

THOUSANDS TAKEN

Loss 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 appropriation, 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.

Armed Peasants on Warpath.

London, March 11.—A dispatch from Kieff to the Daily Mail says: "An army of 3,000 peasants from the Orlovka district is advancing southwestward. Burning and looting of estates is in progress. Eighteen estates have already been sacked. The Michaeloffsky sugar refinery has been burned and the employes have been robbed. It is also reported that the peasants have burned a refinery belonging to the crown. A strong military force has been sent to suppress the rising, and a bloody conflict is feared."

Demand Their Old Rights.

St. Petersburg, March 11.—The Baltic provinces, the Russification of which was regarded as practically completed, have been encouraged by recent developments to again demand the restoration of some or all of their ancient rights. A well-developed movement, backed by the nobles and intelligent classes, is now openly demanding that the teaching of German in the schools be revived, and that native officials conduct provincial affairs.

Irving Will Tour America.

London, March 11.—Sir Henry Irving has signed a contract for an American tour under the management of Charles Frohman, beginning in October. He probably will open in New York between October 10 and 15, and will make a farewell tour lasting 20 weeks, of all the principal cities.

UTAH LAND FRAUDS DISCLOSED

Great Tracts of Coal Land Filled 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.

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 McEwen today for the opening of the trial of Manager Will J. Davis on the charge of manslaughter, growing out of the Iroquois fire.

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, scoring death in every form, have continued battering away at the Russian entrenchments and piercing them one by one.

JOINT LOSS OVER 100,000 MEN.

Battle Bloodiest of War — Railroad Cut North of Mukden.

Tokio, March 9.—The great battle in Manchuria raged all day yesterday along the entire and enormous front. The Japanese were generally victorious, and they drove the Russians from a series of important positions. By nightfall it seemed imperative that General Kuropatkin would have to withdraw his shattered legions to avoid a complete disaster. Indeed, it appeared impossible for him to effect a retreat without heavy losses of prisoners, guns and stores.

The continuous battle is already the bloodiest of the war. Upon the ground that General Oku alone gained are 8,000 Russian dead. The reports from other armies are expected to triple this figure. It is estimated that the Japanese have lost 50,000, making the joint slaughter thus far exceed 100,000 men.

Details of the combat are lacking, but it is believed that the Japanese have cut the railway north of Mukden, leaving only the roadways and light railway from Fushun to Tie pass as avenues for the retreat of the Russians, but army headquarters refrain from affirming or denying a report to that effect. It is thought that Mukden is still in the hands of the Russians.

TRAINS RUNNING AGAIN.

Traffic Resumed on the New York Rapid Transit Lines.

New York, March 9.—A very decided improvement in the condition of traffic in the subway and on the elevated roads marked the second day of the strike. Of the employes of the Interborough company. This was especially so in the subway, in which express service was established this evening and affairs almost resumed their normal aspect. On the elevated lines service was more irregular, but continued to improve. There was practically no disorder, and only a few minor accidents occurred during the day.

Officials of the Interborough company expressed confidence that they had the situation well in hand and that a few days would see a full resumption of service on all lines.

This was positively denied by President Pepper, of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway employes.

Bloody Measures Urged.

St. Petersburg, March 9.—A sensation was caused today by a leading editorial in the Moscow Gazette, the traditional spokesman of autocracy, declaring that the present revolt in the interior should be put down immediately in the fashion which Mical Muraviev crushed the Polish and Lithuanian rebellion in 1863. "It would be a sad sacrifice of life," says the Gazette, "but a hundred times less now than if the revolt were allowed to continue until it became absolutely necessary to take decisive steps."

Portfolios go A-Begging.

London, March 9.—It is again reported that Premier Balfour is experiencing great difficulty in filling the vacancies in the cabinet. It is rumored that Walter Hume Long and others have declined the post of chief secretary for Ireland. Gossip in the lobby of the house of commons is to the effect that Sir Anthony P. MacDonald, under secretary to the lord lieutenant of Ireland, will be appointed to an important post outside of Ireland.

Baltic Fleet is Returning.

Paris, March 9.—A dispatch to the Temps from Tananarivo, capital of the island of Madagascar, says the entire Russian fleet has left the waters on its return to Jibutli, French Somaliland.

GERMAN CLAIMS ARE TOO HIGH

Negotiations for Settling the Samoan Indemnity Drag.

Washington, March 13.—The negotiations between America, Great Britain and Germany looking to a settlement of the Samoan indemnity claims, have practically come to a standstill, owing to a wide difference of opinion as to the extent of damage sustained by the German subjects in the Samoan group as a result of joint operations by the American and British naval forces in 1900 to suppress a rebellion.

The question of the liability of America and Great Britain for the damages sustained by German plantation owners was decided by King Oscar of Sweden, in favor of the claimants in 1902, but the arbitrator did not attempt to assess individual damages, leaving this to be adjusted by negotiation. These negotiations have dragged along ever since 1902, and the principals now find themselves no nearer an agreement than at the beginning. The German claims amount to about \$65,000. The British and American negotiators insist that this sum is excessive and that \$25,000 is a good price for the property destroyed.

It is probable it will be necessary to appoint a commission to take testimony as to the extent of the actual damage, though the smallness of the amount involved would seem to make this an unduly expensive undertaking.

Meanwhile the claimants are becoming restive and are bringing pressure to bear on the German government to secure settlement.

WILL NOT GIVE UP.

Czar Will Send Another Army to the Far East.

St. Petersburg, March 13.—The immediate answer of the Russian government to the defeat at Mukden is the announcement that a new army will be raised and the forces in the Far East reorganized; that Vice Admiral Rojestvensky will be ordered to sail on and try conclusions with Togo, and that the war will be prosecuted to the bitter end.

This is the present temper of Emperor Nicholas and his dominant advisers, voiced in a firm official announcement that the position of Russia is unchanged, and that the initiative for peace can only come from Japan. Should the island empire choose to tender "moderate" terms and recognize its adversary as the power in the Far East, peace could be easily arranged; but the voice of her diplomacy in various parts of the world indicates that she is not ready to do this, and the Russian government, with the full magnitude of the disaster at Mukden still undetermined, but with the 1905 campaign seemingly already hopelessly compromised, retreat to Harbin inevitable and Vladivostok practically lost, declares that the time has not yet come when Russia can be forced to humble herself.

HE HAS DODGED OYAMA'S TRAP

Kuropatkin's Line of Retreat Secure, Though Japs Pound Both Sides.

St. Petersburg, March 13.—Russia still has an army in the Far East and its line of retreat is not cut. Field Marshal Oyama's trap was again sprung too late to bag the prey he desired, and, though pounded on the rear and both flanks, and losing heavily in killed, wounded and prisoners, General Kuropatkin with the main portions of his forces intact is falling slowly back to Tie pass, where a considerable part of his army has already arrived and joined hands with the reserves in preparing a position behind which the beaten army may find shelter.

General Kuropatkin himself, with the rear guard, was reported Saturday afternoon in the vicinity of Syanzia, 25 miles below Tie pass, having accomplished some 15 miles of his retreat, and being already beyond the jaws of the trap as originally set. How many of his men he was obliged to leave behind, and whether any of the units of his army were cut off or captured before the retreat began is not stated.

Arizona Has a New Climate.

El Paso, Tex., March 13.—The whole territory of Arizona is covered with water as a result of the heavy rains and snows and in many places the desert that has not known water for a decade is now a lake. At Silver City there has fallen 28 inches of rain during the last eight months, and rivers heretofore dry are now crossed by ferries. All records for moisture have been broken in this entire section. Railroads are demoralized, not only from washouts but from soft tracks and many miles will have to be rebuilt.

Investigate Railroad Rates.

Washington, March 13.—Railroad rate legislation was the subject of a talk today between the president and Senator Elkins, chairman of the interstate commerce committee of the senate. Senator Elkins said it was the purpose of the committee to begin its investigation of the rate question next Tuesday. Senator Elkins suggested that November next would be early enough to call an extraordinary session if one were called at all.

Only Awaits Third Squadron.

Paris, March 13.—Vice Admiral Donbasoff, who has arrived here from London on his way to St. Petersburg, in an interview with the Echo de Paris, says Admiral Rojestvensky's squadron is not returning to the Baltic sea, but is simply cruising and awaiting the arrival of the third squadron under Admiral Nebogtoff. When this junction is made they will proceed immediately to the Far East.

NOTED SOLDIER AUTHOR IS DEAD.



GENERAL LEW WALLACE.

General Lew Wallace, who died recently at his Crawfordsville (Ind.) home, crowded vast activity into his seventy-eight years of life. Born of distinguished stock and scoring any schooling, he took up law, interrupted it to serve in the Mexican War and resumed it when the fighting was over. His history in the Civil War is one of signal distinction and his services as governor of New Mexico and minister to Turkey are worthy no less honor. As an author his ability is best understood through "Ben-Hur," though he wrote several other books of high quality. In his long illness he showed the superb vitality that animated all his earlier years.

Conquest of the Great American Desert

Irrigation Canal Through Tunnels.

An irrigation canal which will pass through three tunnels, the longest of which is 1,400 feet, is now being cut in Nevada. The rocky character of much of the country to be traversed necessitated the tunnels.

The canal is fed at its source by the Truckee river, whence it passes east-

ward 14 miles to Wadsworth, Nev., and thence 18 miles to the great "Carson Sink," a desert plain. The canal will be 23 feet wide at the bottom, 53 feet at the top, and 15 feet deep and will receive 1,400 cubic feet of fresh mountain water per second.

About 2,000 men are employed in this work, which will cost the government nearly \$1,000,000. The canal will open vast areas, hitherto arid and waste, to the homesteader and to agriculture, and will greatly promote industries in contingent tracts.

Desert Tracts Fast Going.

Irrigation is as useful in New York State farming as it is in many places where it is supposed to be more applicable to the conditions. The new census bulletin just issued states that artificial provision against drought is used in Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi. Exceptionally high yields of fruit and vegetables are reported as made possible by its use.

Thousands of miles of canals, says the bulletin, are distributing water upon more than 8,000,000 acres of land, producing crops worth \$100,000,000 a year.

The increase from 1809 to 1902 was 20 per cent; \$93,000,000 has been invested in irrigation works. Running streams provide three-fourths of the irrigation now in use, wells and springs the remainder.

California leads in cost of irrigation works, Utah coming next. The Mormons settled in an arid tract which they have made to blossom like a garden by bringing water down from the mountains. In irrigated area Colorado ranks first. But the California irrigated land averages more valuable and is more intensively worked.

More than 90 per cent of the country's irrigated farms are in the semi-arid region between the Rockies and the Mississippi, using the headwaters of the latter stream. This takes in part of the "Great American desert" of old geographies.

The Columbia river basin is third in importance in irrigation projects. It alone supplies nearly 20,000 farms with water. The Colorado river through much of its course lies in a canyon so deep that it cannot be coaxed out to work. Only twenty systems are supplied from the main stream. Systems heading near Yuma, Ariz., are turning desert lands into a region of marvelous richness.

Not until 1897 was irrigation applied

to coast lands in the Southern States supposed before then to be suitable for pasture only. Now they are producing big crops of rice upon thousands of acres. American rice is a crop with a vast future.

Texas and Arizona are curiously handicapped as to irrigation by the present treaty with Mexico which forbids the impounding of any part of the waters of the Rio Grande. Probably in the future there will be no difficulty in arranging this matter. Streams subject to sudden floods, like the Rio Grande and the Mississippi, are improved by the construction of head-water storage systems. These tend to diminish floods. Extreme low water is also indirectly minimized by head-water impounding. Rain tends to increase in frequency in the dry seas B. upon lands abundantly supplied with water from reservoirs. Evaporation cools the air and promotes rain.

Circumstantial Evidence
Sir Henry Hawkins, a brilliant advocate and one of England's greatest criminal judges, expressed the following opinion in his "Reminiscences":

"Let me say a word about circumstantial evidence. Some writers have spoken of it as a kind of 'dangerous innovation' in our criminal procedure. It is almost the only evidence that is obtainable in all great crimes and it is the best and most reliable. I have witnessed many great trials for murder, but do not remember one where there was an eyewitness to the deed. How is it possible, then, to bring home the charge to the culprit unless you rely on circumstantial evidence?"

"Circumstantial evidence is the evidence of circumstances—facts that speak for themselves and that cannot be contradicted. Circumstances have no motive to deceive, while human testimony is too often the product of every kind of motive."

LEADER OF RUSSIAN REVOLUTIONISTS.

Father Gapon is the priest leader of the Russian people in their effort to obtain a constitutional government.

He headed the crowd of Russians that sought to enter the Narva gate and reach the palace square in St. Petersburg, where he hoped to give the czar a petition for a constitution. Cossacks shot down his followers, but spared the priest, who escaped and disappeared from public sight.

Gapon is the son of a peasant. As a youth he served as a swineherd, but later was sent to a Polish school, whence he is reported to have been expelled for ultra-socialistic views. Later, however, he was admitted to the priesthood under certain restrictions. His face is alleged to resemble that of a mystic, and he is said to possess a wonderful voice. His power over his followers among the workmen is strong.

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