

FIGHT AT SEA

Russian Fleet at Port Arthur Ventures Out.

FORT IS EXPECTED TO GIVE UP

Opinion Based on Assertions That Squadron Would Make no Sortie Until Hope Was Gone.

Tokio, Oct. 7.—Tokio has advised that late yesterday evening a naval battle had occurred at Port Arthur. While no details are obtainable other than that the fight is said to have followed a sortie on the part of the Russian squadron, the belief prevails that there can be no doubt as to the outcome. The Russian vessels, as is well known, are in no condition to meet Admiral Togo's well-equipped and thoroughly repaired fleet. In addition to this, the Russians are greatly inferior in numbers.

A sortie at this time by the Russian fleet would have peculiar significance, as it would indicate the land forces found their position had become untenable, and the fall of the stronghold is now expected to follow quickly. It has been stated on numerous occasions lately, and on the heat of authority, that the battle-torn fleet bottled up in the harbor of the Port would make no further attempt to escape, until the last hope of relief or holding out had gone.

FEARS AN AMERICAN PLOT.

European Statesmen Believe She Has Designs on Trade.

Paris, Oct. 7.—Some European statesmen are seriously concerned for the economic future of Europe. Certain among them, see, or fancy they see, a deep-laid scheme on the part of the United States for absorbing the commerce of Asia, and appear to think the moment has arrived to issue a serious note of warning.

Today M. Melin, ex-prime minister and leader of the French Protectionists, sounds an alarm in the *Republique Francaise* in an article entitled "The United States in Asia."

M. Melin says no mistake should be made by Europe. He says it is in the direction of the Far East America is evidently turning its commercial ambition. England, he says, will prefer to throw itself into the arms of the great American republic, which is close to her and may render her service. In conclusion M. Melin says:

"One cannot refrain from rather melancholy reflections on the commercial and economic future of old Europe. The more her industry increases that much more her machinery improves, and the more her warehouses are crammed with goods, just so much the more restricted and narrow her expansion abroad becomes. She now finds herself in the presence of a giant, who, with mighty Japan, is taking away her custom. After having seized a portion of that of South America, the giant is now preparing to deprive her of that of the Yellow races, which is the most important in the world. The issue promises to leave to Europe the negroes of the Soudan and the vast regions of Africa, but until that proves profitable poor Europe will have time to stew in her own juice."

WILD RACE TO ESCAPE DANGER.

Blast Furnace Filled With Hot Iron in Wake of Trolley Car.

New York, Oct. 7.—A ten-ton rolling blast furnace filled with hot iron used for the welding of the joints of trolley tracks has been the cause of an exciting ride for a carload of people in Newark, N. J. The furnace became unmanageable on the top of a steep hill, and started down with rapidly increasing speed in the wake of a trolley car bound toward the center of the city. The motorman put on full speed, but the mass of iron and fire gained steadily. When it seemed a disastrous collision was inevitable, the car crew and ten passengers, several of whom were women, held a hurried consultation and decided that the only chance to save their lives was in jumping.

After the race had gone on for a quarter of a mile, with the furnace steadily gaining, the runaway machine swerved and struck an oncoming car. The passengers escaped serious injury.

Japan To Increase Navy.

San Francisco, Oct. 7.—From information received in San Francisco by prominent Japanese, it is evidently the purpose of Japan to take immediate steps toward increasing her fighting efficiency to a very considerable degree. It is stated the Japanese government has determined to place contracts at once for some 20 warships to be completed at as early a date as possible. It is further stated the greater number of these ships are to be built in this country, and that several will be built in San Francisco.

Large Oil Plant Burns.

Findlay, O., Oct. 7.—The plant of the National Refining company was burned today. Loss, \$200,000. The fire was started through lightning striking a tank which at the time contained about 30,000 barrels.

PLEA NOT IN VAIN.

America Gains Another Victory in Russian Court.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 8.—Contrary to general expectations, the representations submitted to Russia by the United States for the recognition, without discrimination, of American passports have not been entirely fruitless. Foreign Minister Lamsdorff's response, communicated to Ambassador McCormick today, even creates the hope that something may actually be accomplished.

After receiving consideration at the foreign office, the American note was referred to the high commission for general revision of passport laws, which was created by imperial ukase, in December, 1903. All matters relating to passports and the exclusion of the Jews are governed by the international laws of the empire, and the question is outside of the direct field of diplomatic negotiation. By referring the representation of the United States, compliance with which would involve a modification of the passport laws, to the commission, which body is competent to act thereon, a decision of the question may be directly reached.

An official of the foreign office has been appointed by Count Lamsdorff to sit with the commission, thus insuring consideration of the international aspect of the question. Moreover, the commission will sit under the direction of the minister of the interior and Ambassador McCormick, who had an extended talk with Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky, the minister of the interior, upon the subject this afternoon. Found him, as might have been expected from his recent public utterances, quite sympathetic.

AUTO PLUNGES OVER BANK.

Train Strikes the Wreckage and Three People are Killed.

New York, Oct. 8.—While speeding along in the Bronx early this morning an automobile containing nine persons went off an embankment at One Hundred and Sixty-first street and Jerome avenue and two persons, a man and a woman, were killed. The machine fell on to the New York Central tracks, and the wreckage was struck by a south-bound train.

In the automobile when the accident occurred were five women and four men. At Jerome avenue and One Hundred and Sixty-first street the roadway is between 30 and 40 feet above the railroad tracks. When the big machine plunged downward it struck near the south-bound tracks, and the nine persons and the automobile were caught by an incoming train.

Besides the two killed, all the others in the automobile were injured. They were taken to the Fordham hospital, where it was reported at 1:30 this morning that at least four of those hurt were in a serious condition.

One of the passengers on the train said that the train was running about 35 miles an hour when it struck the machine. The machine was a heavy touring car, and it is said was running down Jerome avenue at a rapid rate of speed.

STATION FOR COLUMBIA.

Navy Department is Pushing Establishment of Wireless Telegraphy.

Washington, Oct. 8.—Admiral Manney, chief of the bureau of the equipment of the navy department, has been pushing with great energy the establishment of wireless stations for naval and general maritime use. A report addressed by him to the secretary of the navy some time ago, but just made public, shows the bureau already has established 22 stations along the coast.

Among the stations to be established are the following: San Diego, San Pedro, Point Conception, Point Sur, Point Arenas, Cape Mendocino, Cape Blanco, Columbia river, Cape Flattery, Port Townsend, Bremerton, Washington, Sitka, Dutch Harbor, Kiska island, Honolulu, Midway Islands, Guam, Tutuila, Cape Bojador, Point Piedras, Capoes, Ologapo, San Bernardino, Port Subig, Port Cebu, Point Tabuna, Hoilo, Suela Straits.

Chairman Tawney Coming.

Portland, Oct. 8.—James Tawney, chairman of the exposition committee of the United States congress, is to visit Portland next summer to attend the Lewis and Clark exposition. Mr. Tawney will be remembered as the congressman who stood by the Oregon delegation at the time the exposition appropriation bill was brought up, and he is in a large measure responsible for the passage of the bill. Word of his intended visit was received yesterday by President Myers, of the state commission.

Deathblow to Bullfighting in Spain.

Madrid, Oct. 8.—The Institute of Social Reforms, after a heated discussion today, decided by 13 votes to eight to ratify the absolute prohibition of Sunday bull fighting. This is considered to be the death blow to bull fighting in Spain.

DEATH IS SURE

Payne Only Kept Alive by Use of Stimulants.

STRENGTH IS FAST FAILING

Family Has Been Summoned to the Bedside of United States Postmaster General.

Washington, Oct. 4.—Postmaster General Payne is still alive, but only as the result of the injection of the most powerful drugs known to the medical profession. Frequent sinking spells marked the day yesterday, and his condition is decidedly worse this morning than it was 24 hours ago. The physicians express not the slightest hope for his recovery, and during the night possessed so little confidence that their distinguished patient could live through until morning that at midnight bulletins were issued predicting dissolution within a few minutes, and at 2 o'clock this morning they placed the limit at two hours at the outside, with the probability that every moment would be the last.

General Payne, after spending the forepart of the night in a quiet sleep, was seized at midnight with a sinking spell worse than any that had preceded it. Powerful restoratives administered in larger quantities than theretofore given produced not the slightest apparent effect, and the members of the family were hastily summoned to the bedside.

Two hours later a message was received from the bedside that the general was still alive, but all hope had been abandoned. The physicians refused to state how long their patient could survive, but stated that while he might live for two hours, on the other hand, the end might come at the next moment. After administering the stimulants at midnight, the physicians discontinued the use of drugs, and thereafter allowed nature to take its course.

Shortly after half past two, the patient showed signs of reviving, and a few seconds later he completely regained consciousness, and exclaimed "Hello" to those about him. Dr. Magruder asked him how he was feeling and received the reply "first rate." Milk was then given him to drink.

Shortly after 4 o'clock, General Payne's private secretary issued a bulletin in effect, that the patient was resting easily. It was added that General Payne's pulse was steadier and his respiration more natural than it had been for days. A consultation will probably be held this morning.

MANY A BRIBE.

Ex-Speaker Kelly Informs on the Missouri Combine.

St. Louis, Oct. 5.—In a written confession today Charles F. Kelly, speaker of the house of delegates during a period in the life of the boodle combine, relates the story of that combine. He declares a prominent politician promised himself and others implicated that the next circuit attorney would be "all right," and promised if they would remain firm he would secure for them either continuances until the next circuit attorney took office or pardons afterwards. He declares the politician said the new circuit attorney, for which office the Democrats today made their nomination, would be "his man."

Kelly declared the politician paid him \$15,000 of \$50,000 promised to keep away from the grand jury, before which he had been subpoenaed to appear after John K. Murrell returned from Mexico and turned state's evidence in the city lighting deal. He went to Europe by way of Canada, taking the name of James Logan. It was the intention of the politician, Kelly said, to have him remain away until after the statute of limitations had run out on the lighting deal. By a miscalculation, Kelly said, he came back too soon, and was arrested.

Kelly is under conviction for perjury in connection with "boodle" cases, and his trial on the charge of bribery in connection with the suburban franchise deal will be called Monday. He is now out on bonds.

Honor will Go to Widow.

London, Oct. 5.—The *St. James Gazette* says the late William Vernon Harcourt, who twice refused a peerage, eventually accepted the honor and would have been gazetted Baron Malwood on the next birthday honor list. "Fate," the paper adds, has rendered the event impossible, but it is deemed probable that a baronetcy following the procedure on the death of W. H. Smith, who was a minister of war in Lord Salisbury's cabinets of 1885 and 1886, will nevertheless be conferred on Lady Harcourt.

Lives of Four Snuffed Out.

Cartersville, Ga., Oct. 5.—By the falling of earth and ore in the Morgan mine, the lives of four men were snuffed out here today. Two others are seriously injured and are expected to die.

PAYNE IS NO MORE.

Heart Disease Causes the Death of Postmaster General.

Washington, Oct. 6.—Henry C. Payne, postmaster general of the United States, a member of the national Republican committee, a stalwart of his party, with the history of which, in his home state and nationally, he had been identified for many years, died at his apartments at the Arlington hotel at 8:10 last night, aged 60 years. Death was due to disease of the mitral valve and dilation of the heart.

Mr. Payne has been in poor health for at least two years, but his last illness covered only seven days, an attack of heart trouble last week precipitating the end, at a time when, after a rest, he appeared to have recovered a small measure of the vitality impaired by years of arduous labor. Death came after nearly six hours of unconsciousness. The last official caller to inquire as to Mr. Payne's condition was President Roosevelt, and he had been gone only about ten minutes when the stricken member of the cabinet expired.

The death of the postmaster general came as the result really of a succession of sinking spells due to a weak heart that enfeebled the sick man until finally the heart literally gave out. Never in recent years robust, Mr. Payne was unable to withstand the shock of the sinking spells, and last Friday, when he had two sinking spells, it was believed he was rapidly approaching the end. While moderate doses of heart remedies sufficed at first, it became necessary by Sunday to give much more powerful stimulants, and the doses were given in greater quantities than on any previous day.

SOVEREIGNTY IS RECOGNIZED.

Diplomats on Isthmus of Panama Will Be Accredited to America.

Washington, Oct. 6.—Chile has formally recognized the absolute sovereignty of the United States over the Panama canal zone. Other nations which have been holding back to await the outcome of the diplomatic test case will do the same. The result will be that practically all the foreign diplomats on the isthmus will be accredited to this country instead of Panama.

Chile some time ago applied for an equatum for Graciano Ossa, who was appointed consul at Panama. The request was withheld, owing to the unsettled condition of affairs. Though this country exercises full control over the canal zone, the land belongs to Panama. Today the secretary of state disposed of the question by issuing the equatum, but instead of being in the regular form it is a notification to General Davis, governor general of the canal zone, that Mr. Ossa is authorized to represent Chile in all diplomatic matters involving the canal strip. This will probably involve further differences between this government and the republic of Panama.

CORTELYOU WILL SUCCEED HIM.

He is Expected to Enter the Office About December 1.

Washington, Oct. 6.—In succession to Mr. Payne, George Bruce Cortelyou, ex-secretary of the department of commerce and labor, and now chairman of the Republican national committee, will become postmaster general.

Mr. Cortelyou's appointment as head of the postoffice department was determined on several months ago by President Roosevelt, when Mr. Payne indicated to the president his desire to retire from the department on account of the precarious state of his health. Mr. Payne would have resigned the portfolio long ago had it not been for the then pending investigation of the affairs of the department. He felt, however, and said many times to his friends, that he could not relinquish the duties of the office while the investigation was pending, and expressed his determination to carry this work to a conclusion.

Toga for Moody.

Worcester, Mass., Oct. 6.—The Telegram tomorrow morning will say: "Governor John L. Bates will, in all probability, at the next meeting of the governor's council, announce the appointment of Attorney General William H. Moody, of Haverhill, to succeed Senator Hoar. Shortly before his death, Senator Hoar communicated to Governor Bates his wish that the present attorney general might succeed him as senator from Massachusetts, and it is understood here Mr. Moody will accept."

Japan Does Not Fear Cruisers.

Tokio, Oct. 6.—The navy department discredits the report that the Russian cruisers *Rosnia*, *Gromob* and *Bogatyr* have been repaired at Vladivostok and are about to descend for another raid on the Japanese coast. The navy department further expresses the belief that the *Bogatyr* is completely disabled.

LOSS IS HEAVY

Flood Works Ruin in Colorado and New Mexico.

ALL RAILROAD ARE TIED UP

Thirty Blocks in Trinidad are Under Two to Four Feet of Water

—Loss Will Be Very Heavy.

Trinidad, Colo., Oct. 3.—A terrific flood struck the city of Trinidad and the whole valley along the Las Animas river, today, devastating a wide section and causing a money loss which at present cannot be estimated, but which may reach several hundred thousands of dollars.

Every bridge in the city of Trinidad is out, the Santa Fe station is demolished, all of the railroads are tied up, and the telephone and telegraph services completely suspended. More than 30 city blocks in the residence and business sections were two to four feet under water along the river.

So far as known at noon no lives were lost, but there were many narrow escapes.

The flood was caused by the heavy rain which has been falling for two days. At 8 o'clock last night the storm assumed cloudburst proportions, and at 2 o'clock this morning the Las Animas river went over its banks.

At 3:30 it was impossible to get within a block of the river bed at any point, and Commercial street was flooded for three blocks in the heart of the business district. Meantime the electric light and gas plants had been flooded, and the city was in complete darkness.

Hundreds of citizens thronged the streets on the edge of the submerged district carrying lanterns and doing their best to provide those driven from their homes with shelter.

Warning of the flood was given when the river left its banks by revolver shots and the ringing of the fire alarm, followed by the blowing of all the locomotive and shop whistles in town. Citizens upon rafts made of sections of sidewalks paddled through the streets, rescuing families who were in danger.

The new Macca hotel, a two story structure just reaching completion at a cost of \$20,000 on the river bank, was destroyed. The water then ate its way through 50 feet of the ground to the Santa Fe depot, which was carried away.

The city is divided by the Las Animas river, which is spanned by six wagon bridges. All of the bridges were washed out and many residents were unable to reach their homes or to communicate with their families, the telephone system being wrecked.

TO SETTLE WATER SUIT.

Effort is Being Made to Annex Part of Kansas to Colorado.

Pueblo, Colo., Oct. 3.—An effort at a solution of the Kansas-Colorado water suit is in progress, and if the efforts of those most interested in the case are successful a strip of the western portion of Kansas, about 150 miles wide, will be annexed to the state of Colorado, and the litigation now before the supreme court at Washington will be thrown out.

Politicians in both Kansas and Colorado are working for the passage of a bill through the legislatures of both states whereby the western portion of Kansas can be taken into Colorado. This, it is thought by those who have given the irrigation question much study, will solve the difficulty, and both states will be benefited to a great extent. L. P. Worden, of Syracuse, Kan., and C. C. Kennison, of Garden City, Kan., a candidate for representative from that county are in Pueblo in the interest of the plan.

"It would settle the water question in Western Kansas forever and the suit now in the courts would be dropped as there would no longer be any reason for continuing it," said Mr. Worden today.

Both Mr. Worden and Mr. Kennison appeared before the government commission when it was in session here, and are thoroughly familiar with the situation. They say they are supported by practically every resident of Western Kansas.

Fires Kill Wild Animals.

Butte, Mont., Oct. 3.—A Missouri special to the Miner says: Reports that reached here from the Clearwater country yesterday indicate that the havoc wrought by the recent forest fires in that district is greater than was at first supposed. Deer, bear and other game, driven from their haunts in the mountains by the smoke and fire, were suffocated, and their carcasses are strewn by scores in the valleys. It is believed that hundreds of the animals were killed as a result of the fires.

British Steamer Stopped.

Chefoo Oct. 3.—The British steamer *Yik Sang*, trading in China seas, arrived today and reports she was stopped by a Japanese torpedo boat destroyed outside of the harbor of Chefoo. After her papers had been examined, the *Yik Sang* was allowed to proceed.