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London Advertiser

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ADS tender or ask services. Unless these are satisfactory, results are poor. Same is true of goods.

MIKADO'S LITTLE 'UNS AGAINST HEAVIEST ODDS THRASHED THE RUSSIANS

A Bow-to-Bow Fight in Which Three Jap Destroyers Met and Routed Six of Enemy's.

JAP'S SHELLS MAKE PORT ARTHUR A CITY OF DEATH

Russian Report Says Sixty-Five Were Killed in the City—Jap Gunners Show Marvellous Accuracy—Mikado's Tars Rescue Crew of Sinking Russ Destroyer.

Tokio, March 13. — Vice-Admiral Togo's report of the fourth attack on Port Arthur by the Japanese fleet on March 10, which reached Tokio late Saturday, says: "Our squadron, as prearranged, attacked the enemy at Port Arthur on March 10. Our two flotillas attacked the mouth of the harbor at Port Arthur at 1 o'clock on the morning of the 10th. Finding no enemy, we waited until dawn, one flotilla engaged in sinking special mines in the harbor entrance. Notwithstanding the enemy's fire, our flotilla succeeded in sinking the mines. The other flotilla met the enemy's torpedo flotilla, consisting of six boats, in Liao Thie Shan channel, south of Port Arthur, at 4:30 o'clock. A hot engagement occurred at close range for thirty minutes. The enemy then took to flight. Our fire greatly damaged the Russian ships, one of which was badly crippled by a shot through the boilers, and another was observed to be on fire. So close were the two flotillas to each other that our destroyers, the Asashio, Kasumbi and Akatsuki, nearly touched the enemy's ships, and our crews could even hear the cries of agony of injured men on them. We sustained some damage and loss. The Akatsuki had a steampipe broken, and four stokers were killed thereby. Our loss was seven killed and eight wounded. Among the latter is Chief Engineer Minamisawa, of the Katsumi. Our other flotilla, while leaving the harbor entrance, observed two Russian torpedo boats coming from seaward, and immediately engaged them, the battle lasting one hour. After causing them severe damage one of them effected its escape, but our destroyer, the Sasanimi, captured the other boat, which proved to be the Stereguschtchi. Notwithstanding the land batteries pouring a heavy fire on our flotilla, the towline soon parted, and the Sasani found it necessary to take the crew from the Russian boat and abandoned the Stereguschtchi, which finally sank at 8 o'clock. The enemy's cruisers, the Novik and the Bayan, steamed out of the entrance of the harbor towards us, but observing the approach of our cruiser squadron, retired to the harbor. Our flotilla suffered some damage, but not heavy. The Sasanimi and the Akatsuki had two sailors killed, and Sub-Lieutenant Shima, of the Akatsuki, and three sailors were wounded. Our main and cruiser squadron arrived off Port Arthur at 8 o'clock and the cruisers immediately advanced towards the harbor entrance to protect the torpedo flotilla. The main squadron advanced near Liao Thie Shan and opened an indirect cannonade against the inner harbor from 10 o'clock to 1:40. According to the observations made by one of our cruisers facing the entrance, the bombardment was remarkably effective. During our cannonade the enemy's land batteries fired, but none of our ships suffered any damage. Another cruiser squadron went to Talienwan and bombarded the enemy's fortress on Samshantao, damaging the buildings thereon. The cruisers Takasago and Shiaoa reconnoitered the west coast of Port Arthur Peninsula, but did not find the enemy. The Russian torpedo boat destroyer, damaged in the third attack on Port Arthur, was found to be the Wnushiterinuy, which had been completely sunk, the mast only being visible above the water. Our squadron stopped fighting at 2 o'clock and returned to the rendezvous."

A BOW-TO-BOW FIGHT.

Official and private reports indicate that Vice-Admiral Togo's fourth attack on Port Arthur on the 10th was the most effective since the first assault of a month ago. One Russian torpedo boat destroyer was sunk and several Russian torpedo boat destroyers seriously damaged. The fortifications and city were subjected to a heavy bombardment lasting nearly four hours. The peculiar topographical conditions of Port Arthur make immunity from serious loss from bombardment almost impossible. Vice-Admiral Togo's torpedo botilla opened the action by boldly steaming in under the batteries and successfully placing a number of mechanical mines at the south of the harbor. Following there was a terrific bow to bow encounter between the torpedo boat destroyers, in which the Japanese appear to have scored a clear victory. Then came a long-range duel between the cruisers, ending in the retirement of the Novik and Bayan, the only Russian cruisers engaged. The closing action was the bombardment of the inner harbor by the Japanese battleships. The latter took a position southwest of Port Arthur and used only the 12-inch guns. There were 24 twelve-inch guns in the squadron of six battleships, and each gun was fired five rounds, making a total of 120 huge projectiles that was fired at the city. The bombardment was deliberate and carefully planned. In order to aid in perfecting the firing, Vice-Admiral Togo stationed the cruisers in a position due east of the entrance to the harbor, and at a right angle to the battleships. The cruisers observed the range and the effect of the firing, and signaled the results and suggestions by wireless telegraphy. These observations and reports greatly aided the gunners in their efforts to make every shot count. Vice-Admiral Togo was unable to definitely learn the results of the bombardment, but later private reports indicate that much destruction was caused in the city, where a series of fires broke out. There also was a damage to the batteries. Captain Shokiro Asai, commanding the flotilla of torpedo boat destroyers, which engaged the Russian destroyers, is the hero of the attack.

'TWAS THREE TO SIX.

He had only three destroyers, but attacked the six Russian destroyers, ordering his craft to close in with the enemy. He steamed so close to the enemy's destroyers that they almost touched, and a most desperate conflict ensued, from which the Russians retired badly disabled. Engineer Minahisawa, of the destroyer Kasumi, received a small wound. Minamisawa participated in the first torpedo attack on Port Arthur, also in the attempt to bottle up the harbor by sinking commercial steamers. He was commended both times for his gallantry. The Japanese flotilla, which sunk the mines at the mouth of the harbor, later engaged two Russian destroyers. This flotilla was commanded by Commander Tsuchiya. Vice-Admiral Togo's object in sending cruisers to Talianwan Bay was to encompass the destruction of a signal station mine depot at Samshantao. This object was achieved and the buildings were demolished. Rear-Admirals Dewa and Uriu participated in the operations under Vice-Admiral Togo, the details of whose operations became known in Japan only today. The news created intense enthusiasm. Vice-Admiral Togo's report came last night, but was withheld until shown to the Emperor. Vice-Admiral Togo is permanently numbered among the heroes of the empire. The reports place the Japanese loss at nine killed, five seriously wounded and seventeen slightly hurt. The Japanese fleet was not damaged in the fighting.

FIRE OVER-REACHED.

Tien Tsin, March 13.—A Russian refugee, who arrived here today, throws valuable additional light on the bombardment of Port Arthur last Thursday. He says that the attack was intended for the forts, but the Japanese fire overreached. There was small destruction, and the casualties were not numerous. Twenty soldiers and two civilians were killed, and three civilians injured. Col. Vershinin, governor of Port Arthur, was slightly wounded. The Japanese used 300 or 400 shells, which they found on the captured transport Manchuria. The refugee mentioned above says only four Japanese cruisers were actively engaged. The forts replied with several shots whenever the Japanese left the cover of Liao Thie Shan promontory. Besides the Retvizan, the battleship Petropavlovsk received slight damage from a shot.

SIXTY-FIVE KILLED.

Information from an official who was an eye-witness of the bombardment of Port Arthur on Wednesday and Thursday is to the effect that the Russians had 25 killed on the battleship Sevastopol, 20 on the Retvizan and 20 in the town. The Russians claim to have sunk a Japanese cruiser. The Russians assert that their damaged cruisers have been repaired and are ready for sea. The battleship Czarevitch will be ready shortly. There is no dock here capable of taking in the Retvizan. The Russians are preparing for the defense of New Chwang, finding it impossible to stop the landing of Japanese.

A FAMILY WIPED OUT.

Tien Tsin, March 12.—The first credible reports of the effect of the bombardment of Port Arthur from midnight on Wednesday to past noon on Thursday last, which have been received here, arrived today. Eye-witnesses say that the Japanese fire, which was indifferent in previous attacks, showed marvelous accuracy. The fire came from the direction of Pigeon Bay, were the Russians reported sighting double the previous number of Japanese vessels, and it is supposed that transports of various kinds accompanied the fleet. It is reported that the Retvizan, which, it is understood, was then inside the entrance of the harbor, was struck several times, and that there were fatalities among the crew. It is also said that the Golden Hill forts were badly damaged, and that there were many casualties among the remaining non-combatants in the new town, which suffered most. One building in the rear of the war bureau, was destroyed, and a 11-inch shell annihilated an entire family. The Russians are suppressing the circulation of foreign newspapers, and any person suspected of being a correspondent is ordered out of their lines. Residents of Port Arthur assert that the defenders of that place possess the delusion that British officers command the Japanese ships. A police officer who had been prominent in expelling suspects, killed himself, it is believed on account of his failure to apprehend newspaper correspondents.

INDIA'S 294,361,056

British Census Just Completed With Difficulty—New Tribe Found.

London, March 14. — With great difficulties and no small damage, a census of the Indian Empire has just been completed. The operations embraced for the first time the Bhil country in Rajputana, and the scattered island settlements of the wild Vicovarese and Andamanese and also the outlying tracts on the confines of Burma, the Punjab and Kashmir. The area covered extends from the Persian frontier to the borders of China: from the snow passes of Tibet to the tropical forests where Burma touches Siam.

Many difficulties were encountered, especially in Rajputana. The strongest argument with the natives was the threat that in the next famine no good would happen to those who were not enumerated. The census takers were fiercely attacked by the South Andamanas. The enumeration has brought to light the hitherto unknown trible of Tabo of the North Andamanas.

The population of the entire empire is 294,361,056, of which 231,899,567 are in British territory, showing that native India, while embracing more than one-third of the empire's area, supports considerably less than one-quarter of the population.

CHAMBERLAIN LEAVES EGYPT.

Cairo, Egypt, March 14. — Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Chamberlain, who left London on Feb. 11 for a visit to Egypt, have started on their return to London. They are in excellent health.

KING'S SECOND LEVEE

Brilliant Affair in Throne Room of St. James' Palace.

London, March 14. — King Edward held the second levee of the season in the throne-room of St. James' Palace at noon today. Large crowds lined the route along which his majesty drove in state from Buckingham Palace. The diplomatic corps was strongly represented, and the attendance of cabinet ministers, naval and military officers, keepers and members of the House of Commons was also larger than usual.

THE GOO-GOO EYES BILL

State of Mississippi Lower House Won't Stand for It.

New Orleans, March 14. — The Mississippi House of Representatives will not concur in the anti-flirting or goo-goo eyes bill that has already been passed by the State Senate, the judiciary committee having reported strongly against the measure as tampering with a dangerous question.

The bill provides penalties for flirting with schoolgirls in any manner, whether by word, look or sign. One provision even prohibits goo-goo eyes, and hold that, no matter if the girls themselves should smile at them, the boys must return a stony glare.

About two-thirds of the House members are unmarried men, and the committee dared not go before that body with a favorable report. The Senate is composed mainly of married men, and they favored the anti-flirting measure.

AN EYE-WITNESS OF FIRST BATTLE

A German at Port Arthur Describes the Panic.

RUSSIAN OFFICERS ON SHORE

The Stronghold Might Have Been Captured Then, for No Ammunition Had Been Distributed

Berlin, March 14. — The National Zeitung publishes a graphic story of the first bombardment of Port Arthur, told by an eye-witness in that city. It runs as follows:

"Monday night, Feb. 8, we were awakened by the thunder of cannons. It was pitch dark, but from my window I could see flashes of guns at the mouth of the harbor. The cannonade was not violent, and ceased an hour later.

"When I came into town Tuesday morning I heard that two battleships, the Czarevitch and Retvizan, and the cruiser Pallada, the pride of the Russian navy, had been torpedoed.

PORT ARTHUR WAS UNGUARDED.

"Great bitterness prevailed against the Russian naval officers. About two-thirds of them, in spite of the serious situation, had been given leave for the night. Some of them were the guests of Admiral Stark, commander of the squadron, in honor of his wife's birthday. Many officers were at the theater or at the houses of friends. These officers, who were fetched by the police, reached their ships after the Japanese had retired.

"It was a wonderful bit of luck that the Japanese contented themselves with damaging three ships only. If they had brought their whole fleet to bear they would have easily destroyed the whole Russian squadron. Everybody here is even convinced that with a few thousand men the Japanese could have become masters of Port Arthur. No ammunition had been distributed to any of the batteries, and in spite of the seriousness of the situation the sentinels had no cartridges for their rifles.

NAVAL BATTLE FOLLOWS.

"Excitement increased when it was announced that a strong Japanese squadron was in sight on the horizon, accompanied, according to rumors, by 70 transports.

"It was a splendid winter morning, with brilliant sunshine and about one degree of frost. With two friends I took a sampan and went out to examine the damaged vessels in the harbor. Just outside the entrance lay the Czarevitch, the first ship of the Russian navy. Just behind it and parallel to it lay the Retvizan, blockading three-quarters of the entrance of the harbor. Outside lay the Pallada.

SHRIEKING OF THE SHELLS.

"As we were within a short distance of the Pallada we suddenly heard a report and a shell plunged into the water about forty feet from us. I believe it was a signal from the Pallada.

"What followed for me was a sort of a dream. We had hardly turned our boat towards shore when the action was in full swing. To return to the harbor was dangerous, as the Retvizan was firing all its broadside guns. There was a rush and a hissing of shells, a thunder, and a crashing that made the earth tremble, and which no words can describe.

"We finally reached land in safety, and lying behind some rocks watched the progress of the battle. The Japanese had estimated the range with an exactitude that filled us with anxiety. The big projectiles, when they struck the sea, threw up great columns of water forty feet high. Several shots struck half-way up Golden Hill. One shell dropped into the farthest outlying battery, but a great quantity of the smaller missiles fell short into the sea.

RUSSIAN SHIPS IN HIDING.

"First a Russian torpedo boat, then the small cruiser Novik, and then one of the smaller warships, took refuge in the harbor, and in forty minutes the fight was over.

"Afterwards I was told that a big Japanese warship had been sent to the bottom, and that two others had been seriously damaged. If so, I fail to understand why orders were not immediately issued to pursue the retiring enemy. I counted twenty ships on the Russian side, while the Japanese are supposed to have had ten.

"Whatever may have been the aim of this daring attack, the Japanese have, as events succeeded, insured respect for their fleet. They can now transport their army corps to Korea undisturbed, for, indeed, since Tuesday the greater part of the Russian squadron lies disabled at Port Arthur."

THE WAR SITUATION.

Sensational rumors are flying about to the European capitals that Port Arthur has been evacuated or captured by the Japs. Dalny is reported destroyed although whether by the Japs or Russians as preliminary to evacuation is not made clear. New Chwang is threatened with an army of 10,000 Japanese. Later reports of the torpedo flotilla fight at Port Arthur and the bombardment of the stronghold show that Russia has suffered heavily. Russians military and naval officers at Port Arthur have quarreled, the latter being accused of cowardice. Harbin, the Russian base in Manchuria, is threatened with a famine of food and fuel. A strong Russian squadron is preparing to sail to the Far East early in May. It is again said the Czar is to command the forces in person. The day's news all points to a collapse of Russian operations, although it must be remembered that few of the dispatches are official. Nothing definite is known of Jap operations in Korea, the censorship being as rigid as ever.

FOUGHT GALES AROUND WORLD

Ship Takes Eight Months to Reach 'Frisco From England.

OVERWORK CAUSED MUTINY

Unable to Double Cape Horn Captain Recrosses Atlantic and Rounds Good Hope.

San Francisco, March 14. — After a voyage of nearly eight months, during which her crew mutinied because of severe labor in a succession of gales, the British four-masted bark Falls of Halladale has arrived here 235 days out from Liverpool from which port she sailed July 25. Captain Thompson first attempted to round Cape Horn, and failing after battling with tempestuous seas and winds, gave it up and went practically around the world the other way via Cape of Good Hope. The vicinity of Cape Horn was reached Sept. 25. There a succession of terrific southwest and westerly gales were encountered, which rendered it impossible to work the ship around the cape and into the Pacific. One of the gales attained a hurricane velocity, Oct. 9 and 10, in the course of which 19 sails were blown away. After attempting to make the Falklands, and the vessel had begun to leak, Captain Thompson decided to square away for the eastern passage around the Cape of Good Hope. On Jan. 1, Foveaux Land, off the south of New Zealand, was reached, and there a stop was made for provisions and water, the supply of which was running short.

At Foveaux eight men of the crew, tired out with battling the elements, refused duty, but, with the exception of the ringleader, they turned to after the captain and his mates were forced to adopt forcible measures with them. The ringleader was ironed and confined for 38 days. The vessel after leaving Foveaux made the run across the Pacific without any unusual event in the way of mishaps or in point of time. The trouble with the men quieted down and all hands were on duty when the anchor was dropped here.

STORM AT CHICAGO.

Chicago, March 14. — A snowstorm descended on Chicago last night, and by midnight the fall was so heavy as to interfere seriously with street car traffic. A storm is raging all over Central Illinois and portions of Iowa, a depth of 10 inches having been reached from some points.

TOBIN ELECTROCUTED.

Ossington, N. Y., March 14. — Thomas Tobin was put to death today in the electric chair in Sing Sing Prison for the murder of Captain James B. Craft in New York City. He walked to the chair uttering a prayer that his mother had taught him. Three shocks were given before he was pronounced dead.

WEATHER BULLETIN.

TOMORROW—SNOWY AND WINDY.

London, Monday, March 14.

Sun rises..6:32 a.m. Moon rises..5:10 a.m.
Sun sets...6:22 p.m. Moon sets...4:00 p.m.

Toronto, March 13—8 p.m.

Moderate snowfalls have occurred in many portions of the Territories and over Manitoba. Elsewhere the weather has been fair and continued cold.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 32—46; Calgary, zero—16; Qu'Appelle, 2—16; Winnipeg, 10—18; Port Arthur, zero—26; Parry Sound, 8—28; Toronto, 14—28; Ottawa, 10—28; Montreal, 10—26; Quebec, 6—21; Halifax, 22—54.

FORECASTS.

Monday, March 14—8 a.m.

Strong winds; snow setting in by evening and continuing most of Tuesday.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather.
Calgary	—4	—4	Clear
Winnipeg	10	8	Snow
Parry Sound	12	10	Cloudy
Toronto	26	16	Cloudy
Ottawa	14	12	Fair
Montreal	18	14	Clear
Quebec	22	16	Cloudy
Father Point	28	18	Cloudy

The sign — means "below zero."

WEATHER NOTES.

A disturbance is now centered in the Ohio Valley, which promises a considerable snowfall in the lake region, and is likely to spread to the Ottawa Valley and the Upper St. Lawrence by tomorrow. The weather keeps cold everywhere, especially in the Northwest.

The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Saturday were: Highest, 36°; lowest, 16°. Sunday—Highest, 28°.

THE HAMILTON ARMORY

Deputation Asks Militia Minister to Improve Quarters.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, March 14. — Lieut.-Col. Stoneman, of the Thirteenth Battalion; Sergt.-Majors Menburn and Pain, all of Hamilton, are here today, having an interview with Sir Frederick Borden on military matters. They want improvement to the armory in Hamilton.

THE MAGIC CROSS FAD

Society Folk Who Lean to the Occult Have New Craze.

London, March 14. — Society loves nothing so much as the occult, and the latest craze seem to be a game of magic crosses termed "Chromoscopy." These crosses, which are small in size and of various colors, are laid on a table in a straight line, and the person who experiments holds a magnet which moves slowly up and down the long line. One by one, but not in rotation, the crosses are attached to the magnet, and when at last all are arranged in order an expert can gain an insight into the character and the future fate of the experimenter.

The name and date and if possible the hour of birth must be written down in advance.

Society folk seem keen on this new cult, and even cabinet ministers have consulted the magic crosses.

HIS MAJESTY VS. THE KITTY D

The Appeal to the Supreme Court Being Heard.

WAS SHE ON CANADIAN SIDE?

Log of the Petrel Declares United States Fishing Boat Was Well Across Line When Captured.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, March 14. — In the supreme court today the case of the King vs. the Kittie D. was taken up. The appeal is from a decision of the local judge in admiralty for the district of Toronto. The Kittie D. was seized by the Government cruiser Petrel for fishing on the Canadian side of Lake Erie on July 3, 1903, in contravention of sections 3 and 20 of the revised statutes of Canada. The only question at issue is whether or not the vessel had been fishing on the Canadian side, and the local judge found on the evidence given that she had not, and he ordered that she be released from seizure and restored to the owner. At the time and place of seizure there was no land in sight, and the position had to be established by the courses and distances by the Petrel, after leaving Port Dover in the morning, as the day was dull, and no observation by the sun could be made. The crown claimed that the log which the Petrel used is the best log known for registering distances sailed, and that her compasses had been carefully tested and corrected for deviation. According to her captain's reckoning the Kittie D. was seized in Canadian waters, and had been fishing shortly before farther in towards the Canadian side.

The respondent's evidence was that the Kittie D. only sailed nine and three-quarter miles from Dunkirk, N. Y., that morning, while the boundary line was over eleven miles from Dunkirk, that shortly before the seizure there was a heavy thunderstorm, and that the Petrel must have gone off her course, and that her compasses would be affected, and it was contended that the findings of the trial judge on these questions of facts should not be disturbed. Newcombe, K. C., deputy minister of justice, and Mr. Kinear, appeared for the crown; German, K. C., for the respondent, and Ritchie, K. C., for the Government of the United States.

SPROCKET CHAIN DUTY

Reduced to 20 Per Cent When Used for Agricultural Implements.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Ont., March 14.—An order has been passed making the duty on malleable sprocket chain or link belting chain when used in connection with agricultural implements 20 per cent. Formerly it was 30 per cent, except for binders, now it is to be a flat rate of 20 per cent for agricultural implements.

An order in council has been passed placing petroleum oil on the free list when imported by mining companies for use in the concentration of metal ores. This is a concession to the Kootenay mining industry.

TRADE WITH HULL

Merchants of That City Want Direct Line to Canada.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Ont., March 14.—The trade and commerce department received today a report from Commercial Agent Jackson at Leeds. Mr. Jackson says that he had a conference with the merchants and the business men of Hull in regard to trade matters with Canada. No goods are now received direct, and what is wanted is a direct steamship line between Hull and Canada. He is in hopes next summer a trade line will be established between Hull and Montreal. Mr. Jackson says that meantime Canadian shippers can sent direct by way of Boston and New York. He says that the trade in cattle might be increased, and there is big demand for furniture.

W. S. Hamilton, restaurant keeper, charged with the murder of John Fitzgerald, appeared in the police court today, and was remanded. The inquest was also adjourned until Wednesday. Hamilton is accused of kicking Fitzgerald to death because he refused to pay for a meal.

RUMOR FROM FAR EAST SAYS THAT PORT ARTHUR HAS FALLEN BEFORE JAPS

Wires From the Seat of War Hum With Many Dispatches Telling of Russian Disaster.

CZAR'S STRONGHOLD ABANDONED OR CAPURED?

Jap Tars Boarding Russian Destroyer Stereguschitchi Find All But Four Perished in the Fight—Russia Bribes Chinese Bandits to Take the Field Against the Japanese.

London, March 13. — A dispatch to the Central News from Tokio says: "It is asserted here that the Russians virtually have abandoned Port Arthur."

Paris, March 13. — The Tokio correspondent of the Gaulois reports that another unsuccessful attempt to obstruct the entrance to Port Arhur harbor has been made by the Japanese.

Tien Tsin, March 13. — An unconfirmed report has reached here that Port Arthur has fallen.

Shanghai, March 13.—The Japanese in Shanghai show considerable excitement over the report that the Russians have abandoned Port Arthur.

Wei Hai Wei, March 14. — The Japanese here report that Port Arthur has been captured.

A RUSSIAN DENIAL.

St. Petersburg, March 14.—Noon.—There is no truth in the rumors that the Russians have abandoned Port Arthur. Admiral Abaza, secretary of communication on far eastern affairs, authorizes the Associated Press to deny the story. He says the situation at Port Arthur is unchanged and that nothing of importance has occurred there in the last 24 hours.

LATER.

Tien Tsin, March 14. — The reported occupation of Port Arthur by the Japanese is untrue, according to a telegram received here at 11 o'clock, which left Port Arthur at 7 o'clock Sunday evening. Upon inquiry the riot at Shansi turns out to have been unimportant.

NEARLY ALL PERISHED.

Tokio, Monday, March 14.—A supplementary report from Vice-Admiral Togo, concerning the effort made by crews of the Japanese torpedo boat destroyers in the action off Port Arthur on the 10th inst. to rescue the crews of the disabled Russian torpedo boat destroyers, reached here today. Captain Shojiro Asai, commanding the flotilla of torpedo boat destroyers, states that the Japanese would have been able to rescue many more of the enemy but for the deadly fire of the shore batteries, and the close approach of the Russian cruiser Novik. The report also explains that four men rescued were not part of the crew of the Stereguschtchi, as originally reported. When the Japanese rescuers reached the Stereguschtchi only the dead remained on board, and it is believed the living members of the crew jumped overboard and perished. Three of the Russians rescued are engineers and the fourth is a torpedo operator. Two of the captives were slightly wounded. They were all placed aboard a Japanese battleship and were given food and medicine.

RUSSIA BRIBES BANDITS.

New York, March 14. — Trustworthy information has been received that Admiral Alexieff has offered bribes of $15,000 to mounted bandits in Manchuria, with the view of utilizing them as outposts against Japanese attacks, says a Tokio dispatch to the Sun.

The Russians are concentrating at Fulantaen and Funchau on the west coast of the Liao Tung Peninsula, evidently in anticipation of a Japanese landing.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN SUFFER

Panic Stricken Refugees En Route to European Russia.

St. Petersburg, March 14. — 3:36 p.m. —A Russian correspondent proceeding to the front writes to the St. Petersburg Telegraph bureau from Irkutsk, Siberia, as follows:

"Our express train travels slower than the slowest train in European Russia. The seat of war is still remote, but its presence is felt. The long rows of cars filled with soldiers, the caravans, and the primitive sleigas, drawn by shaggy horses, which we pass along the way at the crowded stations, break the monotony of the snowbound wastes and endless forests, and the stillness is broken by the songs of the jolly reservists, and the bells of the village churches sounding clear through the frosty air. This bustle and activity amidst the Siberian desolation strikingly illustrates the Russian giant stretching his limbs preparatory to punishing the foe. Gen. Rennenkampf, who is to lead the Cossack division, is traveling on the same train. He tells me that all these reservists will become splendid, hardened soldiers a fortnight after reaching the front.

"At Irkutsk we met the first victims of the war — women and children trying to get back to European Russia. On our entrance into the semi-darkness of the station we were greeted by the wailing of children issuing from the dirt-heaps and baggage encumbering the floor. Their waxen faces and bloodshot, sleepless eyes, would melt a heart of stone. The wild, panic-stricken flight of their mothers from Manchuria after the startling outbreak of the war, led to great sufferings. They reached this place after untold hardships, only to find that they will have to wait weeks more till there is sufficient train accommodation to enable them to proceed further. So the children have been pining, sleepless and motionless, in this fetid atmosphere, because outside reigns deathly frost."

CZAR A PUPPET FOR MINISTERS

An Inside View of the Emperor Shows Him as Tricked by His Cunning Courtiers.

Paris, March 14. — One who knows the Czar furnishes an interesting study of the Emperor's personality and habits, of which this is a summary:

"The amusements of the Czar are few. He is fond of photography, sometimes indulged in a mood for the making of melancholy verse, and is an adept with the cycle. When at Gatchina he is in the habit of cycling by himself for a portion of every day, but at Peterhof the work brought down from St. Petersburg and the constant interviews with ministers and officials consume the whole of his time, and a light in his majesty's writing room may be seen far into the night as he labors with the mountains of papers that are dispatched to him by cunning ministers, who are resolved to surround the young Czar with a parapet of detail in order to prevent his mastery of the larger questions affecting Russian policy.

"The Czar is a kindly, saddened, over-worked and unhappy man. His desire to do his duty compels him to engage in an unceasing struggle with details which are never overtaken. In this struggle he is helped by one of the best and noblest of women, whose virtues are derived through her mother from Queen Victoria.

"When the Czar was a boy he had an English nurse, who taught him to speak English without accent, and planted in his mind a love of English methods of life and habits which he has never lost. When the Czar is in private costume he has recourse to an English tailor. English family life is his delight, and the English constitutional system he regards with a favorable eye. In character he is more like his grandfather than his father, but, notwithstanding his undoubted abilities and fine disposition, he is too completely in the hands of his ministers and of his mother to exercise serious control over Russian policy.

"The Czar Nicholas II. is physically weak; his nerves are shattered, his will feeble. He is amiable where iron-handedness is essential. He is dependent when a strong individuality is required. He is constantly in subjection first to one influence and then to another. He is more than usually amenable to women's control, and the fair sex has on more than one occasion exercised powerful, if not calamitous, influence upon his life."

HILL'S RAILWAY MERGER ILLEGAL

United States Supreme Court Decides Against Combine in Famous Case.

Washington, March 14. — The opinion of the supreme court in the case of the Northern Securities Company versus the United States involving the merger of the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern Railroad Companies was handed down today, and was in favor of the Government. The opinion of the United States circuit court for the district of Minnesota was affirmed.

The effect is to sustain the contention that the Sherman anti-trust law applies to railroad combinations of the character in question.

The opinion was read by Justice Harlan. He said that in the merger of the two roads, the stockholders disappeared and reappeared in the Securities Company, the two thus becoming practically consolidated in a holding company, the principal object being to prevent competition. "No scheme or device could certainly more effectively come within the prohibition of the anti-trust law and it is within the meaning of the act a trust."

J. J. Hill, president of the Northern Securities Company, received news of the decision at the company's offices in this city. Mr. Hill declined to discuss the matter except to say: "There is nothing to be said at this time. The properties of the Northern Securities Company are still there. They are as good as ever."

At the offices of J. P. Morgan & Co. no expression of opinion regarding the decision could be had. A member of the firm stated, however, that he was not surprised.

MITCHELL TO BE THERE

Leader of Miners to Address Union Men at Windsor.

Windsor, Ont., March 14.—John Mitchell, president of the Mine Workers' Association of America, will be invited to address a mass meeting of union men in the armories on the night of March 25. Other speakers to be invited are Ralph Smith, M. P., of British Columbia; R. Puttee, M. P., of Winnipeg; R. F. Sutherland, M. P., K.C., and Dr. J. O. Reaume, M. P. P., of Windsor; John A. Flett, president of the Canadian Congress of Labor, and W. D. Mahon, of the Street Car Men's Union.