No Longer A Factor on Seas

Crippling of Two Fleets Deprives Russia of Claim as Naval Power.

Unfortunate Dash of Skrydloff to Join Comrades the Last Straw.

Great Anxiety in Tokio on Announcement of The Engagement.

Tokio, Aug. 15.—Russia is no longer a factor on the sea. The annihilation of her erstwhile formidable Port Arthur fleet has been followed by the crippling of her only other effective division, the Siberian squadron which for five months has terrorized shipping in the Sea of Japan and in the Pacific ocean.

In an effort to effect a junction with the Port Arthur fleet, which he had ordered to make a dash for the open sea, Admiral Skrydloff put to sea early last week with his three crack ships, which had time and again emerged from the net set by the Japanese.

He is now retreating as fast as his remaining crippled ships can carry him back to his northerly refuge, after having tested strength with the second Japanese naval squadron under the command of Vice Admiral Kamimura.

One of his vessels, the crack armored cruiser Rurik, of 11,000 tons, is at the bottom of the sea, and the other two, the Gromboi and the Rossia, are badly crippled, and it is believed here have lost fully half of their complement of men, and in the face of the victory, Admiral Kamimura reports to the naval department that his "loss is slight."

Sunday was a day of great anxiety in Tokio. Early in the morning it became known about the streets that important events were developing. Soon afterward a bulletin was posted outside of the war office for the benefit of the newspaper correspondents here that a wireless dispatch to the admiralty from the protected cruiser Takashiki stated that at last the Russian Vladivostock fleet had been trapped and that the oft-anticipated naval battle was in full progress.

For hours this was all the information that could be secured. High officials of the government were seen time and again, but always returned the same answer: "We have no information regarding the outcome." Neither would they vouchsafe any facts as to the Japanese ships engaged or their numbers.

For a long time it was generally believed that Admiral Togo had followed up his earlier success off Port Arthur, and with his strong squadron of armor-clads had trapped the Russians. This report was not credited, owing to the statement on Friday last that the admiral had sailed southward on "serious business."

A council was held Sunday evening, which lasted for some time. Shortly after it was ended one of the members of the staff stated that further news of the fighting could soon be expected. A few minutes later it was announced that a sweeping victory over the Russian Siberian fleet had been gained by the Japanese second fleet, under the immediate command of Admiral Kamimura, and that a brief statement would soon be made public.

Shortly afterward this was done, but it gave no details of the fighting, simply saying:

"We encountered the enemy's Vladivostock fleet at 5 o'clock Sunday morning north of Tsuchima. We immediately engaged, the conflict which followed lasting five hours, at the conclusion of which the enemy fled northward. The enemy's armored cruiser Rurik was sunk by our fire, carrying down with her most of her crew. Our damage is slight. Will report casualties later."

While this report was meager, it satisfied the officials, who declared that the Gromboi and Rossia, the two remaining vessels of the Vladivostock fleet, must be so badly battered that they will be compelled to remain in port for some time to come.

BEEF TRUST FIGHT STRIKE IN NEW YORK

Claim to Have Ample Supplies and Glut in Markets. Expected.

New York, Aug. 15.—No cattle were killed today at either of the so-called beef trust plants, the Schwarzschild & Sulzberger Co. and the United Dressed Beef Co., and though officials of both companies maintain that they have a sufficient force of men in the places of the strikers to kill up to their normal capacity.

"We are sending out all the beef that is demanded of us, and we are doing that without fail," said a representative of the former company today. "We have a month's supply in our ice boxes and by the middle of next week I expect to see beef at markets come down two cents on the pound, because the market will then be glutted by supplies from the West.

"We expect to start in killing tomorrow morning, and by the middle of the week we expect to be running under normal conditions."

He was asked whether any of the men whom he had been employing as strike-breakers had been shipped on from Chicago and other Western points for the strike of their New York brethren, but professed ignorance. The strikers declare that the failure of the big plants to kill was because there are no men to do the work.

"Our men are sticking perfectly," said H. J. Eichelberger, general organizer of the strikers, "and when we have succeeded in getting some of the strike-breakers to join us, affairs are entirely satisfactory to us with one exception—we would like to see the strike settled.

"Whatever so-called violence there has been, I am convinced has not been at the instigation of the strikers or by them. It has been simply the ill-advised efforts of sympathizers, who we wish would stay at home and behave themselves."

GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE

Premier of Quebec Selected as Director of Grand Trunk Pacific.

Montreal, Aug. 16.—A special from Quebec says Hon. N. S. Parent, premier of the province, is slated by the government as the permanent director to represent the government on the board of directors of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway. Hon. Mr. Parent left for Montreal tonight, where he will join President Hays and make a trip to the Pacific coast. The council of the Quebec Board of Trade today accepted a resolution calling upon the government to give the history of Quebec's representative on the government commission in connection with the construction of the eastern section of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway, at the same time recommending that a Quebec man be appointed chief engineer.

Fall of Port Arthur Hourly Expected.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 15.—The expectation here is that Port Arthur will fall at any moment.

Chefoo, Aug. 15.—Junks which arrived here today, having left Port Arthur August 13th, brought reports that the Japanese occupied new positions on that day. The firing was heavy, but intermittent, and indicated that assaults were being continued. The Russians in Port Arthur are said to be down-hearted. The men who came on the junks declare that the commander of the Japanese fleet before Port Arthur informed the Russian commander of the place that if the warships which returned to the harbor after the sortie of August 10th, were sunk by the Russians, the Japanese would shell the town with lyddite.

A Chinese who has arrived here from Liaoyang declared that the casualties in the recent fighting in that vicinity have been enormous on both sides.

A Letter From The Far North

Happenings In Omineca District Told By a Babine Lake Correspondent.

Great Developments Anticipated From Grand Trunk Railway Construction.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Babine, B. C., July 23.—(Special.)—There has been a slight influx of prospectors into the Omineca district this year. Owing to a rather backward spring there has been little or no high water, which will affect the output considerably this season. Good reports have come in from Tom and Vital creeks, but the prospect on Manson creek is not very good. Mr. C. F. Newberry, who is well known in Atlin mining circles, secured an option on C. McKimnon's claim on Lost creek, and with his partner, Mr. F. C. Child, is reported to be doing fairly well.

Two representatives of a Nanaimo company came in this spring and are doing hydraulic work on their property.

The Messrs. Condit are working a large staff on their Tom creek and Vital creek properties, and expect to make a good clean-up this fall.

It is generally thought that the certainty of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway building through the near vicinity of Omineca will have the effect of bringing quite a few prospectors and mining men into the country. There is a considerable portion of this district which has never been thoroughly prospected, this mainly being due to the lack of adequate transportation facilities.

A large number of ranches have been located in the Bulkley valley this spring, a number being held by pre-emption. It is claimed that the valley is one of the most fertile countries in British Columbia, a few of the newly-located ranchers being enthusiastic over the natural productiveness of the soil and the general appearance of the valley as a grain and stock raising country.

Mr. F. G. Heal, Victoria, has taken up a very large tract of land near Tyee lake, and is to commence work this summer.

A rush into the valley is anticipated this summer, which will increase the urgent necessity of keeping the trails in good repair, and also the making of new bridges. Some of the bridges are of Indian structure and are in a very precarious condition. A few of the ranchers have received farming implements from Victoria and elsewhere, and no doubt farming will be carried on on a much larger scale throughout the valley next year. Large quantities of coal have been found all through the valley, and a number of claims have been staked off. A few of these are being worked. The coal, in quality, is said to rival that of Nanaimo.

A few ranches have also been located in the Kispiox valley, which runs from twenty to thirty miles northeast of Hazelton. In consequence of very late frosts the vegetable crop will be very poor this year. A considerable quantity of coal has been found in this valley, one claim being worked with fair results.

Hazelton is very quiet at the present time and there is no appearance of a boom, though the passenger traffic up the Skeena river has steadily increased during the past few years. During the past year a number of new buildings have been erected in Hazelton, including a well-equipped hospital and residence, under the charge of Dr. H. C. Wrinch.

There are rumors of another hotel being built this summer, but no authoritative statement has been made regarding the matter. Sidewalks have been laid along the streets, which considerably improves the appearance of the town. Hazelton is well represented by four stores, a post office, telegraph office and an hotel, and is the depot for supplies for the Omineca and Bulkley valley countries. Hazelton is very fortunate in having a few public-spirited citizens whose endeavors on behalf of the community are duly appreciated.

In view of the increase of 1½ cents per fish granted by the canners, a number of Upper Skeena Indians left for Essington after high water to fish the remainder of the season.

Mr. W. W. Leach arrived in Hazelton this month and proceeded north to visit some claims near Kishegash.

In view of the decreasing amount of salmon that are finding their way back to the sea from fresh water, the Dominion government fishery inspector at Essington has ordered the removal of the two barriers across Babine river and the Indians to fish with nets only in future. The barriers, which are nine miles from the northern end of Babine lake, are a complete impediment to the passage of the salmon into the lake, which has always been regarded as the most suitable place for the deposit of spawn in British Columbia.

The Indians at Babine somewhat resent the action of the inspector in this matter, but will very probably acquiesce in the new condition when the circumstances are fully explained to them.

Mr. George Merchant is expected to arrive in Hazelton early in August, on his way to Stuart's lake. Mr. Merchant comes to take charge of the recently established school at Stuart's lake. Notwithstanding some local opposition to the scheme, the school trustees have been able to secure the requisite number of pupils. The promoters are to be congratulated on what may be called a pioneer achievement, a school in the interior of northern British Columbia being almost an innovation. No doubt other larger places in the interior country will follow the example set by Stuart's lake in educational matters. There has been a very backward spring all over the country, and the weather up to the present time has been far from satisfactory.

Lever's Y-Z (Wise Head) Disinfectant Soap Powder dusted in the bath softens the water at the same time that it disinfects.

ON THE FIRING LINE WITH FATE AGAINST THEM

GLACIS OF ONE OF THE FORTS AT PORT ARTHUR. FROM L'ILLUSTRAZIONE ITALIANA

JAPANESE CAPTURE THREE RUSSIAN BATTERIES

Berlin, Aug. 15.—A despatch to the Lokale Anzeiger from Tokio, dated today, confirms the reports that heavy fighting has occurred at Port Arthur during the past few days. The Japanese captured three Russian batteries and secured good positions close to the inner fortifications. Both sides lost heavily. The Japanese have commenced a bombardment from Lang mountain on the harbor and inner defences.

Neutrality is Knotty Question

British Cabinet Consider China's Position at Meeting Yesterday.

Russia's Naval Power Being Broken Attacks on Neutrals are Not Feared.

London, Aug. 15.—The final cabinet council of the parliamentary session was held today at the foreign office, and gave particular attention to the question of the neutrality of China and British action on the Russian reply to the Knight Commander representations. After the council closed the emphatic statement was made that Great Britain feels it was absolutely essential for her own interests and those of the entire world that the neutrality of China shall be observed by the two belligerents and Great Britain will make earnest efforts to secure this result.

In the Knight Commander case the British government will instruct Ambassador Hardinge that it will insist that there was no justification in international law for sinking the steamer. The British note will be couched in the most conciliatory tones, and it is fully expected in cabinet circles that the question will be adjusted by Russia paying an adequate indemnity.

While dissatisfied with the failure of Russia to recognize in principle that she had no right to sink a neutral ship, even if carrying contraband, the British government feels it will gain little by pressing the point, especially as it regards the power of the Russian navy to harm merchantmen in the Far East as having practically disappeared. Therefore, the government will accept an indemnity, which it will regard as an admission of the correctness of the position assumed by Foreign Secretary Lansdowne when the original demand for reparation was made.

The neutrality of Chinese presents a more knotty problem to the London authorities for the reason that they have to consider the effect upon their ally. The disposition of the government is to go slow. In other words, while insisting that China shall continue neutral, the government will give Japan every opportunity to show, if possible, a justification for the action of the torpedo boat destroyers in capturing the Ryeshitelni. Exchanges on the subject have occurred between Great Britain and Japan.

At the Japanese legation a representative of the Associated Press was informed that the Tokio government had not received a decision in respect to the return of the Ryeshitelni to Chefoo.

"The Russians opened fire on our men," it was added at the legation, "showing that the Ryeshitelni, if she had not been disarmed, might have attempted to leave Chefoo without regard for the promise made by her commander, and menace neutral shipping or carry despatches of great import. As the Russians took the offensive, our men had no other recourse than to capture the Ryeshitelni."

At the Chinese legation it was said that the foreign board had not communicated the facts of the Ryeshitelni incident, but was discussing them directly with the diplomats stationed at the Chinese capital. The members of the legation express the hope that the United States will continue its efforts to induce the belligerents to observe China's neutrality.

DIANA AT VLADIVOSTOCK.

London, Aug. 16.—A despatch to a news agency from St. Petersburg says a naval officer has telegraphed to his family that the cruiser Diana of the Port Arthur squadron has arrived at Vladivostock.

SETTLED PEACEFULLY.

Paris, Aug. 16.—Advices from Morocco point to the conclusion that the Sultan's unpleasantness with Great Britain in connection with the confiscation of the property of a British subject will shortly be settled amicably.

FIRE IN FONTAINBLEAU.

Paris, Aug. 16.—Serious fires have broken out in the ancient forest of Fontainebleau and the garrisons at Fontainbleau and Melun have been mobilized to assist in fighting the flames. The fire extends for six miles.

VAST TIMBER LOSSES.

Everett, Aug. 16.—Forest fires are still ravaging the valuable standing timber two miles west of Barlow pass, on the Monte Christo railroad. Engineer Ressigue and crew of the Northern Pacific train walked into Everett. Their train was stalled above bridge No. 27, which is burned 350 feet in length. The fire started from an engine spark two weeks ago. It has thus far destroyed two miles of timber.

King's Speech at The Prorogation

British Houses of Parliament Reach Recess at Session Yesterday.

Small Attendance of Members at the Formal Function.

London, Aug. 15.—The King's speech proroguing parliament was brief. After mentioning his visits to the King of Denmark and the German Emperor, at which His Majesty said his reception in each case was most cordial, and the agreement between France and Great Britain, which he pointed out, will be advantageous to all concerned and materially strengthen the friendship uniting Great Britain and France, His Majesty adds: "Hostilities, I regret to say, are still in progress between Russia and Japan. Upon the outbreak of the war, I issued a proclamation declaring my neutrality and enjoining all my people to a strict observance thereof. Important questions involving the treatment of neutral commerce in the hands of belligerents have arisen in connection with these operations. The interests involved, which are of the gravest moment to the trade of the Empire, will, I trust, be amicably settled without prejudice to the vast commercial interests of this country. My government will energetically support my subjects in the exercise of rights recognized by international law as belonging to neutrals."

The King said the scheme for the reorganization of the Macedonian gendarmeries under foreign officers promised satisfactory results and expressed the hope that the introduction of the elective element into the legislative council of the Transvaal, which was a step in the direction of ultimate self-government, would meet the united support of all his subjects in that colony.

In regard to Thibet, the King said that the arrival of the "political mission" at Lhassa, afforded him the greatest satisfaction and reflected credit on the officers and men of the small force. He hoped the conference at Lhassa would result in an arrangement of terms which would end the difficulties and friction on the northern frontier of the Indian Empire.

After commenting on the satisfactory situation in Somaliland and enumerating bills to which His Majesty had assented the speech concluded with the King's thanks to both houses of parliament. Parliament was formally prorogued at 6:05 p. m.

After an admittedly barren session, marked by no less than seven fruitless attempts on the part of the opposition to turn out the government on votes of censure, parliament was prorogued this afternoon. No more than twenty-five members were present, including one member of the cabinet.

H. M. S. TRIBUNE FOR VENEZUELA

Request From Governor of Trinidad for Protection to the British.

London, Aug. 15.—In compliance with a request received from the governor of Trinidad the admiralty has instructed the British cruiser Tribune to proceed immediately to Venezuela waters to protect British subjects and interests. It is understood that the request from the government of Trinidad was based on reports showing that British employees of the Bermudez Asphalt Company were in danger in consequence of the attitude of the Venezuelan government. Under the instructions of Captain Spencer de Hossey, commanding the Tribune will act in conjunction with the British minister of Caracas, who is proceeding energetically in behalf of the British employees of the company.

A GENERAL BATTLE.

Washington, Aug. 15.—The state department has received advices from Chefoo to the effect that it is reported there that a general naval battle at Port Arthur was begun at dawn today.

REWARD FOR AUSTRIAN MURDERER.

Salt Lake, Aug. 16.—A reward of $500 has been posted by Sheriff Emery for the apprehension of Marko Zigich, the Austrian, who killed William Farro, a Greek, at Murray, Utah, Friday night. It is said the Greek brotherhood of Murray wil also offer a reward of $300 for the arrest of the murderer of their countryman, who was very influential in the organization.

Lady Lotbiniere Passes Away

Wife of Sir Henri Joly Died Last Night at the Government House.

The Remains Will Be Taken to Quebec Tomorrow For Interment.

Lady de Lotbiniere, wife of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere, died last evening at Government House at 8 o'clock, after a lingering illness. The deceased lady passed quietly away without any apparent suffering, their being present during the last solemn moments Sir Henri, Mr. and Mrs. Edmond Joly and one or two other immediate relatives.

Lady de Lotbiniere was born in the city of Quebec on July 25th, 1837, and was the daughter of Mr. Hammond Gowen. She was united in marriage to Sir Henri Joly in 1856, and the union was blessed with eleven children, of whom six survive. They are widely dispersed throughout the Empire, and more than one has gained distinguished honor in serving the Empire's cause.

The late Lady de Lotbiniere was beloved for her many amiable qualities, both in the home and the society, where her loss will be severely felt.

Sir Henri will leave Victoria tomorrow morning with Lady de Lotbiniere's remains for Quebec, where they will be interred.

Everywhere last evening where the sad news was made known, expressions of the deepest sympathy with His Honor and the bereaved family were heard.

PREFONTAINE WILL FIX G. T. P. TERMINUS

The important information that the Pacific Coast terminus of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway will be fixed by Hon. Raymond Prefontaine during his recent visit, is at hand in the following statement attributed to him by the Winnipeg Free Press:

"We will also have a very important work to do in the West in connection with the location of the terminus of the Grand Trunk Pacific. There are three points proposed—Port Simpson, Kitsemat and a third harbor also, south of Port Simpson. This is a matter which does not come under the direct control of the federal government except in this regard, that the proposed terminus should be approved by the government, and it was obviously desirable that some representative of the government should see the various points suggested. Mr. C. M. Hays and Mr. Wainwright will leave Montreal on Sunday and will go direct through to the Coast, arriving probably on Thursday, when we will leave Victoria or Vancouver on our steamer Quadra, the fastest and best of our Pacific Coast fleet, and make the personal inspection of the various harbors. The decision regarding the terminus will then be made and approved by the government."

FIERCE HEAT.

St. Joseph, Mo., Aug. 15.—The heat today caused one death and several prostrations. The thermometer registered 107 degrees.

THE TURKISH SETTLEMENT.

In Spite of Influence of Palace Functionaries Americans Gain Rights.

Constantinople, Aug. 15.—After prolonged pour parlers and considerable badgering on the part of Turks, a solution of the American school question has been arrived at. The matter which is themost important to the Americans was settled by extending to American schools the same treatment as that accorded to schools under the protection of other powers. A settlement of other matters affecting American interests in Turkey, of secondary importance, has also been effected and Minister Leishman has telegraphed to Rear Admiral Jewel in command of the United States squadron sent to Smyrna instructing him to salute the batteries on land and depart. The delay in the settlement is believed to be caused by intervention of the palace functionaries, whose policy in order to retain the Sultan's favor, consists of combatting the rights and privileges of foreign subjects.

Anxiety is Unrelieved

Russian Authorities Have No Information as to Withoft's Scattered Fleet.

Rumored Return of Diana and Pallada to Port Arthur Not Credited.

Plans Regarding Baltic Fleet May Now Be Entirely Altered.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 17—Public anxiety regarding the fate of the ships of Rear Admiral Withoft's squadron being unaccounted for is still unrelieved. St. Petersburg continues to be entirely dependent upon foreign sources for news, the Russian authorities claiming to be quite as much in the dark as the public.

The admiralty neither confirms nor denies the report that a majority of the squadron returned to Port Arthur, although it does not fail to point out that only the most desperate situation after the sea fight could have compelled the vessels to return for refuge to the port.

Nothing has been received from Russian sources regarding the report from Chefoo of a sortie of the Port Arthur warships yesterday. The report may refer to the cruiser Bayan and the gunboats and torpedo boat destroyers left in the harbor and one or two of Admiral Withoft's ships which were forced to return to the port after the fight of August 10th.

The report of the sinking of the cruiser Rurik is accepted as true in official circles, and the public had been prepared for a definite announcement by the publication this afternoon of a report that she had been grievously damaged.

The authorities out of consideration for the families of the officers and sailors decided to withhold an official announcement until they have received an official report upon the return of the cruisers Rossia and Gromoboi to Vladivostock, where the "at the past." they should have arrived by this time.

There is a rumor afloat tonight that the cruisers Diana and Pallada have reached Port Arthur, but the source of the report cannot be traced, and it receives little credence.

The opinion is growing that the heavy losses sustained by the Port Arthur fleet may completely alter the plans regarding the Baltic squadron, a division of which is cruising in the gulf ready to sail.

BRITISH CRUISER AT TANGIERS.

Tangiers, Morocco, Aug. 15.—The British cruiser Minerva arrived here today in connection with the case of Hamed Jaiya, the British subject arrested by order of the Sultan.

MORE FOREIGN CLAIMS.

Buenos Ayres, Aug. 15.—It is reported from Montevideo that secret conferences have been held between the Uruguayan minister of foreign affairs and the British and American ministers at the respective residences of the latter with reference to the claims of foreign residents arising out of the revolution. It is reported also that there will probably be diplomatic intervention to compel order.

RUSSIA UPBRAIDS CHINA.

Accused of Complicity in Chefoo Affair and Commodore Called a Coward.

Washington, Aug. 15.—Mr. Conger, the American minister at Pekin, cabled to the state department, under today's date, as follows: "The Russian minister has sent to the Chinese government a strong note, charging it with complicity in the Ryeshitelni affair, charging the Chinese commodore with cowardice or treason and demanding a full explanation, the restoration of the destroyer and severe punishment of the commodore. The Chinese government has demanded from the Japanese the restoration of the destroyer."

Many Jews are Killed in Riots

Reports From Russia Allege Two Outbreaks Occurred Recently.

Twenty Killed In Massacre Lasting All day and 100 Wounded.

New York, Aug. 15.—The Tribune this morning says: "The Jewish Morning Journal will print today the following from its Warsaw (Russia) correspondent: On Sunday, July 31, in the town of Sedlitz, government of Rodomp, a Jew was quarrelling with a epileptic, fell during the encounter as a result of one of his epileptic fits. The Christian immediately, however, raised the cry that the Jew had murdered their comrade. In a short time all the Christian inhabitants of the town turned out and proceeded to avenge the alleged crime. The riot that ensued involved itself into an awful massacre of Jews, of whom 20 were killed and a great number were wounded. The massacre lasted all day.

Another massacre occurred on Saturday, July 30, in the town of Potseveh, government of Sedlitz, in the following manner: A clergyman induced a small Hebrew girl to embrace the Christian faith. The parents of the girl went to the church where their daughter was confirmed, accompanied by some of their Jewish friends, and demanded her release on the ground that the court decided that the girl was under age and could not act independently in such matters, and that consequently her parents had the right to interfere with her action. The clergyman, seeing that he was cornered, determined to use force if necessary, called the mayor to his aid. The two incited the populace against the Jews and a fierce riot ensued. More than 100 Jews were severely wounded. The number of dead is unknown because the police withhold the facts.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 15.—On investigation of the reports published in New York by a Jewish morning paper to the effect that twenty persons were killed July 31 in a religious riot at Ostrowitz, government of Rodomp, and a riot in which a hundred Jews were wounded occurred July 30 at Potseveh, government of Sedlitz, elicited a statement to the effect that one person was killed and twenty wounded in a Jewish riot at Ostravetz, and that a few persons were wounded in the province of Suwalki. The outbreak in the latter part of the country arose from a Jewess having been converted to orthodoxy.

Syedlets, Russian Poland, Aug. 15.—The anti-Jewish riots reported to have taken place in the Parchevo district of Vlodava on July 30th, turn out to be nothing more than a disturbance caused by the Hebrews trying to kidnap a Jewess who had been christened by a Roman priest at Lublin.

BALTIC FLEET TO SAIL IMMEDIATELY

Cruiser Division Has Received Sailing Orders and Some Have Started.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 15.—The cruiser division of the Baltic squadron has received sailing orders. Some of the vessels have already left Cronstadt and others, including the Olga, will leave in a few days. The division may go around the Cape of Good Hope, where it will meet colliers. The battleship division is awaiting the completion of the repairs to the Orel, and is not likely to start for a week or a fortnight.

STANDARD OIL DIVIDEND.

New York, Aug. 15.—The Standard Oil Company has declared a dividend of $5 a share. This is the third dividend this year, and is the same dividend declared for the corresponding time last year. The three dividends of this year aggregate 38 per cent, compared with 32 per cent of the firm's three dividends last year.

THE REVOLT IN PARAGUAY.

Buenos Ayres, Aug. 15.—A feeling akin to panic prevails at the capital of Paraguay. The insurgents, under General Ferreira, have secured the adhesion of the residents of the towns and villages parallel to the railway and are awaiting the arrival of the steamer Intelativa to make a simultaneous attack by land and water upon the capital. It is rumored that there was a bombardment of Asuncion today, but this cannot be confirmed.

Fruit Growers In Conventi

Proceedings at the Session Closed in Town of Nelson.

Valuable Advice to Farmers Men With Practical Knowledge.

Following is a partial report of the ceedings at the Fruit Growers' conve at Nelson on Friday last, as reporte the Miner:

Thomas Cunningham, provincial inspector, Vancouver, gave an earnest instructive talk at considerable lengt the work of the board of horticul which he said was a child of the Growers' Association. Thanks to info tion supplied him in the past by Rev White and Mr. Downie of the C. P the speaker said he had been kept posted as to the rise of fruit growin the Nelson district and its probable ress. J. D. Honsberger, the most pro sive fruit grower in this or any country (applause), had decided that the banks of Kootenay arm existed best conditions for fruit growing ob able, and had put in his large fruit r near the narrows to the east in c quence. The nights and general tem ature here were even better than the famed valley of the Okanagan, and district was bound to become a com cial fruit growing section. Like the p dent, the speaker enlarged on the available market at our door and a that it was not creditable to Canad that had allowed this field to re in possession of the Americans so Then Mr. Cunningham explained at le how carefully the province had been tected from infected stock and through the work of the association, had obtained the necessary legisla and then saw that it was enforced. plause. Canada, said the speaker, made the dumping ground for diseased inferior fruits, as well as inferior m factured articles, but so far as it was sible the fruit men had been taken car and every tree brought into the prov had now to be inspected and fumiga "If we are free today from the co moth and San Jose scale, it is on acco of the close inspection in the past." plause.) The stock sent in from Ont was sometimes in a bad condition, and British Columbia for British Columbians, he had helped to protect province from the mistakes made by sister provinces in the East, and the stock was inspected just like any ot British Columbia had never yet got play from any Dominion government, the day was fast approaching when province would be recognized as the m important in the whole Dominion, and would get our due. The method adop in allowing the sale of stock and in lic ing nurseries was explained and the spe er said that men in the business were forced to be honest. No country on ea was so well protected as British Colum so far as fruit growing was concern and we were just beginning to reap benefit of the care that had been tak and money would now flow in here in c sequence. (Applause.) Fruit growers were industrious, careful and observi could not fail to do well in British Colu bia. Mr. Cunningham then replied to s eral questions put to him from the bo of the hall, and resumed his seat am much applause.

Henry Kipp then spoke on the "Care Orchards," speaking in a humorous stra but giving practical illustrations of h own experience. Mr. Kipp's address w very well received. He was particular happy in explaining the work of the m who says "This country is no good f fruit raising" and why this individual a rives at this conclusion.

W. J. Brandith then spoke on "Varieti to Plant," confining his attention prin rally to apples. He expressed his regret the enforced absence of "the father fruit growing in B. C."—Thomas E. Ear —and then went on to recommend sundr varieties as the most suitable for the prov ince, mentioning the Duchess and Wealth for the earlier varieties and the Northern Spy for the winter, a selection that calle forth the remark from the president th if he had to choose one variety only h would take the "King," and the meetin applauded approval.

A resolution requesting the Dominio government to enforce the Pure Food Acts and to amend the same by compelling all manufacturers of jams and jellies t print the formula used on their labels, wa unanimously endorsed, and the afternoo meeting came to en end.

During the morning the visitors crosse the lake and visited the ranch of Jame Johnstone and were taken around th city by Mr. Johnstone and others.

The evening meeting was called to orde by the president a little after 8 o'clock He expressed great pleasure at the sigh of a large audience, remarking that the programmes being largely technical, th public seldom felt attracted.

James Johnstone, on behalf of the loca association, welcomed the visitors an thanked the citizens who had aided the lo cal body in preparation for the meeting He referred to the addresses of the after noon, particularly Mr. Cunningham's, as explaining some of the difficulties which had faced them at the first.

Proceedings were then enlivened by a song, Mr. Rex Macdonald giving "The Old Gray Fox" in good form.

Martin Burrell of Grand Forks was then called upon to speak on "Beautifying the Home," and delivered an address that was very bright and witty and full of valuable advice. Mr. Burrell has been in the fruit growing industry in British Columbia for five years and commended heartily the provincial government's dealings with the fruit industry. He was loudly applauded when he referred to Nelson as the most important centre in the interior of British Columbia. Then addressing himself to his subject, he dealt with the influence of beauty in the home on the characters and lives of individuals and on the fate of nations. He deprecated the pathetic indifference to natural beauty induced by too keen a pursuit of material gains. The greatest and the happiest man is he who touches life at most points. He dwelt on the pure delight of communing with nature with no eye to profit, and showed how even amateur gardening leads to the study of natural laws and processes, widens the sympathies and develops the mind. He traced the history of gardening which, he claims, is also the history of civilization, from ancient Persia, through Greece, Rome, Italy, France, Holland, England and America. A most important aspect of the subject is the influence of natural beauty on the education of children, and detailed efforts to guide it in Austria, where there are 7,000 school gardens under municipal management, in Japan, where the imperial government provides gardens, and in the United States, where Cornell University publishes and distributes pamphlets by Professor Craig, a Canadian, on nature.

Mr. Burrell's advice to amateur gardeners is to avoid too large a scale, too great display, conventionalities and fanciful effects. He recommends unbroken lawns with wide, deep borders of the common perennial flowers which gives a maximum of beauty for a minimum of toil. He claimed the premier place among foods for fruit and very wittily attempted to prove its great clarifying and sweetening effect on body, mind and spirit. He closed with an eloquent appeal for earnestness in making all things around the home lovely and pure. Long and loud applause followed Mr. Burrell's speech.

HARVESTING COMMENCES.

Melita, Man., Aug. 15.—Harvesting may be said to have started in earnest here today. The extreme heat of the past week has ripened the grain very rapidly. There are dozens of binders at work in the immediate vicinity. Farm help is very scarce and large numbers of men can be accommodated at good wages for the next three months.

CHINESE BANDITS ACTIVE.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 15.—A brief telegram from General Sakharoff today records several attempts of Chinese bandits, under the leadership of Japanese officers, to destroy the railroad between Liaoyang and Anshanshan. The general staff is inclined to believe the reports that a large contingent of General Oku's army has gone to Port Arthur and that in the meanwhile he does not expect decisive operations.

NEW ALLAN LINE ON THE PACIFIC

Canadian Company to Operate in Connection With Grand Trunk.

Montreal, Aug. 15.—It is expected here that the Allan line will establish an ocean service upon the completion of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway. Hugh A. Allan who has taken a place on the Grand Trunk Pacific directorate, said today that the question of operating a Pacific ocean fleet in connection with the new transcontinental railway had been considered, but had not assumed tangible shape. This announcement is of special importance owing to the Allan Steamship Company being a pioneer Canadian line on the Atlantic, and as it has proved a great factor in the development of trade between Canada and Great Britain, it is now certain of greatly increasing the amount of business between Canada and the Orient. The present plan to operate the Pacific fleet in connection with the Grand Trunk railway, and to run a service from the Pacific terminus of the railway to different ports in Japan and China, and possibly Australia

Another incident showing how close the relations between the railway and the steamship company will be, is found in the fact that H. A. Allan, who is strongly in favor of his company making this important departure, has accepted a position on the board of directors of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway. A member of the Grand Trunk Pacific board said today that for some time past the company had been looking into the feasibility of navigating a service on the Pacific, and the information obtained showed that there would be more than sufficient trade to justify the inauguration of a fleet.

COUNT KAMAMURA DEAD.

London, Aug. 16.—The Tokio correspondent of the Times says that Count Kamimura is dead. He was regarded as the father of the Japanese navy.

ENGLISHMEN INTERESTED.

Fate of Two Russian Cruisers Excites Attention of the British.

London, Aug. 15.—Russia's recent naval disaster has a peculiar interest for Englishmen, as it was apprehension caused by the formidable power of the cruisers Rurik (?) and Rossia, of the Vladivostock squadron, which led the British to build the monster cruisers Terrible and Powerful.

The Tokio correspondent of the Daily Telegraph sends a report that Port Arthur was again bottled up on the night of August 11, but there is nothing from other sources to confirm this report.

According to the Daily Mail's Shanghai correspondent, the Japanese consul claims the cruiser Askold as a prize.