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VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1904.

NO. 46.

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# STORY OF CAPTURE OF RUSSIANS DENIED

## Reports That Zassalitch Has Been Wounded and Kuroki's Communication Cut Are Also Untrue.

London, Sept. 13.—The Morning Post gives that official Russian dispatches received in London announced that Lieutenant Zassalitch, who commanded the portion of the Russian rear guard south of the Hun river, has been severely wounded and captured with 3,000 out of his 5,000 men. It is added by the Morning Post that General Zarubieff, Kondratovich and Biderling have checked General Kuroki's advance.

The Daily Mail's correspondent with the Japanese reports from Tientsin that Lieut. Gen. Linvitch, with 50,000 thousand men, invaded Northern Korea and cut General Kuroki's communications with Feng Huang Cheng.

**JAPS REINFORCED AND ADVANCING RAPIDLY.**

St. Petersburg, Sept. 12.—The Bizzavia Viednost's correspondent at Tientsin telegraphs to his paper that General Linvitch, who has been accused of moving forward slowly, are now advancing very rapidly. Little avails the Russian increase of troops for the Japanese are receiving reinforcements from Newchwang. The initiative will remain in the hands of the Japanese, and their tactics will always be repeated.

**ST. PETERSBURG IS FULL OF RUMORS.**

St. Petersburg, Sept. 13.—2 a.m.—With the full military operations and an almost entire suspension of dispatches from the front, St. Petersburg has again fallen back upon rumors. Countless stories are afloat regarding the Russian advance at Liao Yang, some of which are absolutely absurd. The most unfavorable report is that the Japanese have taken a color of possibility. While none of these stories can be confirmed, it is not surprising that some best informed of them should turn out to be true.

**DISCOURAGING NEWS FOR TROOPS IN FORTRESS.**

St. Petersburg, Sept. 12.—Gen. Kuroki has fallen back to Yentai, where the main Japanese army is bivouacking. Only very scanty supplies and ammunition are reported on the Russian flanks. The war office fully realizes the discouraging effect of the battle of Liao Yang upon the heroic garrison at Port Arthur.

**WILL FORCE DECISIVE BATTLE WITH RUSSIANS.**

Liao Yang, Sunday, Sept. 11.—(Delayed)—The Japanese are greatly disappointed at the failure of their plans to impose a final conflict upon the Russians at Liao Yang in the hope of breaking up the present Russian army in detail. They are now pushing their forces forward in every possible way, using boats on the Liao river and its tributaries, while all the main roads leading into Liao Yang are filled with wheeled and other conveyances carrying grain and ammunition into the Chinese city, where, it is reported, Field Marshal Marquis Oyama, the commander-in-chief, has established his headquarters. There is every indication, therefore, that the Japanese intend to force, if possible, a decisive battle with the Russians.

In the past the Japanese have declared their belief that the Russians were using dum-dum bullets, basing their contention on the vicious wounds made by the bullets when they struck, and they now claim that they have proved their case by the fact that they found dum-dum ammunition in their field equipment captured at Liao Yang. This evidence is not considered conclusive, however.

The impression was held in Liao Yang

Yentai mines to the ridges west of Taya.

On the afternoon of the 3rd the Russians were again engaged. The enemy received strong reinforcements and had 60 guns.

A Japanese column was detached and advanced from Shapsasui to Shangtsitsee, and a guard was left where the column swung to the westward.

**DENY REPORT OF CAPTURE OF 3,000 MEN.**

St. Petersburg, Sept. 13.—1.10 p.m.—The war office authorizes the Associated Press to deny the report circulated by the Morning Post, of London, to the effect that three thousand men of Lieut. Gen. Zassalitch's corps have been captured, to deny the report from the same source that he has been wounded, and to also deny the statement from Tokio that dum-dum bullets were used by the Russians at Liao Yang.

**WERE NOT EQUAL TO THE JAPANESE.**

General Kuroki's Headquarters in the field, near Liao Yang, Sept. 4.—(Delayed)—The battle of Liao Yang was a magnificent victory, of which the Japanese have great reason to be proud, although they were unable to realize their hopes of an entire Sedan. It is beyond question that at Liao Yang Gen. Kuroki expected to turn the tide of war against the Japanese. It would appear that the fighting of the last few weeks was not expected to be decisive, but merely preliminary to harassing the Japanese and gain time for the crucial battle.

**NO CHANGE IN THE SITUATION AT FRONT.**

St. Petersburg, Sept. 13.—1.25 p.m.—No change is reported in the situation at the front, and no confirmation is obtainable here of the reports that Gen. Linvitch is moving north, but the authorities are noticeably more reticent than usual.

**KUROKI ADVANCED BOTH NIGHT AND DAY.**

General Kuroki's Headquarters in the field, Sept. 5, via Tientsin, Sept. 13.—The battle of Liao Yang was concluded this morning at almost the end of continuous struggling. General Kuroki's army was defeated, but after holding his ground for four days he effected a masterly retreat along the railroad, probably with his army almost intact, and taking away the bodies of half of his men who were killed in action.

**ORLOFF UNABLE TO CHECK KUROKI.**

St. Petersburg, Sept. 12.—A Russian correspondent says: "Kuroki's strategy was upset by the failure of Major-Gen. Orloff to hold Gen. Kuroki's extreme right."

**ARTILLERY SUFFERED SEVERE LOSSES.**

Tokio, Sept. 12.—Details of the fighting by troops under command of Gen. Kuroki from August 28th to September 5th, were received here to-day.

Tung. It advanced several times during these two days, shifting its position and taking advantage of low bluffs.

During this time the Russians shelled the Japanese army frequently. Their fire was concentrated principally upon the batteries located near Kwang Tung, but they also shelled the Japanese gunners, who continued only to man their pieces.

**PRAYER FOR SUCCESS OF RUSSIAN ARMS.**

St. Petersburg, Sept. 11.—The Official Messenger today publishes the following resolution, which was adopted by the holy synod:

"By virtue of an Imperial ukase to the effect that during the present trials of our dear country more ardent prayers should be offered for the victory of the Russian troops, who are worshippers of Christ, over a cruel enemy, full of guile, and for this reason the Emperor's special prayers to be offered in all of the churches in the Empire on Sundays and holidays after mass, beseeching that heavenly aid should be sent to the Russian army, which is sacrificing its life for its faith, its Emperor and its country, for long life, for victory, for its troops, and for the repose of the souls of the warriors who fall."

**SAYS THE JAPS VIOLATE RED CROSS.**

Chief, Sept. 14.—A communication has been received by the Russian consul here from Gen. Balashoff, chief of the Red Cross at Port Arthur, requesting that the general charges the Japanese with gross violation of the Red Cross. He said Japanese dead have been found resorting to the use of poison. He stated that their bodies be buried. But when Russian burial parties attempted to fulfill those requests they were fired on. Such instances, Gen. Balashoff adds, are numerous, and the Russians are now afraid to trust to the Red Cross flag. He states that the Japanese also protect movements of their troops by the unlawful use of the Red Cross flag.

**SEIZURES OF SHIPS DURING THE WAR.**

New York, Sept. 14.—The Journal of Commerce says shipping interests in that city yesterday received a special detailed report just issued by the state of London underwriters, containing data to August 24th, showing the seizures stoppages, etc. of neutral and belligerent vessels in the Far East. It shows that the Russians have in all seized or stopped 55 and the Japanese 17 neutral vessels. In addition 16 Japanese merchant vessels have been seized by the Russians and the same number of Russian merchantmen have been seized by the Japanese.

**STEAMER CALCHAS WILL BE RELEASED.**

Vladivostok, Sept. 13.—(Delayed in transmission)—The prize court has decided to release the British steamer Calchas, captured while bound from Puget Sound ports to Japan by the Vladivostok squadron, and also the neutral portions of the vessel's cargo. That part of the cargo consigned to Japan consisting of flour, cotton and timber, is confiscated.

**THE PRICE COURT IGNORES PROTEST.**

London, Sept. 14.—The Globe this afternoon says that the decision of the Vladivostok prize court to confiscate that portion of the cargo of the British steamer Calchas consisting of flour, cotton and timber, consigned to Japan, if confirmed by the Russian Supreme court, amounts to a complete ignoring of the protest against including provisions in the Russian list of contraband of war. The cargo ad valorem is nothing less than a prohibition of commerce between this country and Japan."

**RUSSIAN OFFICERS LED THE WAY IN FIGHT.**

London, Sept. 13.—In a dispatch to the Daily Telegraph, the correspondent of that paper in the field with General Kuroki says: "The Russians made a very poor stand

in the first clash, and a private subsequently commanded it. One company was reduced to fifteen or sixteen men.

The regiment's losses were from twelve to thirteen hundred. In spite of the fatigue, at sunrise on September 4th the Japanese continued the pursuit of the Russians, but the lack of bridges forced them temporarily to remain south of the Taitse river.

**JAPANESE ASSAULT REPULSED BY DEFENDERS.**

St. Petersburg, Sept. 14.—The Emperor has received the following dispatch from Gen. Stouessel, commanding the Russian forces at Port Arthur, dated August 28th.

"I am happy to report to Your Majesty that at 3 o'clock in the morning of August 27th, during a violent rain and thunder storm, the Japanese again attempted to capture our left flank positions, near No. 1 fort and Udan fort. Their attack was everywhere repulsed. Our losses were small: three men killed and two officers and 96 men wounded. The wounded were brought in, and are being carefully tended. A number of Japanese corpses would have been picked up by us, but were prevented by the enemy opening fire on the hospital buildings, who had been sent out under the Red Cross flag."

**HOW GERMANY ASSISTS RUSSIA**

London, Sept. 14.—The Times in a special article gives the history of an alleged understanding arrived at between Germany and Russia, which it believes took definite shape at the time of the commercial negotiations at Nordenf in July, and which will secure to Russia Germany's support in the ultimate settlement of peace terms with Japan, and to Germany, so far as Russia is concerned, a free hand in future for the carrying out of her scheme of world politics on lines of least resistance in China, namely, where it will come in contact only with British interests.

**ALLEGED AGREEMENT BETWEEN COUNTRIES**

Emperor William, in seeking this agreement, the article says, believed Russia would be eventually victorious, and his good will has already enabled Russia to send her finest troops from the western provinces to the Far East, and to a certain extent dismantle the western fortresses of Russia of siege guns for the seat of war, besides facilitating Russian purchases of ships and war material in Germany. It was also intended that the warships at Port Arthur and Vladivostok should be given refuge at Kiaochow in order to be available at the conclusion of the war in the hands of German diplomacy for exercising pressure on Japan in concluding peace negotiations.

**NEARLY QUARTER OF MILLION.**

Business Block, Except One Building, Destroyed By Fire.

Butte, Mont., Sept. 12.—A special from Idaho Falls, Idaho, says: "Later details of Idaho Falls' big fire shows the loss to figure well up into \$200,000, about 25 per cent. of which is insured. The flames swept one entire business block with the exception of one brick building containing the Jackson drug store and a dining hall. The charred grounds are already being cleared of debris and substantial brick blocks will replace what, with a few exceptions, were veritable fire-traps."

**LAUNCH RUN DOWN.**

Eight of the Twelve Occupants Lost Their Lives.

Philadelphia, Sept. 11.—The Delaware river steamer Columbia to-night crashed into a steam launch, about 10 miles north of here, grinding it to pieces, and causing the drowning of eight of the dozen occupants of the small boat. All the party were Philadelphians.

**DUEL WITH SHOTGUNS.**

Columbus, Miss., Sept. 14.—In a duel with shotguns, about eight miles from this city yesterday, Rev. E. M. Youngblood, aged 49 years, shot John Harris, aged 38 years, in the stomach, and the life of the latter is despaired of.