United States Senator Leland Stanford, died at 11:40 o'clock last night, 40 minutes after she was taken ill, at the Moano hotel here, under suspicious circumstances, pointing, in the opinion of the physician who attended her in her dying hour, and seemingly in that of others, to poisoning by the administration of strychnine in a vial of bicarbonate of soda given just before retiring.

An autopsy on the remains showed that the cause of death was tetanus of the respiratory organs, but how this was brought about will not be known until after an examination of the contents of the stomach.

Mrs. Stanford built the children's hospital, Albany, N. Y., costing \$100,000, and supported by an endowment of \$100,000 more. She also gave \$160,000 to kindergarten schools in San Francisco. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Stanford had devoted her attention to the development of the university, and had been residing at Palo Alto, Cal.

TALK OF RETREAT.

Japanese Have the Russian Army in a Very Tight Place.

St. Petersburg, via the frontier, March 2.—Official circles at the Russian capital have been seized with great alarm, owing to the ominous news from the Far East, and a conference has been held of the military experts, who discussed the Japanese movement and debated at length what action the Russian government should take at the present time to uphold General Kuropatkin.

It is felt that the Japanese have him in a very precarious position, and one in which it may be necessary for him again to order a general retreat. It is recognized that the Japanese movement at this time is prompted by a desire to crush General Kuropatkin in the belief that a Russian defeat at this time would compel the czar to sue for peace because of internal conditions in Russia.

Ice Tearing Things Loose.

Louisville, March 2.—Drifting with the ice, the steamer New South, one of the largest passenger and freight boats on the Ohio, was today sighted at Carrollton, Ky. A mile below Milton, Ky., men finally succeeded in getting a line aboard and tying the boat up to the bank. The local harbor authorities, on being advised from Cincinnati that 60 barges and 50 coal boats, all containing more or less coal, were coming with the ice, despatched four tow-boats up the river. They will attempt to rescue the boats.

Bombs Imported as Oranges.

St. Petersburg, March 2.—Vast quantities of hand bombs are being imported into Russia. The discovery was accidentally made by the customs authorities at Wireballen, Russian Poland, on opening an ordinary fruit box marked "oranges," which was found to contain 100 small bombs. Scores of similar boxes have been coming in for weeks, and the authorities fear they are already distributed. The bombs are not of the type of those used by the terrorists.

More Strikes in Poland.

Lugansk, Poland, March 2.—The situation is growing worse. Today 4,000 men struck at the Hartmann works. A general strike of 200,000 miners in the Donetz coal fields is expected on March 6.

HOW TO REMAIN YOUNG.

Keep Off Approaching Age by Careful Attention to Diet.

To drink the waters of the fountain of youth is still, in the opinion of some, within the range of possibilities. Professor Bluffern observes that man began in a gelatinous condition and ends in an osseous or bony one. He is soft in infancy; he is hard in old age. Aging is a process of ossification. After middle life has passed a more marked development of the ossific character takes place. The arteries become thickened with calcareous matter, and there is interference with the circulation, upon which nutrition depends.

The whole change from youth to old age is one of steady accumulation of calcareous deposits in the system. Entire blockade of the functions of the body is a mere matter of time, and the refuse matter deposited by the blood through the system stops the delicate machinery we call life. The blood contains compounds of lime, magnesia and iron. In the blood itself are these earthy salts. In early life they are thrown off; in age they are not. Almost everything we eat contains these elements for destroying life. Earthy salts abound in the cereals, and bread itself, mistakenly called "the staff of life," is one of the most calcareous of edibles. Nitrogenous food also contains these elements, hence a diet made up of fruit is best for people advanced in years.

The daily use of water is, after middle life, one of the most important means of preventing secretions and derangements of health. Diluted phosphoric acid is one of the most powerful influences known to science for shielding the human system from the inconvenience of old age. Use it daily with distilled water, and so retard the approach of senility. To retain perpetual youth avoid all foods rich in the earth's salts, use much fruit, especially juicy, uncooked apples, and take daily two or three tumblerfuls of distilled water with about 15 drops of diluted phosphoric acid in each glassful. Thus will your days be longer in the land.—Popular Science.



Treatment for a Fit.—If a person is suddenly attacked with violent convulsions and loss of consciousness you may know that he has a fit of some kind. The head should be raised a little, and no stimulant given, the limbs should be allowed plenty of freedom, and a little beef tea or milk should be given on recovery.

A New Anaesthetic.—Somnoform is a liquid, the boiling point of which is 23 degrees below zero. The moment it comes in contact with the air it becomes a gas. A chemist broke a glass capsule of somnoform to illustrate its character. As soon as the glass was chipped a rush of what looked like steam took place. Its great virtue, from a medical point of view, is that breathing stops before the heart ceases to beat when administered.

To Cure Lockjaw.—In case of a nail or other sharp instrument being stuck in the foot of human or animal, and lockjaw is threatened, take a bucket of unleached wood ashes, put it in a tub and pour on two buckets of warm water, stir well and place the wounded foot in the mixture. Relief will be felt immediately. Let remain an hour or so if necessary. Another remedy is to burn a flannel rag under the foot, but the latter applies to any cut that is painful.

Not A Society Leader.

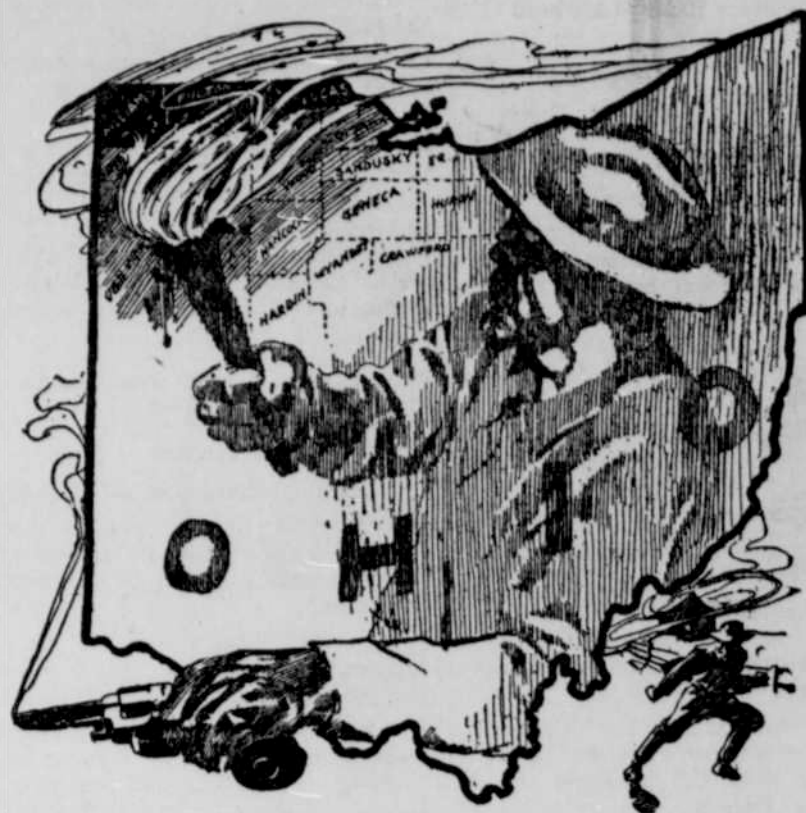
An Erie man who has no ambition to be a Chestnutfield or a leader of Erie's Four Hundred was invited out to dinner a few evenings ago. He conjured up every excuse imaginable, and as a last resort tried to make his wife believe she was sick and unable to go, but she gave him to understand that she was going and he must accompany her. "Well," he said, "I'm sick myself, but I reckon I'll have to go." And they went. When the first course was brought on the old gentleman filled up pretty well, but seemed to be getting along all right. In the middle of the second course he was full "clean up" and pushed back from the table. "Ahem, you folks just go ahead and eat your supper an' don't mind me. I've got to go home an' feed the pigs."—Erie (Kan.) Record.

Home-made Definitions.

Here is a list of definitions given by various boys recently in a literature paper, and they are guaranteed genuine and home-made. "Papal Bull"—the sacrificial bull of the Church of Rome; a pretty bull; a fierce Pope; a joke about popery. "Coin of vantage"—usury; a valuable coin; a bad coin. "Cabalistic"—pertaining to cables; like a cab. "Paradox"—opposite to orthodox; opposite to "authadox"; a heavenly story; a humorous poem; according to strict rules, as a Paradox church. "Apocryphal"—pertaining to a doctor's business; pertaining to the science of the lower limbs. "Prevaricate"—to think a long time before speaking.

The more a man is wrapped up in himself the colder he is.

LONG REIGN OF ARSON.



According to the Cincinnati Post, the State of Ohio is about to close the last chapter of its expose of one of the most remarkable gangs of incendiaries ever organized—a gang that operated in northwestern Ohio, eastern Indiana and southwestern Michigan for twenty-five years, that was composed of men of repute in their communities, that reduced arson to such a businesslike basis that insurance companies were robbed of \$1,500,000 and that perfected its organization to such a degree that its members, though guilty of crimes, went unpunished for a quarter of a century.

The gang had its beginning in 1874. In Williams county, Ohio, it had its headquarters, though it operated in Fulton and Lucas counties impartially and spread into the two adjoining States.

The leaders of the gang were men of business standing—farmers, merchants and the like. To all appearances they attended strictly to their own business. In reality they were busy at night planning and executing their crimes as they were in the daytime at their stores or on their farms.

Their main line of business was the burning of property, by collusion with the owner, for a consideration, the owner reimbursing himself out of his insurance. Though more profitable to themselves, the incendiaries seldom burned their own property, fearing to fix suspicion upon themselves. They preferred to maintain their pose as irreproachable men of business, while destroying other people's property for a share of the proceeds, of

which the fire insurance companies were defrauded.

The gang sought as confederates men desperately in debt, who were possessed of buildings or chattels heavily insured or capable of being so insured. When such a man was found one of the gang—likely enough a respected business acquaintance of the victim—intimated to him, casually or jestingly, that a fire would provide timely relief from pressing obligations.

When the power of suggestion had had time to do its work, the man was approached by another of the gang ready to "talk business."

According to the confessions of convicted members, these advances were almost never repulsed.

The following summary of facts tells of the doings of the northwestern Ohio gang of firebugs:

Gang organized in 1874. Numbered from 15 to 20 men.

Incendiarism placed on commercial basis. Burned buildings for from \$10 to \$100.

Operated for 25 years throughout northwestern Ohio.

Estimated losses to insurance companies in that time \$1,500,000. Insurance losses so heavy that the State Legislature created a State fire marshal's department.

The gang exposed two years ago by the marshals. Over 40 indictments returned. Eighteen men sent to penitentiary. Many fled from country to escape exposure.

Two members of the gang committed suicide, fearing arrest.

One turned State's evidence and confessed, implicating many prominent men.

A Little Lesson In Patriotism

"Let our object be our country, our whole country, and nothing but our country."—Daniel Webster.

Toward the close of President Buchanan's administration, the administrative body of the government was almost completely disorganized.

Where one man was for the union two were for the rights of secession. Resignations and dismissals alternated.

The President was unable to meet the crisis adequately. A great President might have averted the Civil War as Andrew Jackson had averted it during his administration. But James Buchanan was not one of the great Presidents.

The country was in a state of apathy. The North was appalled at the treachery of some of the higher officials in Washington. The South was busily making preparations for the inevitable conflict.

It was at this time that President Buchanan appointed John Adams Dix of New York Secretary of the Treasury. Dix at once ordered Captain Breshwood, who commanded the revenue cutter at New Orleans, to sail to New York. The captain was a Confederate and proposed to turn his vessel over to the Confederate government, whereupon Dix sent this order:

"If any man attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot."

A sentiment so loyal and so fearlessly uttered awakened in the North a lofty enthusiasm for the flag and the cause of the Union. In the midst of a vacillating government a man and a patriot had been found. The order of Dix became the watchword and the battle cry of the Union.

BLESSING OF THE WATERS.

Quaint Ceremony Observed Wherever the Greek Church Holds Sway.

There is a quaint ceremony of the annual blessing of the waters which may be witnessed in any country where the Greek Church exists. The ceremony takes place during the first two months of the year and is always attended with great demonstrations and rejoicings, particularly in Roumania, Russia and Bulgaria.

Great preparations are made the day before the ceremony. The route is set apart leading from the church to the spot on the quay which has been se-

lected for the ceremony, a carpet of straw being laid down. It is usually a bitter cold day, but the people are eager and happy. They arrive on foot or in sledges, dressed in the picturesque national attire. All of the horses are gayly decorated with worsted favors and tassels.

On the quay a layman is actively engaged in stirring a barrel of water to keep it from freezing. At 10 o'clock, heralded by the sound of many brass instruments, the priests leave the church, preceded by a troop of cavalry. With them are borne numbers of religious emblems and banners. The priests chant as they march to the quay, where they go through the special form of blessing the waters of the country. No matter how severe the weather no word of the long service is omitted.

The water is distributed among the people, who treasure the few drops which fall to their share as an antidote against the evil eye and other fearsome ills. The straw is eagerly grabbed up after the ceremony to perform the same office for horses and cattle. Until a few years ago it was the custom to cut a hole in the ice of a stream and into this hole a cross was cast. The Roumanian men dove for this and the fortunate man could carry it for three days and collect money.

Double Punishment.

A young woman went into a New York restaurant for her lunch, but after a glance at the tablecloths and a sniff of the close air, says the New York Sun, she decided not to eat there, and started to go out. The proprietor thought that she was leaving without paying for a meal, and stopped her. In order to avoid hurting his feelings by telling the truth, the girl said:

"I find I have forgotten my purse, so I can't eat here now." She was hurrying on, but the generous man's heart was touched.

"My dear girl," he exclaimed, "you sit right down and eat! No young woman is going out of my place hungry because she hasn't her money with her. You eat now, and to-morrow you can come in and pay me."

The young woman sat miserably down and tried to eat, and as she left, hiding her purse, she wailed: "That's what I get for lying! And I've got to come around to this place again to-morrow, too!"

Luther's Fireworks.

"In my lecture on mediæval history I was giving an account of the spectacular burning by Martin Luther of the papal bull which put him outside of the Church of Rome," said a Columbia college professor. "The next day I found this in the notebook of one of the students who had heard the lecture:

"Luther gives a vaudeville show, accompanied by fireworks."

When a farmer wants to say that a building has been remodeled, he says it has been "worked over."