

FIERCE TORPEDO BOAT ENGAGEMENT OFF PT. ARTHUR

Japs Lose a Torpedo Boat, But Sink a Russian Destroyer—
Admiral Makaroff Makes a Heroic, But Unsuccessful
Dash to the Rescue—Pt. Arthur Bombarded.

St. Petersburg, March 11.—7:10 p.m.—The Russian torpedo boat flotilla, which left Port Arthur at broad daylight this morning, and attacked the Japanese fleet, one Japanese torpedo boat was sunk and one Russian torpedo boat destroyed, the Bezposhchadny, was sunk. The fate of the latter's crew is not known.

ALEXIEFF'S REPORT.

St. Petersburg, March 11.—The Emperor has received a message from Viceroy Alexieff, which says: "Admiral Makaroff, commanding the fleet, reports from Port Arthur under date of March 10:

"Six torpedo boats which went out to sea the night of March 10, four of them being under the general command of Captain Matiussevitsh, encountered the enemy's torpedo boats, followed by cruisers.

"A hot action ensued, in which the torpedo boat destroyer Vladimir was charged a whitehead torpedo and sunk one of the enemy's torpedo boats. On the way back the torpedo boat destroyer Stereguschich, sustained damage; her engine was disabled and she began to founder. By 8 o'clock in the morning five of our torpedo boats destroyed had returned. When the critical position of the Stereguschich became evident, I hoisted my flag on the cruiser Novik and went with the Novik and the cruiser Boyarin to the rescue. But as five of the enemy's cruisers surrounded our destroyer, and as their battleship squadron was approaching, I did not succeed in saving the Stereguschich, which was foundered. The crew were made prisoners and part was drowned.

"On the ships which participated in the night attack on the enemy's fleet, three of our ships were slightly wounded, but two soldiers were killed and eighteen were wounded.

THE BOMBARDMENT.

"At 9 o'clock four of the enemy's ships assembled before Port Arthur and a bombardment was begun with the heavy guns of their battleship squadron at long range. The bombardment continued until 1 o'clock in the afternoon. It is estimated the enemy fired 154 twelve-inch shells. The damage to our vessels was insignificant, and they are again ready for battle. Our losses were one officer slightly wounded and one soldier killed and four soldiers wounded.

"The illumination of the sea by the searchlight mounted on our batteries was most satisfactory. Several times isolated shots from our batteries forced the enemy's torpedo boats to retire. With the commencement of the bombardment at dawn the guns of the fortress replied to the enemy's fire. "The crews of all the ships engaged gave proof of remarkable coolness in action. Below decks the work of the day followed its ordinary course, in spite of shells falling between the vessels and covering them with fragments.

"A bombardment at such a distance must be considered ineffective, but the Japanese cruiser Taskagiso is reported to have been seen to suffer serious damage. The extent, however, is impossible to ascertain at a distance of five miles. Many shells were fired at a range of seven and a half miles.

"I have the honor to report the foregoing to your majesty. — Signed Alexieff."

IT WAS A HOT FIGHT. The commandant at Port Arthur reports the following details of the bombardment of the fortress there on March 10: "As soon as the enemy opened fire our batteries replied. Six of the enemy's ships remained behind the Laio Tishin promontory and opened fire on the batteries. At 1:15 the enemy fired about 200 projectiles. One shell from battery No. 15, on Electric Cliff, damaged a Japanese cruiser seriously. The results of the bombardment were insignificant. Six soldiers were wounded, three of them seriously. The Japanese reported that they had killed one of our soldiers and one was seriously wounded.

According to General Stoessel's report the officers displayed exemplary courage and fired their guns in perfect order.

MARAKOFF'S HEROIC DASH. Makes Daring Attempt to Rescue Torpedo Boat.

St. Petersburg, Saturday, March 12.—The complete story of the fierce fight off Port Arthur between the torpedo flotillas which occurred Wednesday and the bombardment which followed on Thursday evening was given here until after midnight. Two official messages from Viceroy Alexieff had been received during the day, and presented to the Emperor, but the public remained in suspense. All sorts of rumors of information contained in the dispatches were spread among the officials, but they did not have the texts, and were under the

A Presbyterian Missionary Assassinated in Persia

New York, March 12.—Cable dispatches from Urumia, Persia, announcing that Dr. Labori, an American missionary, has been killed, are believed to refer to the Rev. Dr. Benjamin Babare, one of the best-known Presbyterian missionaries in the Asiatic field, who has been stationed in Persia since 1860. No report of his death has yet reached the Presbyterian board of foreign missions. Secretary Robert E. Speer says it has been reported to him recently, however, that a Mohammedan fanatic claiming descent from the prophet himself, has of late been causing much trouble among the villagers about Urumia, and his actions are supposed to have led to the missionary's death. Dr. Babare was nearly

70 years old, and had one son, who was assisting him in his work. They are natives of Massachusetts.

WINDSOR BOARD OF TRADE.

Windsor, Ont., March 12.—The annual meeting of the Windsor Board of Trade was held last night, at which E. G. Henderson was re-elected president. Meredith Conn was elected vice-president, and P. H. Macpherson, secretary-treasurer.

KAISER OFF FOR SPAIN.

Bremerhaven, Germany, March 12.—Emperor William sailed this morning for the Mediterranean, on the Nord German Lloyd steamer Koenig Albert. On his majesty's arrival at Vigo, Spain, he will be met by the King of Spain.

London, March 12.—The correspondent of the Times at Paris says a St. Petersburg dispatch gives curious particulars about the Russian anti-Semitism in the city. It says that the Minister of the Interior, M. Plehve, claimed the privilege of partially revising the list of reservists called up. An enormous percentage of Jews were thereafter sent to the front, including most of the Jewish doctors in St. Petersburg. Out of 129 medical men who left at the beginning of the month, 110 were Jews. This measure was taken for two reasons, although it was against the wish of the Minister of War. One reason was that the Jewish savants are all supposed to be liberals, whose presence in Russia at critical times is considered to be undesirable.

Another reason was the reported influence brought to bear on behalf of certain non-Jewish practitioners, who were only too glad to get their Jewish rivals out of the way.

The families of the Jewish reservists are objects of vexatious measures on the part of the authorities, who make them from the large towns, and oblige them to take refuge in the ghettos reserved for the Jews. Jewish doctors are being driven out of their offices, and are being forced to leave the city.

Pressure is being brought to bear on those Jews whose presence is tolerated outside the ghettos by subordinate officials, and who are being forced to make "voluntary contributions" for the Red Cross and naval funds and other institutions. The general opinion is that M. Plehve's policy amounts to an irresponsible dictatorship, which is hardly of a nature to pacify public feeling.

A Russian correspondent of the Times says: "Demonstrations in favor of the war, which at first were encouraged by the Government, are now being suppressed. The Government is now in a position to make a counter-demonstration. The students at St. Petersburg University were urged to declare approval of the war by a vote of 6,000 to 600. The students signed the address to the czar. When these went to cheer outside the winter palace, they were met by a line of police, and were ordered to disperse. One of the students was arrested. He was taken to a police station, and was held there for several hours. He was then released, but was ordered to leave the city. He is now in hiding.

What was avoided at St. Petersburg, however, actually took place at Odessa, where a students' demonstration of loyalty to the czar was held. The students were patriotic demonstrations every night for some time. A portrait of the czar was carried in a procession, and wherever anyone failed to take off his hat to it he was knocked off. The practice led to such disorders that the Government stopped it. Similar troubles at Kiev, Vilna, Rostov and elsewhere were followed by similar action on the part of the authorities.

AN INDIAN CANNIBAL. One of Uncle Sam's Wards Devours Wife and Child.

Duluth, Minn., March 12.—Gustave Brandon, who has been cruising between Tower and Koochiching, has arrived here on his way to Minneapolis, and confirms a report of alleged cannibalism on the Nett Lake reservation. Brandon was near Pelican Lake when he was told that an Indian had killed and eaten his wife and child. He says his information is unquestionably authentic. He was told that the Indian during a drunken spree killed both his wife and child, and later devoured their bodies. He was then told that the Indian had been seen eating human flesh. A party was sent to the Indian's cabin at once, and will bring him to Nett Lake if possible.

A PATHETIC SUICIDE. New York, March 12.—A week's weeping and brooding over the accidental death of her husband, a woman who had been saving the money since last summer, ended in the suicide last night of Annie Barr, 34 years old, of 244 Eighth avenue. She was seen to be a bride. She took two ounces of carbolic acid.

ALLEGED FORGER. Montreal, March 12.—Detectives are in pursuit of a leading city hall official, who is accused of forging and cashing a check for \$10,000 on the Bank of Montreal. The names of Wm. Robb, treasurer, S. Arnold, assistant treasurer, and J. Hewitt, cashier, were all forged on the check, which made the check acceptable to the bank. The alleged forger had been in the employ of the city for upwards of fifteen years.

ELGIN'S CROWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Angus McCrimmon of St. Thomas Appointed.

Toronto, March 12.—Angus McCrimmon, of St. Thomas, has been appointed county crown attorney for Elgin.

DEER LEAPS TO DEATH

Pursued by Dogs Goes Over a 100-Foot Cliff.

Port Jervis, N. Y., March 12.—A number of the residents of Matamoras, Pa., while on the banks of the Delaware watching the ice gorge, saw a deer chased by dogs. The hounds were close at its heels when the deer made a leap over the cliff, 100 feet high, and broke its neck in the fall. It was hung on a tree by some of the bystanders, who were anxious to recover the penalty of \$100 for having the carcass of a deer in their possession in the close season. The animal is still hanging, as everybody is afraid to touch it.

M. PLEHVE STILL AFTER THE JEWS

Jewish Doctors Sent to the Front Wholesale.

PERSECUTION IS WIDESPREAD. Russian War Demonstrations Stopped Because They Stimulate Anti-Demonstrations.

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THE WAR SITUATION.

Russia has at last taken the aggressive. On March 10th Admiral Makaroff called out of Port Arthur with his torpedo flotilla and attacked the Japs. The engagement was a fierce one, a Jap destroyer and a Russian torpedo boat being sunk. An attempt of the Russian cruisers to effect a rescue was unsuccessful. Whether the crews of the sunken boats perished has not been learned. Following up the fight, Admiral Togo's fleet heavily bombarded Port Arthur. There were a number of casualties among the civilians, the shells doing greatest damage to the new portion of the town. The Russians think their batteries did serious damage to one of the enemy's battleships. No report of the fight brought Japanese sources has yet arrived. Several trivial skirmishes between the scouts is reported near Ping Yang, Korea. The Mikado's men are hurrying north by way of Seoul and Chemulpo, and within three weeks will have 150,000 men in the field. General Kuropatkin is about to leave for the front to command the Far East. He declares that the Japanese are now invading Manchuria and Korea, he will invade and capture Japan. There is no news to hand of operations on the Yalu or as to the fate or whereabouts of the Vladivostok squadron.

REPLY TO THRONE SPEECH

Senator Kerr Will Move and Senator Treasurer Second the Address.

[Special to The Advertiser.] Ottawa, Ont., March 12.—It has been decided that Senator J. K. Kerr, Toronto, will move, and Senator Fisher second, the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

ONE OF 13 DROPS DEAD

Councilman Vanderholt Laughed at Hoodoo, and Soon Dies.

Sharon, Pa., March 12.—The Sharon council reorganized last Monday night. There were five life-long members and eight new ones, who were sworn in, making thirteen on the board. Councilman Charles Vanderholt called the meeting to order. He was a well-known and popular man, and was the only one of the old members who was left. He was a member of the council for many years, and was a very successful business man. He was a member of the council for many years, and was a very successful business man. He was a member of the council for many years, and was a very successful business man.

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Fast Run to Grant Dying Wish of Injured Brakeman.

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WEATHER BULLETIN.

TOMORROW—FAIR AND COLD. London, Saturday, March 12. Sun rises, 6:20 a.m. Moon rises, 4:02 a.m. Sun sets, 6:20 p.m. Moon sets, 2:16 p.m.

The disturbance which was near Lake Michigan last night has since passed to the southwest of the lake region, causing the weather to remain cold from Ontario to the Maritime Provinces. In the Northwest Territories and Manitoba the weather has likewise remained fair and cold.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 40-44; Calgary, 2-31; Qu'Appelle, 14 below-19; Winnipeg, 14 below-18; Port Arthur, 16-18; Parry Sound, 14-22; Toronto, 18-30; Ottawa, 2-22; Montreal, 6-16; Quebec, 8 below-18; Halifax, 16-30.

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WEATHER NOTES. The weather keeps cold throughout Canada, with no immediate prospect of much change. The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Friday, were: Highest, 27°, lowest, 22°.

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