

# NAVAL BATTLE IS IN PROGRESS

## FIRING AT LONG RANGE

Probably a Decisive Battle Is Being Fought Today

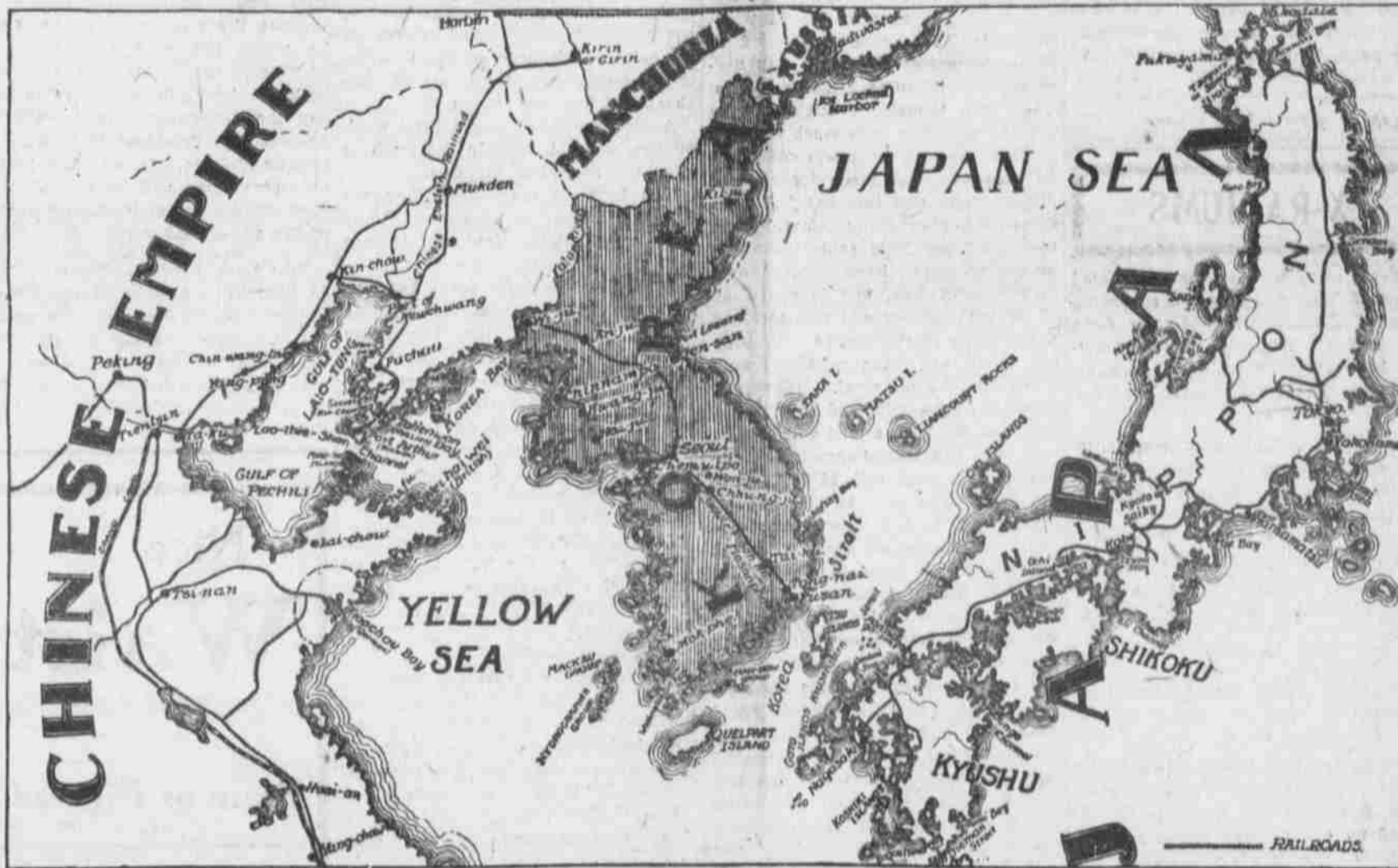
Russian and Jap Vessels Slowly Coming Together and Firing as They Close

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

**To Supply the News.**  
St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—Minister of the Interior Plehve has established a press bureau for supplying war news to correspondents.

**Japanese Fleet Repulsed.**  
St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—Not deterred by the apparent failure of the attempt to blockade Port Arthur, the Japanese fleet again attacked between 1 and 3 o'clock this morning, but was repulsed at every point, according to advices telegraphed by General Flug. The dispatch making this announcement states the details of the engagement will be forwarded later. The damage is unknown.

**Long Distance Fight.**  
London, Feb. 25.—In the absence of further definite details regarding the naval engagements Tuesday, it is believed by experts here that, following the daring attempt of the Japanese to blockade the Port Arthur entrance, the Russian cruisers probably came out a short distance to reconnoiter, and the Japanese then fired at long range, and the Russians retreated



MAP OF KOREA, MANCHURIA AND JAPAN, THE FAR EAST'S ZONE OF TROUBLE.

The strong strategic point shown on the map is the Korean strait, which is dominated by Japan because of her strong fleet and her fortifications on the Tsu Islands, midway between Japan and Korea. The strait at this point is only 100 miles wide, and communication by water between Vladivostok, on the north, and Port Arthur, on the west, is through it. Vladivostok is icebound in winter, but Russia's Chinese seaport, Port Arthur, is not. The Japanese wrested Port Arthur from China, but Russia made them evacuate. Port Arthur is one of the southern termini of the Chinese Eastern railroad, which, running north, connects with the Transiberian railroad, over which Russia's troops have been passing for weeks en route to Manchuria. The Japanese railroad from Fusan, Korea, to Seoul is being completed by the Japanese government for wartime use, and a Japanese road runs between Seoul and Chemulpo. The railroad from Seoul to Wiju is not ready for use. The Japanese have rail communication practically the entire length of their principal islands.

back into the harbor. This is in a measure confirmed by private advices.

**Another Report.**  
St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—The Port Arthur correspondent of the Novosti telegraphs: "At the moment of writing 23 Japanese vessels are visible on the horizon, and cross-firing has begun, in which the Russian cruisers Bayan, Novik and Akold are participating."

**Russia Will Ignore Treaty.**  
Washington, Feb. 25.—Russia will ignore Japan's newly negotiated treaty with Korea, guaranteeing the independence and integrity of the Hermit Kingdom, and has so informed the United States. Japan, it may be stated, assumes practically the same attitude of indifference toward Russia's protest to the powers, which, on high authority, it is declared will be ignored by the Tokio government.

In diplomatic circles, Secretary announcement of the negotiations of the Japanese-Korean treaty created a sensation. While the treaty, it is said, opens possibilities for new international complications in the Far Eastern war, the diplomatic corps here continues firm in the belief that there is no ground for apprehension at present that the war will extend between the two belligerents and Korea. It will not surprise diplomats conversant with Japan's plans to see an early announcement from Tokio declaring practically all Korean ports will be opened eventually to the commerce of the world.

**Loaded With Combustibles.**  
St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—2:45 a. m.—A telegram from Viceroy Alexieff to the Czar says: "At a quarter before 3, on the morning of February 24, numerous Japanese torpedo boats attempted to attack the battleship Retvizan and sink large steamers loaded with inflammables. The Retvizan was the first to observe the torpedo boats and opened a strong fire on them. She was supported by the land batteries.

She destroyed two steamers near the entrance of the harbor. They were coming directly toward her. One of them went on the rocks near the lighthouse on Tiger peninsula, and the other sank under Golden Hill. The Retvizan observed four steamers in a sinking condition, and eight torpedo boats departing slowly to rejoin the waiting Japanese warships. The grounded steamer is still burning.

"The enemy is observed in the offing of Port Arthur in two lines. The Japanese crews saved themselves in boats, and it is possible that some of them were picked up by the enemy's torpedo boats.

"I am proceeding to examine the coasts. The entrance of the harbor is open. I attribute the complete derangement of the enemy's plan to the brilliant action and destructive fire of the Retvizan. Floating mines are still visible in the roadstead. I have recalled the three cruisers sent in pursuit of the enemy, in order, in the first place, to clear the roadstead of floating mines.

**Praise American-Built Vessel.**  
The greatest praise is given to the commander of the Retvizan, and the splendid action of the American-built vessel places her name foremost on the roll of the Russian navy.

Viceroy Alexieff's dispatch was an amplification of a briefer telegram received by the emperor, but was not given out. Later, it was said that the Russians sustained no losses in the engagement.

It is evident that Vice-Admiral Stark no longer commands the Russian Port Arthur naval forces, Viceroy Alexieff mentioning a temporary commander of the fleet without giving any names.

Stories to the effect that the Japanese designed an attempt at landing in Pigeon bay at the same time the engagement occurred are not mentioned in the dispatches, but it is believed these are without foundation.

## WOULD UNIFORM PRIESTS

Rome, Feb. 25.—Martinelli this morning advised the pope that he believed the best restrictive regulation for American priests would be a rule obliging them to always wear a gown

and three-cornered hat and tonsure, in order to uphold the dignity of the church.

**Cremated Two.**  
Colorado Springs, Feb. 25.—A lodging house on Cascade avenue was destroyed by fire this morning. Lola Smith, 15 years old, and an unidentified man were burned to death.

**Big Schooner Floated.**  
Norfolk, Va., Feb. 25.—The famous seven-masted schooner Thomas Lawson, which was ashore for several days in Chesapeake bay, was floated today uninjured.

**Conneaut, Ohio, Burned.**  
Conneaut, Ohio, Feb. 25.—Fire wiped out the business portion of Conneaut harbor today. Loss, \$100,000.

**A Lot of Old Junk.**  
London, Feb. 25.—Dispatches from the Far East today indicate that the Japanese vessels sunk in the harbor at Port Arthur were hulks brought for the purpose.

## ANOTHER JAPANESE FLEET

Shows up off Vladivostok This Morning

Dense Fog Shuts Them Out of View, but Trouble Is Momentarily Expected

London, Feb. 25.—The Vladivostok correspondent of the Central News wires under today's date that nine foreign warships were seen at 10 o'clock this morning near the horizon. After remaining in the vicinity for an hour, they disappeared in the fog. This fleet may prove to be the Japanese preparing for an attack on Vladivostok.

## DID NOT OPEN FIRE

Port Arthur, Feb. 25.—At 9 o'clock this morning a Japanese squadron of considerable size approached Port Arthur. The Bayan and Novik were ordered to face the Japanese ships, which, however, did not fire, and afterwards steamed away in the direction of Daini. The cruiser Pallada has entered the dock here.

**A Lot of Old Junk.**  
London, Feb. 25.—Dispatches from the Far East today indicate that the Japanese vessels sunk in the harbor at Port Arthur were hulks brought for the purpose.

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## 4TH FRIDAY ECONOMIC SALE

Another big Friday. Our endeavor is to offer on Friday such things as are absolutely needful; to give bargains that are bargains in every sense of the word, and those well worth your time and attention. This policy has transformed Friday, a day looked upon and accepted by many stores as one of inevitable dullness, into a day of extraordinary activity.

<p>Special No. 1 <b>Wash Taffeta</b> Our celebrated Crown Wash Taffeta, all colors, in newest spring shades. The best wash taffeta made. FRIDAY ONLY <b>63c yd</b> First Floor.</p>	<p>Special No. 2 <b>Handkerchiefs</b> A pure linen, daintily embroidered, regular 50c values, that are slightly mussed, FRIDAY ONLY <b>25c each</b> First Floor.</p>	<p>Special No. 3 <b>Pongee</b> Domestic pongee, the extreme new fabric for spring wear—the sheer, soft, clinging kind, FRIDAY ONLY <b>39c yd</b> First Floor.</p>
<p>Special No. 4 <b>W. B. Corsets</b> Your choice of five of our best selling numbers, 701, 704, 929, 973, 989. FRIDAY ONLY <b>89c</b> Second Floor.</p>	<p>Special No. 5 <b>Bath Towels</b> Unbleached Turkish bath towels, 23x42 inches, a splendid value at 15c each, but for FRIDAY ONLY <b>10c each</b> First Floor.</p>	<p>Special No. 6 <b>Portieres</b> Economic sale of portieres. Any pair in our elegant stock at your disposal at 25 percent discount. FRIDAY ONLY <b>25 per cent off</b> Second Floor.</p>
<p>Special No. 7 <b>Suspenders</b> Men's suspenders—a great variety of newest styles—values up to 75c. Your choice for FRIDAY ONLY <b>35c</b> First Floor.</p>	<p>Special No. 8 <b>Ladies' Gloves</b> The new novelty turn-back cuff street glove which sells regularly at \$1.50 per pair, FRIDAY ONLY <b>\$1.19 pair</b> First Floor.</p>	<p>Special No. 9 <b>Neckwear</b> New spring styles in men's neckwear in all new shapes, values 50c to 75c, FRIDAY ONLY. This price to ladies only. <b>25c each</b> First Floor.</p>

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