

EVENTS OF THE DAY

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

Affairs in the Balkans are assuming a serious aspect.

William J. Lemp, the well-known St. Louis brewer, has committed suicide.

Russia is lashed into a fury by the continued defeats and highly patriotic demonstrations are common.

The house sub-committee will report for Sunday opening of the 1905 fair, but will reduce the appropriation.

Great Britain and France are preparing for the possibility of an emergency. Rush work is the order at the ship yards of both nations.

Baltimore merchants take issue with the governor's statement that federal troops are unnecessary to guard the fire swept district.

France will give her support to the note of America for the preservation of the neutrality of China, thus putting all the powers in line. It is thought the acceptances by Russia and Japan will be received soon.

The Japanese steamer America Maru, which left San Francisco a short time ago for Yokohama, arrived safely. This is the vessel two Russian war vessels were supposed to be waiting for between Honolulu and the Philippines.

Maryland will aid the fire stricken city of Baltimore.

All Russia is fired with war spirit. Japan celebrates its victories.

The transport Dix is in Portland to load a cargo of supplies for the Philippines.

The house has unseated Howell, Democrat, in favor of Connell, Republican, from Pennsylvania.

The Japanese have captured at least five commercial steamers belonging to Russia. Some of the steamers are rich prizes.

The American policy of maintaining the neutrality of China meets with the approval of the powers and a note has been addressed to Japan and Russia.

Vladivostok telegrams announce the complete rout of the Japanese by the Russians on the Yalu river. These advices also claim that Chemulpo, Corea, has been occupied by the Russians.

A Port Arthur dispatch says Japanese attempted to land men in several bays in the neighborhood of Port Arthur under the protection of the guns of the cruisers. It is asserted, however, that all the attempts were unsuccessful.

Eight Russian war vessels have been either sunk or badly disabled.

The Chinese are much gratified at the victories that are falling to Japan.

Russia will send one company out of every regiment of guard troops to the Far East.

Senator Hanna is very weak and nervous, but his physicians declare his condition improving.

The United States consul at St. Petersburg will look after Japan's interests there during the war.

Great quantities of coal are being hurried from Pennsylvania to New Orleans for shipment to Russian war vessels.

St. Petersburg newspapers print a story claiming a Russian victory at Port Arthur. As the story can not be confirmed, it is discredited.

The czar has issued his official declaration of war. He lays all blame on Japan, saying she began the attack without waiting for negotiations to be broken off.

A Russian war vessel is supposed to be cruising between the Hawaiian islands and Japan waiting for the Japanese boat American Maru, which sailed from San Francisco with a valuable cargo of munitions of war.

Senator Hanna's condition continues to improve.

Militia may be called to Coal Creek, Tenn., to prevent trouble among the striking miners and operators.

The Russian battleships damaged by Japanese torpedoes in the first conflict are said to be the best in the Russian navy.

The transport fleet of the United States located on the Pacific coast is fitted out and is ready for any emergency call for services of troops in the Far East.

America wants an area of limit of hostilities fixed by Japan and Russia.

Secretary Hay has addressed an identical note to a number of European powers to ascertain if they are willing to join in a notice to Russia and Japan that during hostilities and thereafter the neutrality and integrity of China must be recognized.

A British citizen in San Francisco has issued a call for subjects of Great Britain on this coast to organize a regiment for use if their country should be dragged into the war in the Orient.

Britain fears that out of the present Far Eastern trouble a war will follow involving all Europe over the Balkans.

An organization has been formed in Chicago for the promotion of international arbitration.

MONEY ON WASHSTAND.

Witness in Benson-Hyde Land Fraud Case Makes Revelations.

Washington, Feb. 15.—The federal grand jury in this city is listening to testimony in the famous Benson-Hyde land fraud cases, and from evidence already submitted Secretary Hitchcock is confident that a number of indictments will result.

One of the most important witnesses yet examined is a clerk in the general land office, who admitted he had co-operated with Benson and had furnished him with advance information whenever the department was preparing to create forest reserves. This clerk's services were engaged by Benson, so it was testified, during one of Benson's visits to Washington. When the two had reached an understanding the clerk was invited to call on Benson at his hotel.

After a brief conversation Benson asked his visitor if he would like to wash his hands. Taking the hint, the clerk stepped into the bathroom, found a \$100 bill on the washstand and promptly appropriated it. He testified that after subsequent visits to Benson he found large sums of money in his overcoat pocket, and at other times when Benson was in San Francisco he received money at different times through the mails. No letter accompanied the funds, which were invariably inclosed in blank envelopes.

So great became the demands of Benson for information that this clerk found it necessary to employ a confederate, and it is then believed that Harlan, who was chief of the forestry division at the time, was taken into the scheme. Together these two men, it is alleged, by utilizing a cipher code furnished by Benson, kept the San Francisco office advised whenever and wherever reserves were to be created, and gave them such other inside information as would assist them in their operations.

WENT TO DEATH BRAVELY.

Russian Bands Played 'National Airs as the Chemulpo Battle Was Begun.

Nagasaki, Feb. 15.—The survivors from the Variag and the Korietz, the Russian cruisers that were sunk by the Japanese fleet at Chemulpo last Tuesday still remain on board the British cruiser Talbot, the Italian cruiser Elba and the French cruiser Pascal.

The situation is becoming acute, as the Japanese have twice made demands on the commanders of the three foreign vessels that the Russians be surrendered as prisoners of war. The captain of the Talbot, being the senior naval officer, each time replied that he was awaiting instructions from his government.

None of the Russians are on board the American gunboat Vicksburg, whose commander considers that the Japanese are right in their demand, as the Russians took advantage of the clemency of the Japanese in returning to the harbor, then taking refuge on the foreign vessels and refusing to surrender, whereas the Japanese fleet refrained from sinking them in the open sea, as it could have done.

A magnificent episode in the battle was the second sortie of the two Russian cruisers. With bands playing the national anthem the international fleet loudly cheering the bravery and gallantry of the Russians, the Variag and Korietz faced the Japanese fleet in what was certain death.

The position of the wrecks appears to be such that it will be easy to recover the guns. The Russian losses were one officer and 40 men killed and 464 wounded.

Will Defend Herself.

Copenhagen, Feb. 15.—The British government has inquired if the Danish government is prepared to defend Denmark's neutrality, especially the important sea routes. Denmark replied in effect:

"We will defend ourselves." The construction placed on this inquiry here is that Great Britain apprehends the danger of Russia occupying Danish possessions in the event of complications between Great Britain and Russia over the Far Eastern question. In consequence the war department has ordered the army reserves to be ready for mobilization.

Cannon's Again Boom.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 15.—An official telegram reaching here from Port Arthur dated February 13 says the lights of the enemy's ships were seen off Inkau on the evening of February 11. It says further that advices reached Port Arthur February 12 that six Japanese battleships had appeared in the roadstead of Tatung King, on the estuary of the Yalu river, and opposite the Korean Port of Wujil, and that the booming of cannon had been heard.

France Prepares for Emergency.

Paris, Feb. 15.—Dispatches received here from Toulon say that orders have been issued for the mobilization of additional troops for service in Indo-China. Officials declare, however, that they do not apprehend an attack on French territory in the far East by the Japanese, but that it is well to be prepared for all emergencies.

IS OVERESTIMATED

NOT AS MANY RUSSIANS IN FAR EAST AS REPORTED.

Troops Number Under 100,000 Men—Officers in Manchuria are Surprised War is On—Russians are Said to Have Slain One Hundred Chinese and Officials Appeal to Peking.

London, Feb. 13.—The Peking correspondent of the London Times ascribes the habitual overestimation of the Russian forces in the Far East to the claim arising from the Boxer troubles, put forward by M. De Giers, then Russian minister at Peking, during the peace negotiations at Peking in 1900 for an indemnity of 17,900,000 pounds, on the ground that Russia had put 179,000 men in the field. It is now known, however, that the real number of these men will be under 100,000.

Continuing, the correspondent says an American military officer who has just returned to Peking from a trip through Manchuria, made for the purpose of reporting the situation, declares all the Russian officers he met in Manchuria professed to believe war would be averted. While he was at Port Arthur, on January 31, the Russian fleet was hurriedly ordered to sea, but in getting out two vessels struck fast in the mud of the shallow basin and were compelled to remain behind.

Special dispatches from Tokio this morning announce the arrival of Japanese troops at Seoul, but beyond this the dispatches published in the newspapers add practically nothing to the knowledge of the actual situation.

The Tien Tsin correspondent of the Standard sends in a report that the Russians have massacred 100 Chinese at Liaoyang, in consequence of which the officials at Shanhaiakwan are greatly alarmed, and are appealing to Peking for protection.

RUSSIANS BLAME ALEXIEFF.

They Say He Should Have Been Better Prepared to Fight.

Chefoo, Feb. 13.—More than one-half of the Russian officers at Port Arthur blame Admiral Alexieff for the disaster that has overtaken them. They believe that, instead of spending the time sending communications to St. Petersburg during the last few weeks, bewailing the anxiety for peace that prevailed there, he should have been preparing his forces for the combat. In fact, the wish is declared to have been made by one of the Admiral's warmest supporters that he would be recalled to St. Petersburg, court-martialed and shot for incompetency.

The land forces are in a bad way and are ready to run at the first fire. A corps of the determined Japanese infantry would have little trouble taking the fortress with the squadron attacking from the harbor mouth. The situation at present looks as if Russia would be forced to abandon her "modern Gibraltar" within a very short time.

AID ASKED TO FIGHT FIRE.

Largest Starch Factory in the World Is Destroyed.

Oswego, N. Y., Feb. 13.—The huge starch factory of the Corn Products company, consisting of three great buildings, forming the largest establishment of the kind in the world, took fire this evening in the chemical room. At 23:0 o'clock the flames were under control, being confined to the building. The loss will be over \$1,000,000.

After the city fire department and the volunteer department of Kingsford's mills had tried in vain to cope with the flames, Mayor Mansfield telegraphed for aid to Fulton and Syracuse. From the latter city, three engines and 25 men were dispatched and joined their efforts to those of the local department. Fireman Dougherty and Evans have been injured, the former fatally by a fall from a roof. Twenty-five men at work in the buildings where the fire started barely escaped.

The burning buildings contain many hundreds of thousands of bushels of starch and corn. Six hundred employes are thrown out of employment.

Lancaster Situation is Serious.

Lancaster, Pa., Feb. 13.—Backwater from the gorge, which extends from McCall's Ferry to Bainbridge, on the Susquehanna river, covered the tracks of the Pennsylvania railroad at Bainbridge today to a depth of three feet. Four freight trains are stalled. The water is slowly receding, after having reached the record mark in June, 1889. The water is still in the station of the Pennsylvania railroad, and the situation as a whole is regarded as the most serious that has ever confronted that town.

Own Plant Saves City Much.

Boston, Feb. 13.—Dr. Samuel Abbott, of the state board of health, announced today that by manufacturing its own anti-toxin the commonwealth has saved the people \$405,000 in four years. The actual expense during that time, when 159,000 bottles of anti-toxin were distributed free, was \$1,500. These statistics have been forwarded to Chicago, where it is proposed to adopt the Massachusetts idea, instead of purchasing supplies.

Manchurian Railway Bridge Wrecked.

London, Feb. 13.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail says that an important bridge on the Manchuria railway has been blown up, and 30 men have been killed.

BIG BATTLE EXPECTED.

Japan and Russia Both Rushing Troops into Korean Territory.

Tokio, Feb. 11.—Japan is making tremendous preparations to land more troops in Corea. She already has succeeded in landing several thousand of her forces at Chemulpo despite the presence of two Russian cruisers. Four battalions have been landed at Gensan, one of the treaty ports of Corea, 115 miles from Seoul.

Japan is concentrating her forces at Tsushima island in the Straits of Corea, which is Japan's most advanced base.

It is officially stated here that the Russian troops have crossed the Yalu river and are pouring into Corea. Their objective point is believed to be Seoul. Officials here declare that this action compelled Japan to initiate hostile measures and make war a terrible actuality.

Official circles in Tokio are convinced that a great battle between the Russian and Japanese land forces will occur soon in Korean territory.

The Japanese, however, are clamoring for a rigorous prosecution of hostilities all along the line. Plans for landing a greater Japanese force in Corea are being pushed strenuously.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

Russia Worsted in Battle Off Chemulpo—Two Vessels Lost.

London, Feb. 10.—The official account of the Chemulpo battle received at the Japanese embassy here says that the Japanese squadron in escorting transports to Corea was met on its way to Chemulpo by the Russian gunboat Korietz as the latter was leaving port. The Korietz assumed the offensive and fired on a Japanese torpedo boat. The latter replied by firing two torpedoes without effect. The Korietz then returned to anchorage in the port and early next morning Admiral Irii, commanding the Japanese fleet, formally demanded that all Russian vessels leave the port of Chemulpo adding that if they did not comply by noon yesterday he would be compelled to attack them within the harbor.

The Russian men-of-war left the port at 11:30 and battle was immediately given outside Polynesia island.

After one hour's engagement the Russians took refuge among the islands, and towards evening the cruiser Variag sank.

About 4 o'clock this morning, the Korietz was reported sunk by her own crew, who, finding her utterly disabled, blew her up. There were no casualties on the Japanese side.

LONG-LAID PLANS.

Japanese Ministers Discuss the Recent Victories Over Russia.

London, Feb. 12.—Minister Hayashi this morning said:

"The engagements at Port Arthur and Chemulpo were merely in accordance with plans of long standing. As soon as our forces are landed in Corea I look for an important fleet action at Port Arthur. The Russian vessels probably lie close beneath the island batteries but by going on the Chinese side our ships, by a high-angle fire, can shell them out. The Russian admiral may possibly like Cervera, anticipate his fate and come into the open of his own accord.

In speaking of the Hay note, he says Japan will most certainly and heartily agree, but so long as Russian troops are in Manchuria Japan cannot regard it as neutral territory. While Japan is anxious to assist in maintaining neutrality with China proper.

ANARCHY MUST END.

America Will Take Stern Action in Santo Domingo.

Washington, Feb. 12.—Drastic measures will be taken by this government to end the anarchy in Santo Domingo. Continued violation of international law, the destruction of American property and disregard of foreign interests, has convinced officials that affairs there can be best improved by force. Its handling has been turned over to the navy and Secretary Moody tonight is sending supplementary instruction to Rear Admiral Wise, commanding the training squadron now in Dominican waters, giving him wide latitude in the course he is to follow.

Acceptable to Germany.

Berlin, Feb. 12.—Secretary Hay's note to the powers concerning the neutrality and integrity of China was delivered to the German Government yesterday by Foreign Secretary Von Ritcheff. The Associated Press understands that the latter has already conveyed an intimation to Secretary Hay that his proposals are likely to be acceptable to Germany, because they tend to localize the war and avoid fresh subjects of international dispute. The step is regarded here as being an able move.

Walls Must Come Down.

Baltimore, Feb. 13.—An army of men are clearing the streets. Several are open to wagon traffic. The mayor and business men held a meeting this afternoon. The engineers say all the standing walls will have to come down, as reconstruction would be unsafe. At a meeting of the citizens this afternoon a resolution was passed asking the legislature to appeal to the government for federal forces to protect the burned district.

Capture of Troops Reported.

London, Feb. 12.—A special dispatch from Tokio, dated today, says it is reported that three transports of the Russian volunteer fleet, conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese troops off the Korean coast.

IT CRIES TREASON

FRENCH PRESS CONTENTS JAPAN BROKE INTERNATIONAL LAW.

Attack on the Russian Fleet is Compared to the Blowing Up of the Maine in Havana Harbor—Russians Admit That Their Hope for Victory Lies in Land Forces.

Paris, Feb. 12.—As the day wore on a great wave of popular sympathy for Russia was brought out by the news of the engagement off Port Arthur. The newspapers without exception severely arraigned Japan. The Temps, semi-official, said:

"Japan's brutality in making a night attack before a declaration of war is her second offense against the rules of international law."

The Journal des Debats declares Japan's action was contrary to the accepted rules of international law, giving promise that Japan proposes to conduct the war without regard to modern usages of warfare.

The Patrie gives sensational prominence to its assertion that Japan committed an act of international treason, compares the attack on the Russian fleet off Port Arthur with the blowing up of the Maine, and asserts that Europe will hold Japan responsible for this treason.

The authorities on international law who were interviewed on the subject expressed the belief that Japan committed a breach of international law. Notwithstanding this bitterness, however, universal recognition was given to Japan's audacity, and it was evident that Japan's naval prestige had been materially increased.

The Associated Press was informed by a high Russian authority that now Japan has begun war, the Russian government, following the manifesto which is expected to be issued in St. Petersburg at once, expects that the various states will issue proclamations of neutrality. In Russian diplomatic circles the success of Japan literally aroused the greatest regret. It was frankly admitted that Russia expected to be defeated upon the sea, but it was added that she would certainly conquer on land.

DIVISION OF STATE IS ISSUE.

Washington Congressmen All Agree that More Judges are Needed.

Washington, Feb. 12.—The house committee on judiciary today listened to arguments by the three congressmen from Washington, in support of their respective bills for dividing the state into judicial districts. These members agreed on one thing only, that because of the immense amount of judicial business coming before the federal courts of Washington each year, it is absolutely necessary that an additional judge be accorded the state, and that this judge be provided with a specified district.

Cushman advocated the creating of a north and south district, the former to include Seattle and Spokane, and the latter Tacoma and Walla Walla.

Jones contended for an east and west district, to be separated by the Cascade mountains, while Humphrey was heard in advocacy of a bill he introduced yesterday creating one district of the northwest quarter of the state, including King county, and making the remainder of the state a separate district.

ENGINEER FAILS TO STOP.

Fourteen Lives are Lost in Head-On Collision Following.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 12.—Fourteen persons were killed, and more than a score injured, in a collision between two passenger trains on the Canadian Pacific, near Sand Point today.

The trains in collision were the east bound and west bound "800" specials. Both trains were under orders to stop at Sand Point, and pass there. An official statement given out by the Canadian Pacific places the responsibility for the wreck upon the crew of the west bound train. Conductor Nidd, of that train, this evening admitted that his engineer had orders to stop at Sand Point, but failed to obey them. Ten of the killed were passengers.

Will Be Future Blessing.

Baltimore, Feb. 12.—Mayor McLane, when asked for a statement today, dictated the following to the Associated Press: "Baltimore will now enter into the task of resurrection. A greater and more beautiful city will arise from the ruins, and we shall make of this calamity a future blessing. We are staggered by the terrible loss, but we are not discouraged, and every energy of the city and its citizens will be devoted to a rehabilitation that will be a monument to the American spirit."

Water Forces Many to Flee.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Feb. 12.—The Susquehanna river began rising today and the situation is growing serious. Communication with the west side has been cut off. The water is now 24 feet above low water mark. At Plymouth 200 families had to leave their homes and 100 silkmill girls were taken from the windows of the factories in boats. Reports from Bloomsburg, Berwick and Espy are that the water is 27 feet high and rising rapidly.

America is Well Prepared.

San Francisco, Feb. 12.—The United States transport Sherman is scheduled to sail for Manila on March 1 with the Twelfth infantry and 400 cavalry recruits. The transports Buford, Crook, Meade and Warren are in port ready for any emergency and the Logan is due here today. Any of these vessels could be sent to the Far East if necessary.

SUNK BY JAPAN.

Russian Ship Lost at Chemulpo—Another One is Fired.

Tokio, Feb. 10.—It is reported here that the Japanese fleet engaged and defeated two Russian warships, whose names have not yet been learned, at Chemulpo yesterday. It is said the engagement began at 11 A. M. and continued until 3 P. M. The smaller Russian vessel is reported to have been sunk and the larger one was fired and hopelessly destroyed. A part of the crews are reported to have escaped to the shore and to have been captured. The Japanese ships are reported to be slightly damaged. Official confirmation of the battle is unobtainable.

Japanese Start for Seoul.

London, Feb. 10.—In a dispatch from Tien Tsin dated February 9, a correspondent of the Daily Mail says it is reported there that the Russian cruisers Varyag and Korietz hauled down their flags without firing a shot and that 8,000 Japanese immediately landed at Chemulpo and the march to Seoul commenced.

It appears, the correspondent continues, that the Russian warships at Vladivostok are icebound.

Another correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphs from Port Arthur under date of February 9 that the Russian advance has commenced. General Krastalinsky will leave Liaoyang tomorrow for the Yalu river at the head of the Third brigade of artillery, consisting of 24 guns and three regiments of infantry. The Third, Fourth and Fifth infantry brigades are entrenched along the railroad at a distance of 40 miles from Haicheng, and three batteries of the Fifth brigade are at Kinchou. The greatest activity prevails here and ammunition is being served out lavishly at an average of 150 cartridges per man. New recruits are being enrolled with feverish haste, drilling being dispensed with in favor of incessant target practice.

BALTIMORE PARALYZED.

Aftermath of Terrific Fire Shows Appalling Conditions.

Baltimore, Feb. 11.—The people of this unfortunate city are dumfounded.

Baltimore is beginning to realize the immeasurable magnitude of her loss. The weather has taken a wintry chill which adds to the grief. Workers who are idle know they will probably be compelled to leave for other cities. All estimates of the total loss vary from \$150,000,000 to twice that vast amount, but it will be months before it can be adjusted, as the task is a gigantic one. Insurance adjusters are dazed by the great work ahead of them. Special agents from all important companies went into a special session at 11 o'clock this morning as a loss committee.

When morning broke it would have been impossible to describe the scenes of devastation that met the eyes of the thousands who flocked to the scene of the great conflagration that raged from Sunday morning at 11 o'clock until late Monday night before it could be safely said that all danger of further destruction was passed. Even then no one could tell but a fresh wind might spring up and again fan the dying flames into renewed and vindictive vigor.

One hundred and forty acres lie in utter ruin. In this desolate territory stood the greatest and most costly buildings in Baltimore or the state of Maryland. Millions were represented by the great business concerns that occupied the stone, brick, iron and steel buildings and their loss is great; greater than can be estimated at the present. Insurance underwriters roughly and conservatively estimate the loss at \$200,000,000, and the amount of insurance involved at \$100,000,000. There must be added to this as a natural consequence the personal property loss that insurance men have no way of estimating.

The district swept by the fire is 75 blocks in extent and comprised nearly 2,500 buildings. It is within the territory bounded on the west by Liberty street, on the north by Lexington street, on the east by Jones Falls, and on the south by the Basin.

Russia is Excited.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 11.—The news that Japan had duplicated her tactics at the opening of the China-Japanese war by a torpedo attack on the Russian ships off Port Arthur, created intense excitement. Details of the attack are anxiously awaited. Extra editions of the morning papers printed early in the forenoon, after the appearance of the Official Messenger, conveyed the intelligence to the population of the capital and dispelled any lingering hopes that war could be averted. All are eager to go to the front.

Consular Bill of Appropriations.

Washington, Feb. 11.—The senate today passed the diplomatic consular appropriation bill without debate. Overman, of North Carolina, made a speech on Panama explaining why he would vote against the ratification of the canal treaty. Carnack followed. Daniel introduced a bill appropriating \$3,000,000 for an exposition to be held at Jamestown, Va., in 1907. In the house Maynard introduced a duplicate of Daniel's senate bill.

Currency Undamaged.

Baltimore, Feb. 11.—The vaults of the Continental trust company building were opened at noon. Thousands of dollars in currency and bonds were found to be undamaged. The bank will do business despite the 10 holidays. Assistant United States Treasurer Dryden, after communicating with Secretary Shaw today opened the subtreasury making \$12,000,000 available for the local banks if wanted.