

PORTWEAKENS

Japanese Plan for Final Assault on Arthur.

MORE LIVES MUST BE SACRIFICED

Tokio Believes the Siege Will Prove to Be the Bloodiest Since Sedan, but Arc Confident.

Tokio, Aug. 25.—The final assault on Port Arthur is imminent. Hundreds of Japanese guns continue to pour a destructive fire into the city and harbor, along the lines of forts and entrenchments, preparatory for the infantry assault. It is evident that the Russian lines have been weakened, and partly penetrated in the vicinity of Antsuzhan and Etse-shan forts. The entire line of Russian defenses immediately about the harbor are within range of the Japanese guns.

A number of Russian forts and batteries continue to be vigorous. The Japanese death toll will be heavily increased before they are captured. The direction of the Japanese attack creates the impression here that the city and defenses on either side of the harbor entrance will fall first.

The final stand will be made at Liaotieshan. Japanese official channels of information remain closed, and the navy department's announcement of the striking of a mine by the battleship Sevastopol and the firing upon the Russian forts by the cruisers Niushin and Kasaga yesterday are the only disclosures made for several days.

WON BY EL PASO.

Texas City Captures Mining Convention for 1905.

Portland, Aug. 25.—El Paso is proud of her orator, Zach L. Cobb, who awoke the echoes and the enthusiasm at the meeting of the congress yesterday afternoon, and won the unanimous voice of the convention for the city as the next meeting place of the congress, proud of the victory, and proud of the chance to entertain the convention of 1905.

The first important vote that has arisen since the convention was called to order was brought up at the afternoon session when T. A. Ricard, of New York, presented a resolution to the congress declaring for El Paso as the next meeting place of the organization. It was here that Mr. Cobb, for the second time during the course of the convention, showed that he was the orator of the Southwest. In his plea for the city he was repeatedly stopped by applause, and as he finished his eloquent invitation to visit the Texas city, the resolution to make El Paso the convention city of 1905 was carried without a dissenting vote.

There are nine directors to be chosen by the congress, which board is composed of the president and eight vice presidents. These vice presidents are to be scattered over the country as generally as possible, and at the present time there are but three or four men who are mentioned for the respective offices.

Attaches Can't See Fight.

Tsin Tau, Aug. 24.—According to what Major Hoffman, the German military attaché at Port Arthur, who has just arrived here, said in a guarded interview today, the foreign naval attaches during the last few days of their stay there were quartered on the Tiger's Tail, where a battery 600 feet high prevented them from witnessing the naval battle on August 10. Shells often burst in their vicinity, but they did not consider themselves in a dangerous position on that account. The attaches were treated with great consideration, but were allowed no place from which to view the naval operations.

Paymaster Robbed of \$5,000.

Paterson, N. J., Aug. 25.—Four masked men held up the paymaster of the O'Rourke Construction Company, a Mr. White, on the Ridge road, near here, today, and robbed him of \$5,000. The paymaster, accompanied by two men, was on his way to the office of the company, driving in a buggy, when four men, one an American, masked completely, and three Italians, wearing blue goggles, came out of the woods. The American shot the horse. The robbers covered the three occupants of the buggy with guns and got away with the bag of money.

Threatened With Famine.

Reno, Nev., Aug. 25.—As a result of the washouts Monday afternoon on the Tonahap and Carson & Colorado Railroads the mining towns of Goldfield and Tonahap are threatened with famine. They are situated in the mountains and the only method of securing supplies is from the Tonahap road. Before it was opened they received supplies by pack trains, but since then the towns have grown to such proportions that the demand cannot now be met by such methods.

Two Torpedo Boats Lost.

Tokio, Aug. 25.—Two Russian torpedo-boat destroyers struck mines at the entrance of Port Arthur last evening. The larger one of the destroyers, a four-funnelled one, was sunk. The names of the vessels and the number of lives lost are unknown.

AVOIDS A FIGHT.

Directors to Choose Convention City for 1905.

Portland, Aug. 24.—Politics, arrival of delegates, speeches, and adoption of resolutions occupied the second day of the American Mining Congress. And a busy day it was, with the buzz and hum of the rival delegations filling the cool air of the convention hall. Yesterday morning the convention adopted a strong resolution urging congress to create a Department of Mines and Mining, and last night another was passed advocating the protection of forests.

The question of the selection of the meeting place for next year's congress will not be fought out on the floor of the convention as has been anticipated, but will be placed solely in the hands of the board of directors. A resolution to this effect introduced by Dr. Buckley, of Missouri, was adopted at last night's session of the congress and met with enthusiastic applause from those present. This will prevent El Paso from making an open fight in the convention for the honor of entertaining the 1905 congress.

As yet the credential committee has made no report, and therefore the membership of the congress will be and unknown quantity, officially speaking, until Thursday morning. This prevents any definite action on the settlement of any question until that time, but a great deal is being done indefinitely. The permanent home agitation is being kept up by the Salt Lake men, who are hard at work trying to get the membership of the congress into line for their city. The Denver delegation is represented by two or three men, and though it has been announced that there is a carload of delegates on the way from Denver, the car has not been sighted and the cause of Denver is suffering a little from the tardiness of the Colorado men.

PORTS ARE LOST.

Russians Meet Further Reverse at Port Arthur.

Chefoo, Aug. 25.—A junk which left Liao Ti Promontory the night of August 21 has just arrived here. She reports that the Japanese have succeeded in occupying Antsuzhan as well as another fort, probably Etse-shan, about a mile southwest of Antsuzhan. They have driven the Russians from the parade ground, which lies about two miles north of the harbor; they have destroyed two forts at Chaohanko, which is within the eastern fortifications, and they have advanced to a point near Chaohanko. This news confirms information received here previously, and which the local Japanese were not inclined to believe.

The junk heard firing until midnight of August 22. Scarcely a building in Port Arthur remains undamaged. The town hall, which was used as a magazine, has been destroyed. Four large warships unable to fight, are at Port Arthur. Only one ship, a vessel with two masts and two funnels, has guns on board. The fire of the forts not captured by the Japanese, together with the effect of land mines, is given as the reason why the Japanese have not as yet conquered the Russian stronghold.

JAPANESE PEANS DERANGED.

Port Arthur Campaign May Cause Initiative to Pass to Russians.

Berlin, Aug. 25.—In a dispatch from Liao Yang, under date of August 23, the correspondent of the Lokal Anzeiger says:

"The indications are that the initiative is about to pass to the Russians. The Japanese plan of campaign, including the attack upon Liao Yang, has apparently been deranged by the unexpectedly stubborn resistance of Port Arthur.

"General Kuroki's army has been withdrawn to the south of Taitze river, and only outposts reported to be in the Liao River Valley.

"It is rumored that the Mikado has recalled General Nogi and has ordered Field Marshal Marquis Yamagata, chief of the General Staff at Tokio, to assume command of the besiegers at Port Arthur."

America Asks for Information.

Washington, Aug. 25.—Acting Secretary of State Adee has cabled Minister Conger, at Peking, a request that he report as soon as possible the facts concerning the situation at Shanghai. A similar request has also been addressed to Consul-General Goodnow, at Shanghai, and Consul-General Fowler, at Chefoo. Although no admission on that point is yet obtainable, it is believed that instructions have either been sent or will be sent to Rear-Admiral Sterling to cooperate with the minister and consuls in the protection of American interests in treaty ports.

London Papers Excited.

London, Aug. 25.—The Standard this morning, unable to conceal its disappointment that the United States government is not prepared to protect the neutrality of China at Shanghai, editorially contends that the United States could have taken the lead in the matter without arousing the jealousies which must follow intervention by any European power. The Daily Telegraph publishes a strong editorial demanding that the government adopt rigorous measures

Russian Ship Hits Mine.

Tokio, Aug. 25.—Admiral Kataoka reports that as the Russian battleship Sevastopol was emerging from Port Arthur yesterday she struck a mine, and afterward was seen to be listed to starboard. She was towed back into the harbor.

MINERS MEET

Seventh Annual Convention at Portland.

WILL SELECT PERMANENT HOME

Fight Is Between Denver and Salt Lake, With the Former City in the Lead.

Portland, Aug. 23.—Under the folds of the flags of the world, the seventh annual convention of the American Mining Congress was called to order yesterday morning at 10 o'clock at the Armory. The day was spent in beginning the work which will for five days take up the time and attention of the delegates, who have come from all of the mining states of the country to make an effort to better the conditions of the industry, and to bring it before the people on the plane where it should stand.

Preliminary work, addresses of welcome and responses occupied yesterday and last night, and today the real work will commence. The powers that are behind the management of the congress, the wishes and desires of the delegations are beginning to be made manifest by conferences and caucuses, and the hopes of cities and the desires of ambitious men are now being settled.

The one great question that is now before the convention of miners assembled is that of selecting a permanent headquarters for the congress, of choosing some one city in which can be erected a home for the organization, and where can be maintained permanently the offices of the congress, the exhibits to be collected and the records of the proceedings.

Denver and Salt Lake are both out after the permanent home, and are sending every effort to secure it, both by offering bonuses and concessions and by velvet-tongued arguments. Which will secure the prize is now unknown, though it looks as though it might be Denver, for that city has many warm supporters and friends.

The question of the permanent establishment is a serious one, as the members well know, for it means the presentation to the city securing the headquarters of every annual meeting after the one held next year. It is the opinion of a great many of the delegates that the only business-like plan of proceeding will be to give the annual convention to the city securing the permanent home. The records, the exhibits, the secretary and his assistants, the building and headquarters of the organization will be in the place known as the home of the congress. It will be, therefore, convenient and more practical to hold the annual meetings at that place than to send them to new cities each year, necessitating the establishment of temporary quarters and transfer of records.

AMERICA KEEPS OUT.

She Will Take No Part in the Shanghai Troubles.

Washington, Aug. 24.—The United States Government does not intend to insist upon the neutrality of China. It does not intend to insist that the Russian warships now in the harbor at Shanghai shall be disarmed or forced from their present haven. It does not intend in any way to prevent the Japanese from capturing the Russian warships.

It does not at this time propose protecting American interests in Shanghai or any other Chinese ports, if, by so doing, it is found necessary to interfere with the freedom of the warships of any other nation.

This is the decision that was reached this afternoon by the Department of State after a conference between the State and Navy Department officials with President Roosevelt at Oyster Bay over the long-distance telephone. Instructions in accordance with this decision were sent to Rear Admiral Sterling, in charge of the Asiatic squadron now at Shanghai.

An impression exists here that Consul-General Goodnow may have unintentionally paved the way to committing this government to a maintenance of the neutrality of China, when he called the meeting today of the foreign representatives to take such action as was deemed necessary. But before that meeting had assembled, a cablegram had been sent him carefully to abstain from any action that could be deemed to be interference.

Railroad Shops to Work Less.

Altoona, Pa., Aug. 24.—The Pennsylvania Railroad Company today made the most sweeping reduction in the time of the men employed that has taken place since the panic of 1893. The employees of the machine shops today were notified that, commencing with tomorrow morning they would be divided into shifts, one shift to work Monday and Wednesday and the other Tuesday and Thursday; eight hours to constitute a day's work. The remainder of the week the shops will be closed entirely. It is not known how long the order will continue in effect.

No Prospect of Big Battle.

Liao Yang, Aug. 24.—Japanese troops in considerable force are concentrating on the southern front of the Russian army and there is continual skirmishing, but no immediate prospect of a big battle. During the night they kept up firing on the Russian outposts, but the Russian troops have strict orders not to reply. The Chinese say that 30,000 Japanese troops, with 200 guns, have landed at Yinkow, part of these troops going to Niu Chwang and part to Haicheng.

Port Arthur to Be His Tomb.

London, Aug. 24.—No further war news has reached London. According to the Moscow correspondent of the Morning Post, Lieutenant-General Stoessel concluded a telegram to an intimate friend there with the words: "Farewell forever, Port Arthur will be my tomb."

FLESH AGAINST POWDER.

Question Whether Japanese Forces Will Hold Out.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 24.—The latest reports from Port Arthur indicate that the garrison there is holding out with wonderful tenacity in the face of persistent desperate assaults. The only question is how long any body of troops can withstand such awful punishment, and whether the garrison in the fortress can outlast Japanese ammunition and men.

The report that 30 regiments have been drawn from General Oku to strengthen the attackers is believed to indicate that the Japanese southern army is in desperate straits and seems to show that the Japanese have not enough men to prosecute simultaneous campaigns of great magnitude in the north and south.

The report that the Novik has been sunk has not yet been published here. If it is true, it will be greatly felt, for the gallant cruiser, which has been frequently mentioned in dispatches, has endeared herself to the whole nation by her tireless activity at Port Arthur, and it has been greatly hoped that she would reach Vladivostok in safety.

The attitude of the Japanese government in regard to China has caused increasing uneasiness here. While it is believed that the dictatorial attitude assumed by Japan was adopted largely for its moral influence on the Chinese, it is also taken to indicate that Japan intends to make herself the dominant spirit in the Celestial empire.

PORTE VERY SILENT.

Embarrassed by Reminder of Verbal Pickge to America.

Constantinople, Aug. 24.—A note from American Minister Leishman, dated August 16, was handed to the Turkish authorities within 12 hours after the receipt by the Minister of the Turkish note Monday. In this note Mr. Leishman holds the government to its solemn undertaking, coming direct from the Sultan, respecting equal treatment with other nations for the United States concerning the question of educational institutions.

This allusion to the imperial pledge apparently embarrassed the Porte, which had previously announced that it would ignore the former verbal assurances which Minister Leishman declared he had received.

It is considered improbable that the Porte will reply to the Minister's note and therefore the question is looked upon as shelved pending the execution of the process of recognition, when it is considered not improbable fresh difficulties will arise.

Notwithstanding the assertion by Izzet Pasha, the secretary of the Palace, that \$250,000 has been deposited as compensation due to an American citizen at Smyrna for land illegally taken, no such deposit has yet been made.

FLEET APPROACHES SHANGHAI.

Consul Goodnow Calls Consular Body Together for Action.

Shanghai, Aug. 24.—The steamer Haiting, which arrived here today, reports having sighted a Japanese squadron last night off Gutzlaff Island, about 65 miles southeast of Shanghai. The squadron showed no lights.

The United States monitor Monadnock and two torpedo-boat destroyers have been ordered to be ready to protect the neutrality of Shanghai.

American Consul Goodnow called the meeting of the consular body for 10 o'clock tomorrow morning. It is believed that the foreign consuls will arrange means to strengthen the hands of the Taotal in dealing with the matter of the Russian warships here.

Later reports declare the Japanese squadron to be 20 miles from Woosung. Woosung is the outside harbor of Shanghai.

Rin Stops Fild Operations.

At the Headquarters of General Kuroki, in Southern Manchuria, Aug. 20, via Fusan and Seoul, Aug. 24.—It has rained steadily for four days and both of the lower roads are covered with ten feet of water and are absolutely impassable. A number of Chinese and horses of the commissary department have been drowned crossing the Lang river at the ford. Russian spies have been located hiding in the cornfields near the outposts and large scouting parties are searching for them. The relative positions of the two armies remain unchanged.

Vessels Slick to Port.

Shanghai, Aug. 24.—The Russian consul-general here, replying again to the demands of the Taotal of the port that the Askold and Grozovoi disarm or leave port, stated that he considers the demand unreasonable and a violation of the rights of Russia as a belligerent. He refused to order the war vessels to quit Shanghai. The Chinese newspapers here are urging the Peking government to send enough warships here to uphold the Taotal, but so far nothing has been heard.

St. Petersburg Advised.

London, Aug. 23.—A dispatch to a news agency from St. Petersburg says news has reached the admiralty there to the effect that the missing Russian cruiser Novik has arrived at Korskevska, a port of the island of Sakhalin, and that the Russian cruiser Diana, concerning whose fate there has been considerable anxiety, has been seen off Hong Kong.

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.....J. J. Roberts
.....Geo. Noble
.....E. W. Ehee
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