

PORT ARTHUR FIGHT

Six Vessels Reported Smashed

Four Cruisers and Two Transports Go to the Bottom

One Report Says the Ships Were Russian But Later News Claims the Lost Vessels Belonged to the Japs

Paris, Feb. 24.—An official telegram just received from St. Petersburg announces the defeat of the Japanese at Port Arthur, with serious losses.

The Rumor Denied.

London, Feb. 24.—Minister Hayashi states he has information which discredits the St. Petersburg report of a Japanese naval disaster.

Battleships Were Sunk.

London, Feb. 24.—A Russian report has reached here that four Japanese battleships and two transports were sunk in an engagement off Port Arthur. The dispatch adds that the Japanese attack was repulsed.

Looks Like Jap Victory.

London, Feb. 24.—A dispatch to Reuters from Wei Hai Wei, states that four Japanese battleships and one cruiser passed there today bound East. The vessels are evidently part of the fleet which has been concentrated about Port Arthur.

London, Feb. 24.—A correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph in Paris today wires advices are received there that Japan has declared a protectorate over Corea.

Just Politeness.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The reply of the United States to Russia's protest against Japan is expected to be nothing more than an acknowledgement of its receipt. State officials still announce they will keep out of the imbroglio in the Far Eastern situation as much as possible.

GUARANTEES INTEGRITY.

Japan Makes Treaty With Corea By Which She Occupies It.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The state department this morning has advised that Japan and Corea have concluded the negotiation of a treaty guaranteeing to Corea her independence and integrity. It is supposed that, under its terms, Japan is allowed temporarily to occupy the country with troops, with the understanding that the close of the war with Russia will be the signal for their immediate withdrawal. This move, coming, as it does, on the heels of the protest filed yesterday by Russia, is regarded here as the most effective answer to Russia's representation that Japan violated the neutrality and integrity of Corea.

Sentiment Favors Russia.

London, Feb. 24.—Careful investigation shows the European public, as a rule, favors Russia in the present conflict. France is closer bound than ever. Austria naturally favors the Muscovite, Germany is pro Russian, Italy is bound by the dreibund, and Spain favors Russia; but England is a staunch friend of Japan, and Sweden is becoming more so on account of the Finnish anti-Russian feeling.

Japanese Defeated.

Paris, Feb. 24.—A Hava's News Agency St. Petersburg dispatch says official authority is given for the statement that four Japanese cruisers and two transports had been sunk in the attack on Port Arthur by the Japanese. The battleship Retvian, seriously damaged in the previous engagement, was active in the battle, and carried off high honors for skillful fighting.

Czar's Cousin Goes East.

Nice, Austria, Feb. 24.—Grand Duke Cyril, the czar's cousin, left for the Far East today via St. Petersburg. He will take an important naval command.

Czar Feels Confident.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 24.—The czar today, replying to an address expressing loyalty, said that such expressions as these, coming from all parts of Russia was a great consolation in times of trouble. He concluded with expressing a feeling of optimism and invoking divine aid.

Worse Than the Japs.

London, Feb. 24.—The Neu Freil Press dispatch from Warsaw says dysentery is raging among the Russian troops in Manchuria.

Rumor Denied.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The Japanese legation here has no advices of a

naval defeat, and the story is discredited.

Rumor is Confirmed.

London, Feb. 24.—The Russian consul declares the Japanese fleet began the attack shortly after midnight. Passengers arriving from China Wangtao say continuous firing was heard off Port Arthur between 1 and 4 o'clock on the morning of the 23d. There was no moon, and conditions were ripe for a surprise. They declare that, undoubtedly, the Japanese were trying to steal through the entrance to the harbor, when they were discovered and defeated.

No Official Confirmation.

London, Feb. 24.—Hayashi said this evening that he believed the report of the sinking of six Japanese warships is the outcome of the assertion recently made by a scold, the Russian agent at Seoul, that three Japanese vessels were sunk at the battle of Chemulpo. Neither Hayashi nor the Russian minister here have official confirmation of the report.

London, Feb. 24.—A dispatch from Chee Foo to the Evening News declares the Russian consul there confirms the statement that four Japanese warships have been destroyed off Port Arthur. The battle occurred early yesterday morning.

BOOTH AND BRIDGES GET THERE

Washington, Feb. 24.—President Roosevelt has promised to reappoint Joseph T. Bridges as register and James H. Booth as receiver of the Roseburg land office, and the nomination of both men will be sent to the senate within the next few days.

This is the result of a conference that took place at the White House, at which the President heard the two Oregon senators, Secretary Hitchcock and Assistant Secretary Ryan. On the adverse recommendation of the secretary, the President has heretofore refused to reappoint either Booth or Bridges, and, at the solicitation of the senators, he went to the bottom of the case, and, apparently, found no sufficient reason for refusing to reappoint either man. In face of the President's attitude, Secretary Hitchcock will interpose no further objection to the reappointment of Bridges and Booth.

WHITNEY'S WILL FILED

Minneapolis, L. I., Feb. 24.—The will of William C. Whitney was filed for probate today, with Harry Payne Whitney, the eldest son, as sole executor and trustee. The amount and value is not given, but a quarter of a million is left to each of the step-daughters, Adelaid Randolph, and his step-son, Bertie Randolph. All the residue is bequeathed to the executor until the final distribution is made. After certain minor provisions, the will provides that all the rents and profits, under the final distribution thereof, shall be divided into ten equal shares, and paid quarterly as follows: Harry Payne, five-tenths; Pauline, daughter, one-tenth; son, Payne, one-tenth; daughter, Dorothy, three-tenths.

Chicago, Feb. 24.—Old July wheat, 95½@97c. New July wheat, 94½@96½. Corn, 55@55½.

Brockport, N. Y., Feb. 24.—Fire swept the business portion of the city this morning. Loss \$110,000.

SHORT IN HIS ACCOUNTS

Manila, Feb. 24.—Paymaster Biscon, of the battleship Oregon, is alleged to be \$26,000 short in his accounts. He has been ordered under arrest by Admiral Evans.

Report of Firing Denied.

Chee Foo, Feb. 24.—Officers of the steamer Governor Jacachi, which brought the report of heavy firing yesterday morning off Port Arthur, are disputed by officers of another steamer which was passing Dalny at the same time. The latter say they heard no shots.

German Firm Assigns.

Berlin, Feb. 24.—The big firm of Frankel & Co., bankers made an assignment today, their trouble being caused by the recent depression of securities.

Copenhagen, Feb. 24.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg this evening asserts that six Japanese warships were sunk off Port Arthur.

MAIL ORDERS receive our prompt and careful attention. Try shopping by mail.

Jos. Meyers & Sons

SALEM'S GREATEST STORE
THE WHITE CORNER (THIRD FLOOR)
REGISTERED

MAIL ORDERS receive our prompt and careful attention. Try shopping by mail.

FORECAST OF SPRING

is what you will see by taking a glance through our stock. The warm, heavy goods are fast retiring, the dainty cool fabrics are to be seen in their stead. No better time than now to make your spring purchases. The prices are right, the variety to select from at its best.

Spring Neckwear

In fancy neckwear we are exhibiting some of the most charming things you have ever seen in stocks, stoles and lace collars; one is sure to see exclusive styles at this store, so come early to get the choice. Many new ideas are being shown.
First Floor.

Spring Skirts

Our spring stock of skirts are now at their best. We offer you what we believe in the market's best offerings. Skirts of all the late styles, colors and lengths. Here you will find an assortment second to none in the valley. Prices are our usually low ones.
Second Floor.



Spring Wash Goods

FIRST OF THE NEW SPRING FABRICS

New weaves and exquisite new shadings are conspicuous in the showing. There is such a lot that it is beyond our efforts at description. To be satisfied you must come and see them.
First Floor.

Spring Hosiery and Underwear

New spring stock of the latest effects in lace like hosiery, also silk hosiery. A fine assortment

25c to \$3 pair

Mirado underwear for spring—the best on the market

25c to \$1.00

Lace trimmed.

Spring Corsets



There is no article in a woman's wardrobe that gives her any more concern than the corset.

We have the kind that fit and are showing them in the new spring styles. Experts to wait on you.
Second Floor.

Spring Dress Goods

February and March are the summer dressmaking months—people have time and the fabrics are all ready. New dress goods, beauties and novelties, are arriving with such rapidity and in such bewildering beauty that it's hard to keep recording them.
First Floor.

Ladies' Spring Suits

The first and fairest harbingers of the early season's suit fashions. The newest and most correct creations designed for 1904, in the newest popular weaves. This is your opportunity to secure the new spring styles. The early comers have the best choosing.
Second Floor.

Spring Calico, Percale, Muslin

Our cotton goods department is one of great importance just now. We have the largest stock ever shipped in the Willamette valley which was bought before the rise in cotton, thus insuring you our usual low prices.

Men's Clothing

If ever a man wants smart, trim, handsome clothing, it's his spring clothes. Nowhere can the particular man find a finer, fresher or more satisfying stock to choose from than is here at this moment. Our spring styles are now in. Come in and see them.
First Floor.

Spring Shirt Waists

A rich, rare gathering of the season's most stylish gowns—ladies' fascinating waists. The elaborate, extreme decorative, yet dignified modes, as well as the simplest, plainest styles in spring waists are now being displayed in varieties so large that none should be disappointed in making a selection.
Second Floor.

Spring Gloves

A visit to our glove department will demonstrate in earnest our supremacy in new glove styles for spring—an array of glove exclusiveness so imposing as to command the admiration of every feminine heart.
First Floor.



Spring Outing and Scotch Flannel

For making your spring house gowns and wrappers. We have a general assortment in all grades and colors. Still a few choice patterns of regular 18c quality being offered for

12 1-2c yard

There's Solid Comfort

In a pair of those Ladies' Plain Toe Soft Turn Sole Shoes. They're made on a medium full last, but are not clumsy. You'll find them soft as a kid glove.

ONLY \$2.00

If you have tender feet try a pair. We're ready to show you everything in

LADIES' AND MEN'S SHOES

The Latest Spring Styles in quality equal to what you can find in any shoe store. Our prices are 15 to 20 per cent lower

We can afford to undersell them because we stick to the Spot Cash Plan. Things are live in our

Dry Goods Department

Salem ladies know the goods are right. They wonder why "regular stores" have to charge so much more for the same quality.

... THE ...

New York Racket

Salem's Cheapest One Price Cash Store.

E. T. Barnes, Prop.

Fresh Today

Log Cabin Creams and Penotia at

Zinn's

154 State St. Phone 1971 Main.