

## EVENTS OF THE DAY

### GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE TWO HEMISPHERES.

**Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting to Our Many Readers.**

The senate has passed the pension and the river and harbor bills.

The cost of the war to Russia, up to April 3, is placed at \$46,350,000.

St. Petersburg is in receipt of a report that Niu Chwang is being bombarded.

Colorado militiamen clubbed the secretary of the Miners' Federation for defying their chief.

The house has passed a bill providing a temporary government for the Panama canal zone.

Secretary Hitchcock has issued an order prohibiting sheep on the Baker City forest reserve.

The river and harbor bill was amended by the senate so as to authorize the survey of Coos and Tillamook bays.

The secretary of the interior has temporarily withdrawn 290,000 acres of land adjoining the Yakima Indian reservation.

The secretary of the interior has set aside \$2,600,000 for the construction of the Minidoka irrigation system in Southern Idaho, and has directed that advertisements for the work be issued immediately, bids to be opened June 21.

Another battle is reported raging at Port Arthur.

Secretary Shaw says he will not be a candidate for vice president.

The body of Admiral Makaroff has been washed ashore with a number of others.

Secretary Hay has advised the 1905 exposition to prepare invitations and he will dispatch them.

The house has passed and New Mexico a state of Arizona and one of under the named Indian Territory under Oklahoma of Oklahoma.

On motion of Senator Fulton, the senate has passed Mitchell's bill authorizing the citizens of Oregon, Washington and California to cut and remove timber on the public domain or raising and domestic purposes.

The Japanese are fast preparing to force the Yalu.

Russia would make an agreement with Great Britain to gain an outlet to the sea.

Neldermier, the Chicago carbarn bandit, made two desperate attempts to end his life, the first nearly proving successful.

The house has passed a bill change the Washington custom headquarters from Port Townsend to Seattle, despite the protests of congressmen.

The foreign countries represented at the St. Louis fair will be invited by the government to transfer their exhibits to the Lewis and Clark exposition.

The conference committee has eliminated from the military appropriation bill the appropriation of \$90,000 for a bridge across the Spokane river at Spokane.

Senator Fulton has secured an amendment to the sundry civil bill increasing the appropriation for roads in Crater lake national park from \$3,000 to \$4,000.

The senate has adopted an amendment of Senator Mitchell to the emergency appropriation bill by which the senator expects to have \$100,000 allotted for continuing the improvement at the mouth of the Columbia river.

Chinese and Russian troops nearly clashed in Manchuria.

The Grand Ronde valley is a vast lake and thousands of acres of wheat are flooded.

The Russian press regards the Anglo-French treaty as a hard blow to German prestige.

Italians who had plotted against the life of President Loubet, of France, have been arrested.

In a riot between police and blue-jackets at Pensacola, Fla. one man was shot and our others wounded.

A four story hotel at Indianapolis, Ind., burned and for a time the lives of more than 300 guests were in peril.

Admiral Togo says he placed the mine which blew up the Russian warship and tells how it was done. Russians emphatically deny it.

President Moyer, of the Federation of Miners, declares Governor Peabody, of Colorado, has violated his promise, having agreed not to molest the miners.

Altogether 10 Russian vessels have been damaged or lost since the outbreak of the war.

## FIND EXCLUSION TOO SEVERE.

### Senate Committee Objects to Hitt Bill Regarding Chinese.

Washington, April 23.—The general deficiency bill reported by the senate committee on appropriations carries \$11,342,146, an increase as it passed the house of \$940,000. It contains an amendment the Hitt Chinese exclusion bill, which was accepted by the house before the bill was reported to the senate. The committee by Penrose and referred to the committee on foreign relations. In the committee the discovery, it is said, has been made that the bill will affect the introduction of Chinese coolie labor to the Panama canal zone, and to considerable extent affect the immigration to this country of Koreans and Filipinos and the deportation from the United States, Hawaii, Porto Rico and any territory, "subject to the jurisdiction of the United States of any person held to come within the definition of the words "Chinese persons," and objection has been made to the far reaching effects of the bill.

When the senate committee on foreign relations began consideration today of the Chinese bill it was suggested that the bill might be of wider scope than was at first thought. Sections defining the words "Chinese person" were called to notice, and it was suggested that these might be held to include late to Filipinos, Koreans and others not intended to be included, and the purpose of the bill might be in conflict with the existing treaties. It is late when the discovery was made, committee finally the members of the committee concluded that no action above view of taken on the Penrose bill in the senate. It is understood the measure will be made to amend the bill passes the senate.

### FROM JAPANESE.

#### FLYING BOATS are Rapidly Crossing the Yalu River—Many are Drowned.

Niu Chwang, April 23.—A messenger from the Yalu river reports that the Japanese outposts are near the Russian intrenchments with large bodies of troops five miles distant. He also states the Russians are fleeing north across the river in overcrowded boats, losing hundreds by drowning. The messenger himself met only a few of the Japanese, but they were reported to have shown themselves in force on various occasions, afterward quickly disappearing.

The newspaper correspondents accredited to the Russian forces have left for Mukden. They bind themselves not to divulge news respecting the results of engagements, or give any information which may awaken public uneasiness.

The Russians have issued placards in Chinese explaining away the Japanese victories, detailing Russian successes, magnifying the Russian strength, and prophesying victory for Russia. The Chinese are not misled, but still believe the Japanese will conquer in Manchuria.

### RUSSIA HOLDS IT BACK.

#### Extent of Disasters to Her Arms Cannot Be Sent Out.

Paris, April 22.—The Yinkow correspondent of the Paris Journal says he has tried repeatedly to ascertain the extent of the recent disasters to the Russian arms, and he has failed to do so because of the perfectly-organized secrecy of the Russians. In his concluding statement, he says:

"The people of France will be obliged to be satisfied with notices marked 'official' or semi-official statements sent from Harbin or Mukden many miles removed from the actual scene of war. I am close to Port Arthur, and might give the true version of many incidents, the news of which, as published, has been mere conjecture, but the Russians strictly forbid all communications of land or sea events. At the moment of sending this message, grave happenings are proceeding on the peninsula; in fact, I am told that another battle is being fiercely contested in the neighborhood of Port Arthur."

### British Sympathy Much Appreciated.

St. Petersburg, April 23.—While accepting gratefully the world-wide expressions of sympathy which Russia has received at the death of Vice Admiral Makaroff and the Petropavlovsk disaster, the papers seem especially impressed with the sympathy shown by the British press, several using the text to argue on the opportuneness of the decision in favor of a Russo-British treaty. The Novisky says: "A sincere approach with Great Britain would guarantee our future development."

### Kouropatkin Waits for More Troops.

Paris, April 23.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Journal says friend of General Kouropatkin has received a letter from him in which the general says he intends to await the arrival of another 100,000 men before risking a battle with the Japanese.

## LOSS IS MILLIONS

### LARGE BUSINESS PORTION OF TORONTO DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Damage Placed at \$12,000,000 With \$8,360,000 Insurance—City Acts for Sufferers—All Public Buildings are Placed at Their Disposal—Erection of Temporary Structures Permitted.

Toronto, Ont., April 22.—The total loss by the fire which destroyed the wholesale district of Toronto last night will, according to the most conservative estimate, reach \$12,000,000, the total insurance \$8,360,000.

The area swept by the fire embraces 44 acres, and 9,000 to 10,000 persons are thrown out of employment. The work of tearing down the dangerous walls was continued until this afternoon.

The city council this afternoon placed all public buildings and the exhibition grounds at the disposal of the fire sufferers, amended the fire regulations to allow the erection of temporary structures, and appointed a committee to wait on the legislature and secure an act ordering all wires underground.

The principal warehouses of the city were reduced to ashes and nearly 250 firms were put out of business. The area covered by the fire is three blocks in length and varies from half a block to two blocks in width. Every building on Bay street, from Melinia street southward to the waterfront, was wiped out and the fire spread on Wellington and Front streets, along the waterfront from this section and the Esplanade along the waterfront from this section with Bay street for a boundary for a few hundred feet to a whole block.

From the time the fire started on the north side of Wellington street, a short distance east of Bay street, in the E. & S. Currie manufacturing plant, till it burned itself out at daybreak, there was not a moment when a shift of the wind to the northward would not have resulted in the destruction of the greater part of the city.

At a meeting of the Toronto legislature tonight, the premier and the leader of the opposition expressed sympathy with the fire sufferers, and it was decided to place a sum of money in the supplementary estimates for the benefit of the firemen's fund.

It is probable that the prorogation of the legislature, will be indefinitely delayed because of the fire. The burning of the Warwick brothers and Rutter building delays the government printing for this year.

The total number of buildings destroyed is 122; the number of firms affected is 222.

### IRRIGATION WORKS FOR IDAHO.

#### Government Decides to Take in the Payette Valley Project.

Washington, April 22.—The government has finally decided to take up the Payette irrigation project, in Idaho, which contemplates the reclamation of 140,000 acres of land in Boise and Payette valleys, by diverting the waters of Boise river. Examinations of this project have been under way for several years, and the department is now convinced the project is feasible and can be carried out at a reasonable cost.

During the coming summer, final surveys will be made for canals and other works, and it is expected that contracts for the construction can be prepared and let by the end of the season.

The board of consulting engineers will consist of H. N. Savage, J. H. Quinton and W. H. Sanders which will soon examine the Umatilla and Malheur irrigation projects in Eastern Oregon to determine which of the two is the better adapted for government construction. The report of this board is likely to lead to the formal adoption of one or the other of these projects.

### Blizzard Rages in St. Louis.

St. Louis, April 22.—A severe storm raged here today, at times assuming the proportions of a blizzard. The storm began with a sleet storm, followed by a fall of 20 degrees of temperature. Following there was a snowfall of five inches. Street traffic was impeded and trains were late. The snow prevented the games between the St. Louis and Chicago national league teams, and St. Louis and Cleveland American league teams, scheduled for today. Five to seven inches of snow fell within radius of 150 miles of St. Louis.

### Trainrobbers Get \$50,000.

Tiflis, April 22.—A train on the Trans-Caucasian railway was held up between Novonensaki and Abasha by four armed men, who entered the mail car and, after binding the officials, escaped with registered letters and valuables worth \$50,000.

## HE WOULD QUIT

### Viceroy Alexieff Asks the Czar to Relieve Him.

St. Petersburg, April 21.—Viceroy Alexieff has applied by telegraph to the emperor to be relieved of his position of viceroy of the Far East. It is expected that the request will be immediately granted. While no official announcement has yet been made, there is every reason to believe that the foregoing statement is correct. The immediate cause of the viceroy's application is reported to be the appointment of Vice Admiral Skrydloff, one of Admiral Alexieff's strongest enemies and sharpest critics, as successor to the late Vice Admiral Makaroff in command of the Russian navy in the Far East.

The relieving from command of Viceroy Alexieff would not surprise intelligent observers of the Far Eastern situation, who are familiar with the gradual change in the emperor's attitude toward the viceroy and M. Bezobrovoff, who represented the military advancing element, which was anxious that Russia should remain in Manchuria. It was these two men that the Anglo-Japanese entente first lost its friends. They believed Great Britain would not go to war and that Japan could not do so. To the indignation of Japan, they succeeded in turning the policy of the empire from carrying out the treaty for the entire evacuation of Manchuria, pending further demands on China.

## BIG LOSS BY FIRE.

### Over \$10,000,000 Worth of Property Destroyed at Toronto.

Toronto, Ont., April 21.—Fire swept through a section of Toronto's wholesale business district tonight, causing a loss which will probably reach \$10,000,000. The fire started in a factory in Wellington street about 9 o'clock. In less than an hour the flames had spread from building to building on both sides of the street until the whole block was a mass of flames, and the fire was utterly beyond the control of the local department. Appeals were sent to every surrounding city where fire apparatus could be obtained asking for assistance. Montreal, London, Hamilton and Buffalo at once responded, but it will be hours before they can be of assistance.

It was believed at 11 o'clock that the fire was under control, but a sudden shift in the wind again fanned the flames into a roar and clouds of sparks and burning brands were carried down side streets until three entire blocks were doomed. The firemen were making a gallant fight amid the falling buildings and a mass of tangled wires, but their efforts at midnight seemed to be fruitless.

## FOR RAILROAD TO ALASKA.

### Victoria Endorses Project Which Will Take Trade From Seattle.

Victoria, B. C., April 20.—John Cain, of Port Angeles, Wash., addressed a crowded meeting here last night on the proposed scheme to build a railroad from the south to the north end of Vancouver island, connecting with the Port Angeles line by ferry across the Straits of Fuca and with Alaska at the north end by swift ferry steamers. He guaranteed to start building within 60 days after the subsidy is settled and complete it within two years.

The proposed line will cost \$9,000,000. The subsidy asked for is 5,000 acres per mile and \$10,000 per mile, 3 per cent inscribed stock of the province, redeemable in 40 years. The meeting endorsed the project and decided to appeal to the provincial government to take immediate action. The scheme is designed to capture the Alaska trade from the Puget sound cities and San Francisco.

## Favors Offensive Tactics.

Paris, April 21.—The Figaro today publishes an interview with Vice Admiral Skrydloff, who is now in St. Petersburg. The admiral is quoted as saying: "I believe in offensive tactics. It is necessary to push ahead and take the initiative instead of letting the enemy keep us in a state of unrest. It is essential to keep him in a state of unrest. It is necessary to invite a combat, and take chances. Any combatant who awaits his enemy is practically at his enemy's mercy. But aggressiveness does not mean imprudence."

## Pacific Squadron Sails From Panama.

Washington, April 21.—The flagship New York and the cruisers Marblehead and Bennington, of the Pacific squadron, commanded by Rear Admiral Glass, have started from Panama on their cruise to the Aleutian islands by the way of Honolulu. They first will proceed up the coast to Acapulco, whence they will sail to the Hawaiian islands, a distance of about 3,300 miles. The next run will be from Honolulu to Unalaska, in the Aleutian group, a distance of about 2,000 miles.

## Denies She Has a Submarine Boat.

London, April 21.—Captain Kabachi the new Japanese attaché, who has arrived in London from Japan, denies positively that there are any submarine vessels in the Japanese navy.

## GIVES RUSH ORDERS

### CZAR WANTS BATTLESHIPS TO JOIN FLEET JULY 15.

**Naval Strength in Far East Demands Increase—Port Arthur May Be Cut Off—Superiority of Japanese on Water Gives Them Excellent Opportunity to Operate on Land.**

Paris, April 20.—"The emperor, in receiving a visit from High Admiral Duke Alexis today," says the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Echo de Paris, "informed him that he desired the Baltic fleet to be ready to start by July 15. Orders accordingly have been sent to Cronstadt to hasten the preparation of its fleet for sailing on the date mentioned under Rear Admiral Rojestvenski, unless another admiral, of whom there has been much talk shall be selected."

"Vice Admiral Doubassoff declined the command of the Black sea fleet. It is probable that Admiral Chukin, director of the naval academy, will be appointed."

## MAY CUT OFF PORT ARTHUR.

### Superiority of Fleet Gives the Japanese an Excellent Opportunity.

St. Petersburg, April 20.—St. Petersburg is flooded with rumors from all directions regarding the plans of the Japanese, now that the Russian fleet at Port Arthur is unable longer to menace their troop transports.

The Associated Press in a dispatch from Port Arthur gave 20 as the number of Japanese transports reported as having been seen steaming in the direction of Yinkow, the seaport of Niu Chwang. Officials of the general staff, while having no information in this respect, would not be surprised if the number should turn out to be correct, or even that a larger number is steaming there.

Vice Admiral Togo's immense superiority enables him to hold the Russian squadron in Port Arthur and Japanese transports, therefore, can safely pass through the straits of Pechili and attempt to land at the head of the Liao Tung gulf, under the guns of the warships, as did General Shafter's army at Daiquiri, Cuba. Should this succeed, the Japanese will be in an excellent position to execute a flank movement on Liao Yang, or cut off Port Arthur.

## CONDITIONS IN PORTO RICO.

### Governor Hunt Reports Trade as Rapidly Gaining Trade.

New York, April 20.—Governor Hunt, of Porto Rico, arrived here today on the steamer Ponce from San Juan. He will remain in the United States about two weeks. Governor Hunt says he had not heard of his appointment as judge of the United States district of Montana and Wyoming, and would say nothing about his intention in regard to the appointment. He will spend considerable time in Washington in connection with official duties and eventually will return to Porto Rico at the end of two weeks. Speaking of conditions on the island Governor Hunt said:

"Just at present a strong effort is being made to promote a market in the United States for Porto Rico by preparing for an extensive exhibit at St. Louis. Coffee will be the feature of the island's exhibit because fruits and cotton will be also displayed. Americans are planting oranges quite extensively. The groves are growing well. Cotton bids fair to be very profitable. Coffee crop will be about normal this year for the first time since the hurricane, and if a slightly higher price can be had for the crop planters would be able to relieve their estates of part of their old mortgage debts and will be satisfied."

"It is probable that the export will exceed the value of import by a million dollars. Trade with the United States increases rapidly and will continue to grow as the sugar, fruit and cotton are being grown."

## America May Step In.

Santo Domingo, April 20.—United States Minister Powell informed the minister of foreign affairs today that in the event of any foreign power attempting to force a settlement of the claims of its citizens, thus excluding the claims of other nationalities, he would, in the name of his government, take immediate charge of all the custom houses of the government, place in each a military guard, and protect the same in the interest of the United States creditors, basing his action upon the recent decision of The Hague tribunal.

## Influx of Chinese.

Victoria, B. C., April 20.—One hundred and twelve Chinese are coming on the Canadian Pacific steamer Empress of China for this port, according to special cable dispatches to the headquarters of the company. As each Chinese has to pay \$500 head tax, the officials here are puzzled to know what it means. It is surmised that the Empress' crew of Chinese may be wanted ashore, but the officials have no reason for such a step.