

# The Wasco News.

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## WEEK'S DOINGS

Newsy Items Gathered from All Parts of the World

OF INTEREST TO ALL OUR READERS

General Review of Important Happenings of the Past Week in Brief and Comprehensive Form.

Russia is rapidly evacuating Niu Chwang.

Viceroy Alexieff has transferred his headquarters to Harbin.

Turkey is negotiating with Chile for the purchase of two cruisers.

Brazil and Peru will settle their troubles without resorting to arms.

Another 100,000 men are on the way to Manchuria to reinforce General Kouropatkin.

The secretary of the interior has set aside \$2,000,000 for the Malheur, Oregon, irrigation project.

Russian authorities deny that there is an unusual amount of sickness among the troops in Manchuria.

Twenty thousand Japanese soldiers volunteered to man the fireships that blockaded the Port Arthur entrance.

Information is given by a merchant who left Port Arthur recently that the warships there have only enough coal for six weeks.

Japanese commanders declare that instead of 32,000 men at Port Arthur there are only 8,000, and instead of being provisioned for a year the fortress contains supplies for but a three months' siege.

Present indications point to a long war between Russia and Japan.

Russia will have a large exhibit at the St. Louis fair in a short time.

The latest Japanese victory gives her control of much valuable territory.

There will be small crops of apricots and prunes in California this year.

France believes that the supreme struggle will come soon at Mukden.

It is reported that Viceroy Alexieff is to be succeeded by Grand Duke Nicholas.

John Mitchell advocates a trade agreement as the solution of the strike problems.

Admiral Togo reports that his casualties attending the bottling up of Port Arthur were large.

Russia relies on wireless telegraphy and carrier pigeons to maintain communication with Port Arthur.

A noted Chinese revolutionist is supposed to be in San Francisco to incite the natives there to revolt.

The St. Louis fair remains closed on Sundays except to those who hold passes and these are not allowed in any of the buildings.

Brazil and Peru are again in dispute over Acre.

At least 20 people were killed in the cyclone which swept over Northwest Texas.

Russians say the Japanese can not take Port Arthur and that the fort has provisions enough for a year.

The national 1905 fair board will meet at once to decide on buildings, so the architect can begin to prepare the plans.

The Japanese fired on the train taking Viceroy Alexieff and staff from Port Arthur, but the distance was too great to be effective.

A Japanese dispatch says they have captured Teng Wang Cheng after fierce fighting and that the losses on both sides were heavy.

During the retreat on the Yalu a body of Russians mistook a small force of their own men for the enemy and 180 were killed or wounded before the error was discovered.

Whole sections of the government food exhibit at St. Louis have been stolen. Superintendent Bruner has issued a warning that the food should not be eaten, as a majority of the things have been poisoned for preservation. At the Chinese building ivory inlaid in a wall was removed and the depression filled with plaster of paris.

Sam Parks, the noted walking delegate is dead.

The complete isolation of Port Arthur seems now highly probable.

## TO STUDY ALASKA COAL.

Geological Survey to Search for New Deposits in Far North.

Washington, May 11.—The first field party of the United States geological survey to leave Washington this year is, as usual, the Alaskan contingent. During the past winter congress increased its appropriation for Alaskan work from \$60,000 to \$80,000, which is about 1 per cent of the annual output of that territory. Nine parties will be engaged there during the coming season in topographic and geologic work. Besides these, three subparties, which may be counted as outshoots of the larger ones, will take up special work, so that the number of survey investigations on foot in Alaska during the summer will be 12, as against 7 of last year.

The geologic work of the last season in Southeastern Alaska will be continued by Messrs. C. W. and F. W. Wright. As this is the only noteworthy lode mining district of Alaska, and as its rich deposits of gold, silver and copper are only partially developed, a study of its resources is likely to be of vital interest to the prospector and investor. The work will begin with a reconnaissance across the islands from Taku Inlet to Sitka. An examination of the mining district about Sitka will follow, together with a study of the coal deposits of Admiralty Island, with Wrangell as a base. F. W. Wright will then study the local, geology and mineral deposits, while C. W. Wright connects the geology of the Juneau district, the work of Dr. A. C. Spencer in 1903, with that of the Ketchikan district, the work of Alfred H. Brooks in 1901. If the time permits, some of the copper and gold mines of Prince of Wales Island will be visited.

## BRAZIL IS HOSTILE.

Peruvian Legation Complains of Attitude of Her Neighbor.

Washington, May 11.—In view of the statement made by the Brazilian legation defining Brazil's position in the boundary dispute with Peru, the Peruvian legation today made a counter statement to the following effect:

"Peru has never admitted in Brazil any right whatsoever to the territory actually in dispute. The treaty of 1851 contains no recognition in Brazil rights as alleged by the Brazilian legation. The treaty is one of amity and commerce and made no reference as to the territory now in dispute.

"According to late reports it would seem that the government of Brazil, instead of framing its policy in accordance with the provisions of its constitution, which provides for the settlement of international disputes by arbitration, assumed a hostile attitude and has taken steps by no means conducive to the peace solution it has pledged itself to seek.

"The Brazilian legation's statement that Peru took advantage of Brazil's trouble with Bolivia to send military forces to the headwaters of the rivers Yuroa and Peru is unwarranted, and as a Peruvian population always has existed there as well as small garrisons to preserve order. Peru today is desirous of resorting to arbitration, without demanding previous conditions, unnecessary to governments really wishing to reach a prompt, just and pacific settlement of their differences. This she can offer as the best proof of her good faith and fraternal sentiments towards her sister republic."

## RUSSIAN LOSS IS VERY HEAVY.

Monday's Fight at Feng Wang Cheng Resulted in 3,000 Casualties.

Tokio, May 11.—Last Friday, after sharp cavalry skirmishes at Erhitaiteu, Santaisu and other places, a detachment of infantry belonging to General Kuroki's army took Feng Wang Cheng.

The Russians, before retiring, exploded the magazine, but left large quantities of hospital stores, which are being used by the Japanese hospitals.

Refugees from the woods and small villages are surrendering.

The Russians buried many of their dead.

Natives in the vicinity of Feng Wang Cheng say that last Monday the Russians carried about 800 wounded through that place and that their casualties probably were above 3,000.

## Murdered by Mexican Bandits.

Oaxaca, Mexico, May 11.—Othon Quinjano, the paymaster of the National railroad of Tehuantepec, was assaulted by five bandits between Palo Mares and Paso de Buques. One bullet went through his body and his head was cut almost in two with a machete. He died of his wounds. The bandits got away with between \$2,000 and \$3,000.

## HAS CUT IT OFF

Port Arthur Isolated From the World by Japanese.

VICEROY ALEXIEFF NEARLY CAUGHT

Liao Tung Peninsula Force Numbers 30,000 as Against 15,000 Russians in the Beleaguered City.

St. Petersburg, May 9.—It was officially announced tonight that the Japanese have succeeded in gaining a foothold on the Liao Tung peninsula, landing forces at Pitsewo and at Cape Terminal, 15 miles distant, and have cut the line of communication with Port Arthur. Not only that but Viceroy Alexieff, Grand Duke Boris and many of the higher Russian officers in Manchuria narrowly escaped capture, or at least being penned up in the beleaguered town.

The news that the Japanese had arrived near Pitsewo was transmitted to Port Arthur by a Russian signal corps officer, who sighted the Japanese transport fleet early on Thursday. He immediately notified the viceroy, and preparations were at once made for the quitting of Port Arthur by Admiral Alexieff, Grand Duke Boris and the viceroy's staff, and in a baggage car were placed all important documents of the Manchurian administration, which had been stored at army headquarters in Port Arthur.

The last word received from Port Arthur came from the commandant, Lieutenant General Stossel, who stated there was great confidence among his men, and he did not believe the Japanese could capture the fortress, even though they landed an army of 100,000. The garrison is equipped with a sufficient supply of arms and ammunition and enough canned provisions to last them for 18 months.

The Japanese army which has undertaken the investment of Port Arthur numbers fully 30,000 men. General Stossel has 10,000 to 15,000 men, among them being some of the best fighters in the Russian army.

It is admitted it will be necessary to call out the entire Russian army reserve, but this does not mean that they are destined for Manchurian service. They will be mobilized so that such troops as are needed by General Kouropatkin can be sent to him, and the remainder will be held for service for which they may be needed. The work of rushing all of the men to the front will be much easier from now on, as the ferry service across Lake Baikal has been resumed.

## STILL FEARS CHINA.

Russia Realizes Danger of Uprising Since the Yalu Defeat.

St. Petersburg, May 9.—The effect of the disaster to Russian arms on the Yalu upon the Chinese is being watched with keen interest and considerable apprehension. The Russian government appears to be satisfied with the situation for the moment, and Paul Lessar, the Russian minister at Peking, is making daily reports to the foreign office. The report received from the minister today contained nothing disquieting.

The Peking government, according to Russian reports, seems to be acting in perfect good faith, and insists it is intent upon preserving neutrality. It is turning a deaf ear to the appeals of anti-Russian leaders, who want China to throw in her lot with Japan, and is doing all possible to suppress anti-foreign agitation among the people.

Nevertheless, the Russian authorities regard China as a powder magazine. They realize the danger and necessity for constant pressure. The danger of an anti-foreign movement throughout the Chinese empire exists, not only for Russia, but for all the powers, and Russia has at least three times since the outbreak of the war addressed the powers on the subject, the last time being less than ten days ago. The answers received uniformly show a full appreciation of the need of exercising a restraining influence on Peking, and all the powers are co-operating to this end.

## Crops Are Destroyed.

Wichita, Kan., May 9.—A telephone message to the Eagle from Camden, Okla., states that a tornado started at Helena and passed through Timberlake, extending to Alva. It cut a swath six miles long and one and a half miles wide, destroying crops and some buildings at Timberlake. Damaging hail fell in that section, but no lives were lost.

## CITY WILL FALL.

Russian Troops Leaving Niu Chwang—Guns Sent to Liao Yang.

Chefoo, May 10.—Passengers arriving here on the steamer Petrarch from Niu Chwang say that when they left Niu Chwang the Russians had commenced to evacuate. Some guns had been taken from the forts and many troops had already gone. In other respects, Niu Chwang was quiet.

The passengers understood before their departure that the Japanese had cut the railway, but they learned no particulars.

London, May 10.—The Morning Post's Shanghai correspondent reports that Dalny was captured Friday, while the Tokio correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, cabling under date of Sunday, says:

"Dalny was invested yesterday." The Daily Mail's correspondent at Niu Chwang, in a dispatch dated May 8, says:

"Yesterday most of the Russian troops retired to Tashihchiao, and during the night most of the guns were removed from the fort and sent to Liao Yang, where all the Russian forces are concentrating. A conference of the civil and military authorities was held this afternoon and it was decided to prepare to leave at a moment's notice."

## GREAT GLOOM IN RUSSIA.

Probable Movement of the Enemy a Source of Anxiety.

St. Petersburg, May 10.—Two official dispatches, calculated to increase the depression existing among all circles in Russia were given out last night. From the point of view of the progress of the campaign, the most important is that regarding the capture by the Japanese without opposition of Feng Wang Cheng, on May 6. The second gives details concerning the killed, wounded and missing among the troops under the command of Lieutenant General Zaslavitch, as the result of the fighting on the Yalu, the number of which totals 2,397 officers and men.

Now that General Kuroki is established at Feng Wang Cheng, the Russians are puzzled as to what move he will make next. The fact that he sent two companies to Daliandapu Tso, ten miles northeast of Feng Wang Cheng, might indicate his purpose to proceed along this road to Ting Chang Gien, 90 miles north from where he would march due west to Liao Yang. This would permit an effective flanking movement, but it is not considered probable, the likelihood being that he will move along the road by which the Russians retreated toward Liao Yang.

## TO PICK '05 SITE.

National Board Will Send One of Its Members to Portland.

World's Fair Grounds, St. Louis, May 10.—The members of the government board of the Lewis and Clark exposition left for Washington today to report upon the site offered for the government buildings by Henry E. Dosch, commissioner general of the Lewis and Clark centennial to the Louisiana Purchase exposition. All but two members of the government board were present, and organized their board with Theodore A. Bingham, assistant secretary of agriculture, as chairman, and Major William C. Fox, of the bureau of American republics, as secretary.

Mr. Dosch offered the government either the peninsula in Guild's lake or a site on the higher ground overlooking the lake with the rest of the buildings. The members of the board are in favor of the peninsula site, and will detail one of the members as a representative to visit Portland and report on both sites. The government building, Alaskan building, Philippine building, Hawaiian building, forestry building and other insular buildings will be located at the same time. Mr. Dosch, who served as commissioner general for Oregon at the Chicago, Omaha, Buffalo, Charleston, and Osaka, Japan, expositions, is director of exhibits for the Lewis and Clark exposition, is assured that about two-thirds of the exhibits in the government building here will be taken to Portland and Mr. Dosch will be requested by the board to select what exhibits he would prefer. The Portland building, Mr. Dosch says, will be ready November 1, and exhibits from St. Louis removed direct.

## Severe Snowstorm in Colorado.

Leadville, Colo., May 10.—Severe snow storms have prevailed in this vicinity for several days. There is about three feet of snow in the hills but no damage has resulted from the storm. It is still snowing tonight.

## TOGO BLOCKS IT

Japanese Succeed in Last Attempt at Port Arthur.

GREAT BRAVERY WAS EXHIBITED.

Men Who Took the Fireships in Persuaded Admiral to Make Attack in Daylight Instead of at Night.

London, May 6.—The opinion gains ground here that the Japanese have at last effectually blocked Port Arthur. No official Japanese reports have been received, but the Tokio correspondents are very positive regarding the matter, and describe the determination with which the enterprise was undertaken.

The Daily Telegraph's correspondent declares the entrance to Port Arthur is "absolutely sealed," and adds that the Japanese fleet, in effecting its purpose, steamed into the entrance at full speed. The naval officers who made the two previous attempts begged permission to carry out the next attack by daylight, that being easier, and their request was granted.

So determined were they to succeed, adds the correspondent, that they decided, if necessary to lose half their men. The number of casualties sustained by the Japanese has not yet been announced.

The correspondent of the Daily Chronicle is also positive the harbor is "corked."

In favor of the supposition of Japanese success in blocking Port Arthur it is pointed out that the previous attempts had left the channel so narrow that a couple of vessels sunk in the fair way would probably suffice to seal up the entrance, while there is a noticeable evasion, and half-heartedness, in the Russian denials of the enemy's success.

There is no confirmation here of a Paris rumor that an engagement between the Russian and Japanese squadrons had taken place off Vladivostok, and St. Petersburg knows nothing of the rumored capture of Niu Chwang. It is said the Japanese have advanced to within 15 miles of Feng Wang Cheng, and another engagement is expected almost immediately.

Reports have been received here that the Japanese captured a quantity of railroad material after Sunday's battle. This is supposed to indicate that the Russians had made great progress with the railroad from the main Manchurian line to the Yalu. If this is so, it would be a simple matter for the Japanese to repair this line, which would materially assist them in their advance through a difficult country. English correspondents with the Japanese forces on the Yalu are permitted to send the most ample descriptions of the people and country traversed, but not one word about the fighting.

The Standard's Tientsin correspondent says he is convinced that the Russian position in Southern Manchuria is exceedingly weak, as a consequence of the enormous number of men detached to guard the railway and to obtain provisions.

## LOST TWO THOUSAND.

Russian General's Official Report on the Yalu Battle.

St. Petersburg, May 6.—The Russian losses at the battle of Kiu Lien Cheng were 2,000 men and 40 officers, far greater than previously reported.

This is the official estimate of Major General Kashtalinsky, who directly commanded the division that suffered the brunt of the attack, and whose report has not been received by the emperor. Many are inclined to place the Russian losses even higher.

General Kashtalinsky mentions also that more than 700 wounded had arrived at Feng Wang Cheng, and these may not be included in his calculations. He made no attempt to estimate the Japanese losses, merely stating they must have been colossal.

The magnitude of the Russian losses had an almost stunning effect on the authorities, and aroused general grief, mitigated only by satisfaction at the bravery displayed by the Russian troops.

Not for a moment was there any intention to pay such a terrible price for delaying the enemy's crossing of the Yalu.

## Steamers to Enter the War.

Berlin, May 6.—A special dispatch from Libau, Russia, says that the former German liners Columbia, Belgia and Kaiserin Maria Theresa have just arrived there to be fitted out for war purposes.