

## FIRST SETBACK FOR LITTLE JAPS—UNDER GUNS OF THE FLEET MAKE SEVERAL ATTEMPTS TO LAND TROOPS AT PORT ARTHUR

### RUSSIA'S RAILROAD BLOCKED BY BLOWING UP OF BRIDGE

Japan Has Seized the Port of Masampo and Has  
Dispatched Heavy Force to Garrison It.

### LI, A PRO-RUSSIAN CHINESE OFFICIAL, BEHEADED

Russian Press Blames Britain for Escape of Newly Purchased  
Japanese Battleships—Big Gale at Port Arthur  
Threatens the Czar's Fleet.

London, Thursday, Feb. 11. — Special dispatches from Tokyo announce the arrival of Japanese troops at Seoul. A Tokyo dispatch says Japan seized Masampo on Sunday and dispatched a heavy force there. Japan will fortify the port and establish a naval and military base there. Masampo is an exceedingly important point, as it controls the Korean Channel and is an excellent base for future operations.

**THE CAPTURED TRANSPORTS.** Dispatches to the Daily Mail from Tokyo and Nagasaki, dated Feb. 10, report the arrival at Sasebo, Japan, of two large Russian steamers. One is the Volunteer Fleet Association transport Ekaterinoslav, which recently landed troops and arms at Port Arthur, and the other is the steamer Argon, belonging to the Chinese Eastern Railway Company. Both were captured by the Japanese cruisers Sai Yen and Hui Yen, in the neighborhood of Fusan, Korea. The Ekaterinoslav is of 10,000 tons displacement and had been fitted up as an auxiliary cruiser. She had 20 rifles on board, and was on her way from Vladivostok to Nagasaki. The Argon, a whaler, was also captured by the Japanese. The Argon was captured by the Japanese. The Argon was captured by the Japanese.

**BRIDGE DESTROYED.** The Shanghai correspondent of the

### THE WAR UP TO DATE.

So far as fighting by sea is concerned Japan now holds the dominating position. In two attacks upon the Russian fleet at Port Arthur five warships were damaged or sunk. In the first battle, that of Monday night, the battleships Czarevitch and Retzian and the cruiser Pallada were torpedoed. In Tuesday's battle the armored cruisers Pallava and Novik were put out of business. At Chemulpo after a hot fight the Russian warships Varig and Korietz exploded. In addition to this list an auxiliary cruiser of 10,000 tons, a merchantman and four whalers fell a prey to the Mikado's fleets. No serious fighting has yet taken place on land, but the Japs are hurrying to strategic points in preparation for the clash. A large force is said to have entered and occupied Seoul. The blowing up of a bridge on the Manchurian railroad is verified. This may badly hamper the Russians in transportation of troops. The first attack on the Japanese is reported from Port Arthur, where several attempts to land an army in the adjacent bays were frustrated. It is said the elements are working with the Japs, a big gale at Port Arthur threatens to complete work of the torpedoes.

St. Petersburg is threatened with a serious financial panic due to the slump in stocks. Tokio is elated and is celebrating the victories. All the powers have promised neutrality. A Japanese fleet is keeping close watch on Vladivostok, where Russian warships are icebound, and the newly purchased battleships for Japan are by now close to the Mikado's coasts.

ported that the Russian ships had been injured. A Chefoo dispatch says: "Upon the withdrawal of the Japanese minister from St. Petersburg a Japanese fleet and transport proceeded to Masampo, which was occupied, and the fleet then sailed for Port Arthur. Other Japanese ships are guarding Northern Japan, feeling that the Japanese fleet is now at Vladivostok, and for the further purpose of preventing four Russian cruisers from joining the Russian fleet at Port Arthur. The Japanese fleet has probably retired to Masampo, and it is not known whether there was another attack upon the Russian fleet. General Tschichikoff took command of the Russian troops in Manchuria today."

**RUSSIA BLAMES BRITAIN.** Say English Battleship Foiled Attempt to Destroy Jap Ships.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 11. — The Russian claims to have authority for saying that the two new Japanese warships, the Nishin and Kasuga, were saved from certain capture by the Russian Admiral Wires, whose flagship is understood to be the Dmitri Donskoi, by the action of the commander of a British battleship in place of his vessel across the Suez Canal, and hoisting a flag of distress, thus delaying the Russian two days.

The anti-British feeling here is bitter, it being asserted that the Japanese attack on Port Arthur was launched from Wei Hai Wei, until recently a British naval base.

United States Ambassador McCormick is busy taking over the affairs of the Japanese legation.

General Dragomirov arrived in St. Petersburg today. He is one of Russia's greatest field marshals, and may be appointed commander-in-chief, as General Kuropatkin, the war minister, probably cannot be spared.

There was a great scene at the naval academy this afternoon when the Czar personally awarded the senior class the rank of officers. His majesty, who wore an admiral's uniform, in addressing the cadets, said: "You are dressing the cadets, and you are the gentlemen of the future. You are the future of the Russian navy. I have come today to promote you to the rank of midshipmen. I am confident that you will be worthy of the rank, and I am confident that you will be worthy of the rank."

After his majesty's departure the newly-promoted officers hired sleighs and drove up and down the streets, shouting wild hurrahs. Generals, carried away by emotion, saluted the youngsters.

**DISGUISED AS MENIAL.** Clever Way in Which Japs Sized Up Russian Fleet.

New York, Feb. 11. — In a special cable from Chefoo to the Herald, the correspondent says that the Japanese consul at Chefoo, who told him that when he was informed by his Government that the Japanese minister had left St. Petersburg, he was withdrawn on Feb. 6, he chartered a British vessel and went to Port Arthur and Dalny to take off refugees. He was afforded every facility by the Russian Government official at Port Arthur. Quarantine was removed and the consul entered the town in official dress. He was saluted by soldiers and invited to dinner by a high official, while the exact position of the Russian ships, and also that they had not got steam up, and were not keeping a sharp lookout. As soon as the Japanese fleet was sighted signals were interchanged, and the Japanese naval officer was taken aboard the flagship. There he made a detailed report to Admiral Togo.

I saw this commander, who wishes his name withheld, and he explained to me with marvelous accuracy the course of the fight, though he had not seen it. He said the Russians were in four lines. In front of all was the Argon, the only ship which used searchlights.

It will thus be seen that the Japanese torpedo boats put out an exceedingly bold venture. The Japanese had 16 vessels.

**WAS A RUNNING FIGHT.** A United States Minister Tells of the Battle of Chemulpo.

Washington, Feb. 11. — Two cablegrams were received at the state department from United States Minister Allen at Seoul, dated Feb. 10, both referring to the naval engagements off Chemulpo on the 8th and 9th. The minister, in his first dispatch, reports the arrival of 21 Japanese naval vessels at Chemulpo on the afternoon of the 9th. Two Russian warships, the Varig and the Korietz, were in Chemulpo harbor and attempted to prevent the landing of Japanese forces, but with no success. The foreign naval vessels, the minister says, were generally leaving the harbor. There was a report that the Japanese naval vessels had captured Russian transports off Makpo, on the 9th.

The second dispatch says: "A running naval engagement took place in Chemulpo harbor, beginning about noon. The Varig and the Korietz again attempted to escape, but failed. The Varig was injured. On their return the Japanese naval vessels announced officially that they would attack the place at 4 p.m. At the latter hour the Korietz blew up and sank. She was a slow vessel, which made it difficult for her to escape. The Japanese naval vessels attacked the Varig from the outside harbor until she sank. Twenty-five hundred Japanese troops are in Seoul."

**IT PLEASED BRITAIN.** Japanese Legation at London Flooded With Congratulations.

London, Feb. 11. — The great joy of the British people at the news of the Japanese victory here is somewhat plainly manifested yesterday at the Japanese legation in hundreds of letters and telegrams from all parts of the country. The communications were so numerous that it was impossible to reply to them individually. The Japanese minister, however, has given permission to serve in the Japanese army and navy.

**ACCUSES GREAT BRITAIN.** Russian Press Says She Has Violated Neutrality Agreement.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 11. — Repeating the charge that the Japanese attack on Port Arthur was made from Wei Hai Wei (on the north coast of the Shan Tung Peninsula), the Novoye Vremya today bitterly assails Great Britain. "In allowing Japan to use the harbor as a basis of operations," says the Novoye Vremya, "Great Britain violated the fundamental principles of neutrality. Wei Hai Wei must be regarded henceforth as part of Japanese territory, and the Japanese are entitled to the right to participate in any deliberations over the eventual fate of the harbor."

The Novoye Vremya further holds that the case is analogous to that of the Alabama and says Russia is entitled to demand compensation from Great Britain for the losses she has suffered.

**THE BALTIC FLEET.** Berlin, Feb. 11. — The Lokal Anzeiger says notification has been received of the proposed passage of the Russian Baltic fleet, consisting of fifteen warships, through the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal, on its way to the Far East.

London, Feb. 11. — The report that Russia is to arrange with Turkey to permit the Black Sea fleet to pass through the Dardanelles is revived, and it is added that Russia is trying to secure Great Britain's consent. There is no authoritative confirmation of the report.

Suez, Egypt. — The Russian volunteer fleet steamer Czarliza and a torpedo boat have arrived here.

**BRITAIN NEUTRAL.** London, Feb. 11. — King Edward, at a council held at Buckingham Palace this afternoon, signed a proclamation declaring Great Britain's neutrality during the war between Russia and Japan.

**RUSSIA'S STRENGTH.** Cabling from Pekin the correspondent of the London Times ascribes the habitual over-estimation of the Russian forces in the Far East to the claim (rising from the Boxer troubles) put forward by M. De Giers (then minister of the interior) in the apartment of her husband, Prince Otto, has committed suicide, according to a persistent rumor here, says a special cable from Vienna to the World. The castle at Prague is named as the place where the princess turned her hand against herself.

The princess, it is said, was suffering from a form of insanity which manifested itself in fits of jealousy.

When suffering thus she sought to kill those whom she suspected of causing her despair. Her jealous fury alternated with periods of acute melancholy during which she is reported to have attempted her life several times.

Denials inspired by the Austrian court were issued immediately following the announcement of the shooting of Louise Ziegler.

**SMALLPOX CARD PARTY.** One of Those at the Hewson Affair Develops the Disease.

Niagara Falls, Ont., Feb. 11. — John McDougall, son of the late chief of Ontario police of Niagara Falls, employed on the engineering staff of the Ontario Power Company and living on Spring street, Niagara Falls South, was taken ill yesterday, and Dr. W. W. Thompson, the Power Company's physician, on being called pronounced it a mild case of smallpox.

Inspector Hodgkiss, of Toronto, has been wired for and is expected here today. MacDougall was a guest at the Hewson card party two weeks ago, which was attended by Mrs. Borneley, who was recently taken ill with smallpox.

### ST. PETERSBURG THREATENED WITH A FINANCIAL PANIC

Later Reports of the Chemulpo Fight Say Cruiser Korietz Exploded—Damage to Czarevitch Is Slight.

### RUSSIAN MAIL BOAT MONGOLIA REPORTED CAPTURED

Russian Government Warns Investors Against Sacrificing Securities—Imperial Decree Issued as to Contraband of War—Great Elation at Tokio Over Victories.

London, Feb. 11. — A special dispatch from Port Arthur says the Japanese fleet attempted Wednesday to land men in several bays in the neighborhood of Port Arthur under the protection of the guns of the cruisers. It is asserted, however, that all the attempts were unsuccessful.

A special dispatch from Tien Tsun confirms the report that the Manchurian Railroad has been blocked by the blowing up of a bridge on the line and that thirty Russians were killed in the explosion. It is reported, the dispatch adds, that the Russian steamers Nouni and Mukden, belonging to the Chinese Eastern Railway Company have been captured by the Japanese.

**THE WARSHIPS SANK.** Lloyd's agent at Shanghai, cabling under date of yesterday, says it is reported and generally believed that a Japanese warship has destroyed the Russian mail steamer Mongolia, bound from Shanghai for Dalny. The cablegram adds that the three Russian warships damaged by torpedoes at Port Arthur sank.

The navy department does not confirm the report.

**THE KOREITZ EXPLODED.** Further Details of the Battle at Chemulpo.

Tokio, Wednesday, Feb. 10. — The destruction of the Russian cruiser Varig and the gunboat Korietz at Chemulpo on Tuesday is officially confirmed but details are lacking.

Admiral Ushiro, commander of the Japanese squadron, sent a cablegram to the navy department saying that the two Russian vessels weighed anchor at noon, steamed down the bay and encountered the Japanese fleet, while rounding an island nine miles from Chemulpo.

It is not known who first opened fire, but the exchange lasted 34 minutes. The Russian ships withdrew to Chemulpo. The Korietz exploded about 4:30 o'clock. It is not clear how the Varig was destroyed.

The loss of life and the effect of the shells on the Russians are unknown. It is possible that the Russian crews aided in the destruction of their vessels to avoid capture and annihilation.

The Japanese did not lose a man and their ships were not injured. The names of the Japanese ships are withheld for strategic reasons.

The Russian crews, it is reported, surrendered to the Japanese at Chemulpo. Japan is elated by its success in the engagement. It is reported that two Russian battleships and one cruiser were destroyed during the torpedo attack at Port Arthur Monday night.

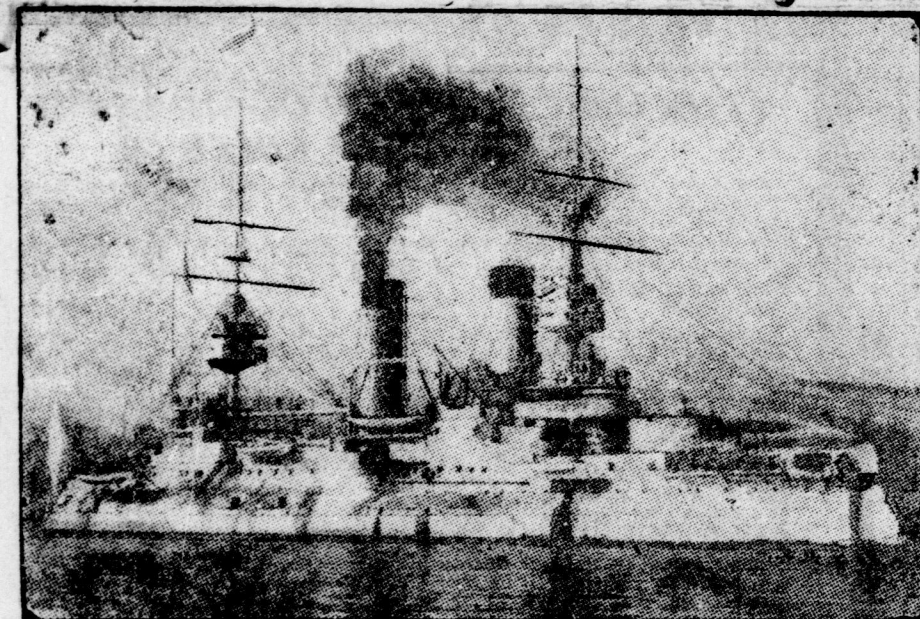
**WAR ANNOUNCED.** Tokio, Feb. 11. — The existence of a state of war with Russia was formally announced today by an imperial proclamation.

**MOVEMENTS OF WARSHIPS.** Port Said, Feb. 11. — The Russian transport Spadensk and one torpedo boat have entered the Suez Canal.

Shanghai, Feb. 10. — The Russian gunboat Adzuma is still here. It is understood that two Japanese warships are awaiting here at the mouth of the Yang Tse Kiang.

**RUSSIA FEARS A PANIC.** Warns the People Against Sacrificing Their Securities.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 11. — The ministry of finance has issued a communication in which it warns the people



RUSSIAN BATTLESHIP CZAREVITCH, 13,110 TONS.  
Torpedoed at Port Arthur by Japanese.

Daily Mail, says an important bridge on the Manchurian railroad has been blown up and 30 men have been killed. A dispatch to the Russian Telegram Company from St. Petersburg, says that M. Kurino, the retiring Japanese minister to Russia, and his staff, have left there for Berlin. There was a large crowd of people at the station platform when the party boarded the train. Police and gentlemen kept a space clear for the travelers, and there was no hostile demonstrations. As the train drew out of the station there were a few cheers and cries of "Long Live Nicholas." Continuing, the correspondent says, an imperial ukase has been issued which authorized Viceroy Alexieff to mobilize the reserves within his viceroyalty.

**A CHINESE MASSACRE.** The Tien Tsun correspondent of the Standard sends in a report that the Russians have massacred 100 Chinese at Liao Yang in consequence of which the officials at Shan Hai Kwan are greatly alarmed and are appealing to Pekin for protection.

Other dispatches from Tien Tsun say that 400 French troops have been ordered from there to Seoul for the protection of the French legation at

### 'Twas a Canadian Who Laid Foundations of Jap Fleet

London, Feb. 11. — Cassier's Magazine says the foundations of the Japanese fleet were laid by the Canadian Vice-Admiral Sir Archibald Lucius Douglas, K.C.B., during his mission to Japan.

Vice-Admiral Sir Archibald Lucius Douglas, who is now 64 years of age, was selected in 1873 by the admiralty to proceed to Japan as commander of the naval mission to instruct the Japanese navy. He served as director of the Imperial Japanese Naval College at Yeddo for two years, and received the thanks of the Emperor of Japan and approval of his services from the admiralty while holding that appointment.

Admiral Douglas has seen much service. He served as midshipman and lieutenant in the operations in the Congo and Gambia Rivers during the commission of the Arrogant on that coast, and commanded a gunboat in the great lakes during the Fenian invasion of 1866. He was captain of the Serapis during the naval and military operations in the Sudan in 1884, for which he received the Egyptian medal and the Khedive's bronze star, and subsequently the Edinburgh, under the late Sir George Tryon.

The admiral was born in Quebec on Feb. 8, 1842, and was the son of the late Dr. George Melles Douglas, inspection physician of that port. He entered the royal navy as a cadet on the nomination of Governor-General Sir E. W. Head in April, 1856.

been prepared and approved by the Japanese cabinet. Foreign Minister Komura has gone to the palace to secure the Emperor's approval.

**PORT ARTHUR DEMORALIZED.** In a dispatch from Chefoo, dated Feb. 10, a correspondent of the Daily Mail says: "A northeast gale which is raging here bodes no good to the crippled Russian ships."

"Complete demoralization reigns at Port Arthur."

"Advices received here from Kwan Tung, Manchuria, says that 10,000 armed Chinese, unofficially recognized as Government troops, are operating in the district, and are expected to attack the railroad garrisons when they hear of the Russian disaster."

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### RUMORS OF A ROYAL SUICIDE

Grand-Daughter of Austrian Emperor Said to Have Killed Herself.

New York, Feb. 11. — Princess Elizabeth of Windisch-Graetz, grand-daughter of Emperor Francis Joseph, who was reported on Dec. 6, to have shot the actress, Louise Ziegler, whom the princess disliked, in the apartment of her husband, Prince Otto, has committed suicide, according to a persistent rumor here, says a special cable from Vienna to the World. The castle at Prague is named as the place where the princess turned her hand against herself.

The princess, it is said, was suffering from a form of insanity which manifested itself in fits of jealousy.

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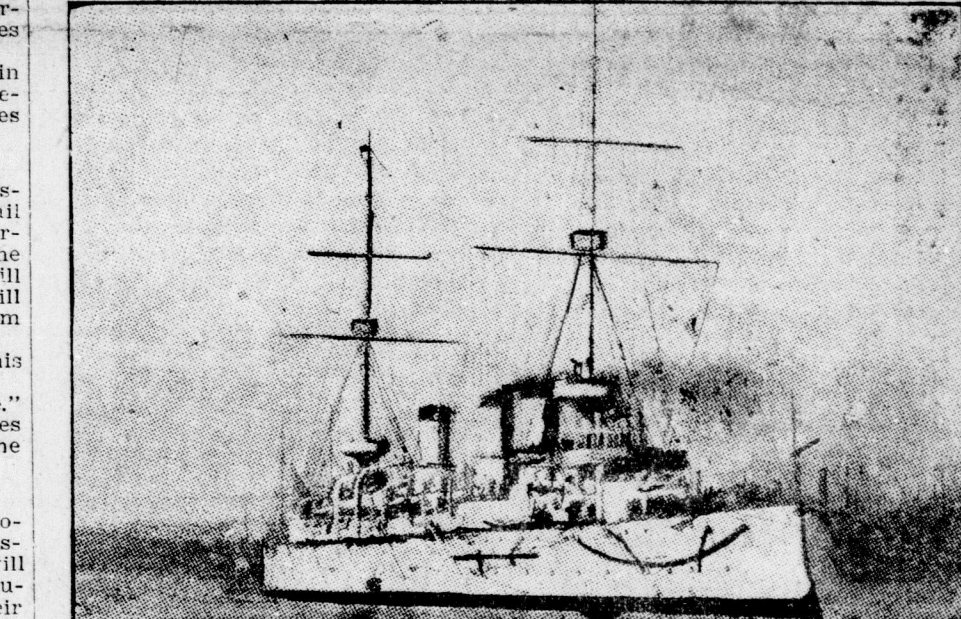
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JAPANESE CRUISER ADZUMA, 9,906 TONS.  
One of the Best Vessels of the Fleet.

firm the report that the Japanese fleet is still off Port Arthur.

Advices of a general naval engagement are hourly expected. The success of Japan on the sea would carry enormous advantage and practically decide the war. On paper the fleets are almost equal, although the Japanese are confident that their personnel is superior. They say that a drawn battle would be really a Japanese victory on account of Russia's lack of facilities to dock and repair her larger craft.

**AN IMPERIAL DECREE.** Berlin, Feb. 11. — A dispatch received here from Tokio says the imperial decree concerning the seizure of Russian merchant vessels excepts those leaving Japan or sailing direct for Japan up to Feb. 16, providing the latter leave Japan after discharging their cargoes and keep to the route mapped out for them; and, provided also, that neither inward bound nor outward bound ships have on board articles contraband of war.

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### Canadians Must Be Neutral in Russo-Japanese War

[Special to The Advertiser.] Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 11. — An extra of the Canadian Gazette will be issued this afternoon with a notice from the department that all Canadians are to remain neutral and take no part for either side in the war between Japan and Russia, and stating that a proclamation to this effect will follow. The Secretary of State is receiving telegrams from Canadians asking as to safety of missionaries in Korea. Friends of these missionaries in Canada are anxious about them.

**PREMIER SPRIGG LOSES** Head of Cape Town Government Defeated in Parliamentary Election Cape Town, Cape Colony, Feb. 11. — Sir John Gordon Sprigg, the Premier, has been defeated in the parliamentary election at East London, which he had represented for nearly 30 years.

**CHAMBERLAIN SAILS** With His Wife, He Starts for Egypt for Prolonged Holiday.

London, Feb. 11. — Joseph Chamberlain and Mrs. Chamberlain started for Cairo, Egypt, today on a prolonged holiday.

Lady Curzon, of Kedleston, wife of the Viceroy of India, and their children, arrived in London today.