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JAPANESE DEFEATED AT PORT ARTHUR

Spies Attempting to Blow up Manchurian Railway Detected and Promptly Hanged

(Special to the Coast Mail.)

Paris, Feb. 24—The French consul at Cheefoo late last evening sent the following to the Foreign Office: "The Russians have repulsed a Japanese attack on Port Arthur. Four Japanese battleships were damaged and run aground.

Washington. Feb. 24—The State Department this morning received advices that Japan and Corea have concluded negotiations for a treaty guaranteeing to Corea independence and intergity.

St Petersburg. Feb. 24—It was officially announced today that three members of the Japanese staff disguised as coolies were captured while attempting to blow up a bridge on the Manchuria railway over the Sungari river.

After an immediate trial by drumhead court matial, they were hanged to the very culvert they had tried to destroy.

KOUROPATKIN LEADS RUSSIANS

General Kouropotkin, has been relieved of his function as Minister of War and appointed to the chief command of the Russian army in the far East.

With the possible exception of General Dragomiroff, formerly Governor-General of Kief and later members of the Council of State, General Kouropatkin is the most popular man in the Russian army. As a bluff old soldier who has fought his way up from the bottom to be Minister of War, he is the ideal of the enlisted men. Not one of the Czar's army has seen more fighting and no one can tell a story better. There is never a dull moment in his company, for he intermingles the numerous incidents of his campaign with tales of the self-sacrifices of the men whom he led with Skobeleff over the parched wastes of Geok-Tepe or over the icy slopes of Plevna. No one meeting the short, grizzled warrior in hi charming home on the sunny side of the Moika would guess the extent of his power or the burden of responsibility weighing on his shoulders. As minister of War he was considered a just chief who gave rewards and administed punishment without fear or favor. It is small wonder, therefore, that the Russian armyadores him.

GENERAL KUROPATKIN.

COCKRAN GOES TO CONGRESS

New York, Feb, 23—W. Bourke Cockran was elected without opposition today at the special election held in the Twelfth District to fill the vacancy in Congress caused by the resignation of George B McCellan after his election as mayor of New York. The district is overwhelmingly Democratic and the Republicans decided not to put up a candidate, fearing the effect of a big Democratic majority on the election next Fall.

MONGOLIA SAILS ON LONG TRIP

(Special to the Coast Mail.)

Nocfolk, Feb. 23—The new Pacific mail liner Mongolia, the largest vessel ever built in America passed out of the capes today for San Francisco via Cape Horn.

REPAIRS ON RUSSIAN VESSELS AT PORT ARTHUR NEARLY FINISHED

Now Have Strong Fleet in Fighting Trim and Expect to Soon Regain Naval Supremacy

(Special to the Coast Mail.)

Tokio, Feb. 23—Advices received from Nagasaki announce another sweeping Japanese naval victory, as a result of which four Russians torpedo boat destroyers, part of the Port Arthur defense squadron, have been captured by the Japanese fleet under admiral Uriu. The announcement causes intense excitment in Tokio. The Japanese commander used Russian signals, and by that means was enabled to approach close to the Russian scouting squadron before being detected.

Cheefoo, Feb, 23—Repairs on the two vessels damaged by Japanese torpedo boats in their attack on Port Arthur are nearly completed and they will be ready forservice shortly.

The Russians now claim that the Port Arthur fleet has in fighting trim six battleships, three cruisers. ten destroyers and 25 torpedo boats, carrying nearly ten thousand men.

It is expected that the arrival of Admiral Makaroff will be the signal for a rally against the Japanese fleet. Russians confidently expect within the few weeks to regain their naval supremacy.

VLADIVOSTOK, RUSSIA'S ICEBOUND HARBOR IN SIBERIA.

The harbor of Vladivostok was formerly icebound in winter, but now during part of the winter it is kept clear by means of great ice crushing steamers built for the purpose.

SCHOONER HOWE GOES ASHORE

Lies on Beach at Seaview Was Bound From Sound to San Pedro. Crew Saved

(Special to the Coast Mail.)

Astoria, Feb. 23—Another vessel has been added to the list of those wrecked on North beach, and she now lies in the breakers with heavy seas breaking over hes and pounding her to pieces.

The luckless craft is the American three-masted schooner Frank W. Howe, Captain Austin Keegan, which sailed from Ballard Friday, February 12th, with a cargo of railroad ties for San Pedro. She was run on the beach in order to save the lives of her crew.

The schooner was sighted shortly before 10 o'clock Monday morning flying distress signals, by the observer at North head. Word was immediately telegraphed to this city and the tug Tatoosh and revenue cutter Perry left town at once, but the breakers were rolling so high on the bar that they were unable to cross out.

In the mean time the schooner drifted northward, and about 11 o'clock she went on the beach at Seaview, four miles north of Ilwaco. As the craft hit the breakers she was turned round by them, and struck the beach stern first.

ENGLISH VIEW OF PORT ARTHUR FIGHT

Another Battle in Progress There---Japanese Fleet Appears off Vladivostok

(Special to the Coast Mail.)

London, Feb. 25—It is believed here that instead of a Russian victory at Port Arthur, another successful feat was accomplished by the Japanese in partly bottling up what is left of the Russian fleet, and that the Russians did for the Japanese what the Japanese intended doing for themselves by sending four merchant ships ashore at the mouth of the harbor.

Paris. Feb. 25—A dispatch from St Petersburg states that fresh fighting is going on at Port Arthur between the fleet of Admiral Togo and the Russian forts and battleships, and that the engagement is very spirited.

London, Feb. 25—The Vladivostok correspondent of the Central news wires under today's date that foreign warships were seen at ten o'clock this morning on the far horison. After remaining in sight an hour they disappeared in the fog.

The fleet may prove to be Japanese to attack Vladivostok.

STEAMERS HAVING TROUBLE

Special to the Mail.

San Francisco, Feb 24—All steamers along the coast are having a hard time on account of the storm and many vessels expected this morning have not yet arrived.

DOVER WILL BE SECRETARY

Special to the Mail.

Washington. Feb. 24—Elmore Dover, assistant secretary of the Republican National Committee has consented to act as secretary in place of Heath until the convention meets.

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