ental Press **News Budget**

esting Comments on Many Live Topics of the Day.

he Japanese and Chinese Papers View the

tu correspondent reports hear-fic noise from the direction of t. This may mean that another ruck a concealed mine, or that nor has been exploded.

to several observers a wonge was visible at Singapore on the Straits Times. Away on was a full-rigged ship, and eeping the vista with a glass, or was astonished to notice essel—masts, spars and salls, captain on the quarter-deck—d hanging in the sky. One pright, the other upside down, feature is that it is seldom, if he phenomenon of the mirage ported at Singapore, and acta sceptics might be inclined to e story. But as it was seen morning, before the sun had heridian, there seems to be no the story should be disresselleved. An honest American

olks Can't Stand

e Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL. XLVI., NO. 74.

VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1904.

FORTY-FIFTH YEAR.

Russians on The Offensive

Port Arthur.

War Office Doubts Reports of Capture of Two Forts By Japanese.

All Military Operations in Manchuria Are Stopped By The Rains.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 20.—The report from Chefoo that the Russians have driven the Japanese out of the positions at Palichang (Palucheng), from which fively had been bombarding the forts of Port Arthur, was received with considerable gratification at the war office, where it was regarded as evidence that the defenders are strong enough to even take the offensive when the occasion demands. For this reason the war office is not inclined to credit the reports that the Japanese have captured forts No. 3 and No. 4, just beyond Nagousn hill, five miles northeast of Port Arthur, is admitted that the possession of these forts would render the situation of the besigned desperate.

The war office has no official infernation from the fortress going beyond August Sth, with and 10th, which probably was sent through the captured Russian torpodo boat destroyer Ryeshitelni, although this is not admitted This report tells of the desperate character of the Japanese ettacks, which continued practically without intermission for forty hours.

General Stoeseel's reports of the assaults of August 14th and 15th are extended that had been beavily damaged was beached.

N. W. M. P. TROOPER SHOT.

reserves in Siberia.

It would appear that the latest news from the front had not been made public in St. Petersburg when the above despatch was filed, as it was amounced from Tokio this afternoon that the Japanese troops had occupied Aushaushan and that the Russians had retreated northward. Aushaushan is situated midway between Haicheng and Liaoyang. The latter was defended by a fortified semi-circle of positions, enabling the Russian forces to be concentrated easily and moved along inside the lines. The other main Russian positions in the semi-circle referred to were at Anning, about half way to Liaoyang, and some twenty miles southeasty and some twenty miles due east of Liaoyang, and Liandiansian, twenty-four miles southeast of Liaoyang. It was pointed out in a recent despatch from Liaoyang that the main Russian position would be stronger when they retired from Anshaushan.

RUSSIAN SHIPS MUST DISARM

An Ultimatum Issued By the Authorities at Port of

Shanghai, Ang. 20.—The report that the Tao Tai has ordered the Russian torpedo boat desroyer Grozovoi to cease making repairs at once and to leave this harbor before noon today or disarm, and the Russian cruiser Askold to leave Shanghai before neon on Monday, or disarm, is confirmed.

It is said to be impossible for the Askold to cross the bar before the spring tides, and official circles believe that both the Grozovoi and the Askold will disarm.

RUSSIAN CRUISER NOVIK SHELLED AND STRANDED

Drive the Japanese out of one Two Japanese Vessels Overhaul the Fugitive Near Sakhalien Islands And Forced Her Ashore To Prevent Sinking.



One Of The Forts At Port Arthur Claimed to Have Been Captured By The Japs

LATEST FROM PORT ARTHUR

Chefoo, Aug. 22., 11 a.m. The Jepanese have swept the Russians from Pigeon Bay and captured the northern most fort of the western line of inner defences at Port Arthur. The Russian artillery prevents the Japanese from occu-pying the Fort on Pigeon

St. Petersburg, Aug. 22: 4.50 a.m.—The latest re-ports from Port Arthur In-dicate that the garrison there is holding out with wonderful tenacity in the face of persistent and desperate assaults. The only question is how long any body of troops can Hornby Island in Flames From An Innocent Man Sent to Prison For Many Years Through withstand such awful pun-ishment and whether the garrison is the fortress can outlest the Japanese

The report that 30 regi-ments have been drawn

***************** GRAND TRUNK OFFICIALS EN ROUTE TO THE WEST

A Special Train Reached Winnipeg Yesterday And Will Resume the Journey to the Coast This Evening.

Winnipeg, Aug. 21.--The special train carrying President Hays and a party of Grand Trunk Pacific directors arrived here over the C.P.R. today. This afternoon the party visited Fort Garry. Tomorrow they will inspect Winnipeg and continue westward in the evening.

Huge Fires at

End to End-Many on Texada.

An Unfortunate

For Many Years Through Error.

The term "English Dreytus case" is in every way a n seemer. In the first place the home office interfered as soon as it saw good reason to doubt the justice of the sentence; secondly, while Mr. G. R. Sims, a firamatist and writer, made himself Beck's advocate in the columns of the Daily Mail, every paper in England, without exception, raised its voice for the victim as soon as it way Day. A resolution that the tru was evdent that truth was on his side. On the work of justice neither petty jealousies nor rival papers nor politics played a part. Buth press and bar are advocating an investigation of the whole case by an independent authority.

Mr. Simms, the has known the victim for twenty years, has shown that the case has a far more serious aspect than was first believed. He proves step by step that the conviction was not merely a most, extraordinary case of mistaken identify but that Beck was a victim of what a nothing short of conspiracy to proount the conviction of the prisoner by suppressing facts which would have insured his triumphal acquittal."

The fact is clear that Beck was originally convicted of stealing rings from the conviction of the prisoner of the prisoner by suppressing facts which are are of five by three miles.

Kalisnel Mont Aug 20 Forest form.

would have in ured his triumphal accondital."

The fact is clear that Beck was originally convicted of stealing rings from unfortunate women, largely because it was believed that he was a certain John Smith, who had been convicted in 1877 of the same offence under exactly similar circumstances. Yet, while his identity with John Smith played a preponderant part in the evidence against him, it was ruled out of court and the prisoner was not allowed to prove an unquestionable alibi.

Medical evidence was also forthcoming to show that while John Smith was a Hebrew, Beck was not, but all that the government did in the light of this fact was to remove from Beck's prison garb the lettering which indicated previous conviction.

SENTATION OF ACCOUNTAGES.

SENATOR HOAR'S CONDITION. Sir Thomas Lipton Urging Wat-Worcester, Mass., Aug. 21.—At 6 p. m. General Roackwood Hoar issued this bulletin concerning Senator Hoar: "The senator is resting comfortable, and has been rather more comfortable this afternoon. He has taken a little more nourishment today than yesterlay."

Has an Eye On Russia

Britain Issues New Rule Regarding the Coaling of Belligerents' Warships.

Comment at Ottawa On Weskness of Railway Construction Commission.

Schedule of Farewell Visits By the Governor General's Party.

rom Our Own Correspondent Ottawa, Aug. 20.—The secretary of state for the colonies has cabled the government to the effect that the rules allowing belligerents' warships to coal in British ports does not apply to the case of a belligerent fleet proceeding either to the seat of war or to any position on the line of route with the object of intercepting ships on suspicion of carrying contraband of war. Such a fleet cannot be permitted to make use in any way of any British ports. a fleet cannot be permitted to make use in any way of any British ports for the purpose of coaling, either directly or from colliers accompanying the fleet.

The general comment upon Conflagration at South Welling.

Attempt Made to Make Case
ton—Union Bay to Cumberland Aftre.

Analogous to Dieyfus
Affair.

Attempt Made to Make Case

Analogous to Dieyfus
Affair.

Attempt Made to Make Case

Analogous to Dieyfus
of contracts for extensive works. Reid,
of London, is a bookbinder, and the only
office he has ever held is that of license
commissioner.

from 6en. Oku to strengthen factories of the attackers is believed to Indicate that the Japanese have not enough men to posseute simul lancous campaigns of great magnitude in the north and south.

In the militude water main. A big blaze is respected from South Wellington, I seed that the school house at this believed that the school house at this been rudely brought home to the British Columbia, to be cadet second Leutenaut, L. Milita general orders contain the following: "Which has dropped down and the atmosphere is much clearer.

At Northfield a big fire is yet burning.

At British College, British Co. Obbet; to be cadet second Leutenaut, L. Sargier of years is a fact that the school house at this been rudely brought home to the British Columbia; to be cadet second Leutenaut, L. Sargier for fact that the school house at thi

MR. LEMIEUX FROM HUROPE. New York, Aug. 20.—Budolph Lemieux, solicitor-general for Canada, arrived from Europe today on the steam-

son to Undertake Task of Construction.

The senator is resting comfortably and has been rather more comfortable this afternoon. He has taken a little more nourishment today than yesterday."

PARISIAN GOWNS RUINED.

St. Louis, Aug. 21.—Magnificent Parisian gowns, valued at \$500,000, are in a ruined condition in the palace of manufactures as the result of than heavy rain storm which swept over the world's fair. The valuation is placed by Marrel and the acting commissioner general of France, who has investigated the havoc wrought by the water.

BARGES LOST.

Bidgeport, Conn., Aug. 20.—Four barges, in tow of the tug Bully, from New London for New York, and seven barges out of nine, in tow of the tug Bully, from New London for New York, and seven barges out of nine, in tow of the tug Bully, from New London for New York, and seven barges out of nine, in tow of the tug Bully, from New London for New York, and seven barges out of nine, in tow of the tug Bully, from New London for New York and seven barges out of nine, in tow of the tug Bully, from New London for New York, and seven barges out of nine, in tow of the tug Bully, from New London for New York for New Haven, have been lost in the sound off this port. It is believed no lives were lost.

BORIS GOING HOME

BORIS GOING HOME.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 20.—Grand Duke Boris, who is on the way to St. Petersburg from the Far Rast, is bringing a letter on behalf of Gen. Kuropatkin and his sarmy congratulating the Emperor on the birth of an heir to the throne.

EMPRESS AND SON WELL.

ALASKA TELEPHONE CO.

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 20.—Among the tock companies incorporated in New stock companies incorporated in New York today was the Alaska Telephone and Telegraph Company of New York cepital \$100,000. The directors are all of New York city except A. ... Royd of Nome. Alaska

Cyclone Strikes

Terrific Windstorm Visits St. Paul and Minneapolis and

The Twin Cities

The Twin Cities

The Windstorm Visits St.

It Windstorm Visits St.

It Windstorm Visits St.

It Windstorm Visits St.

It will and Minneapolis and Plays Havoc.

The high bridge, an immense steel structure crossing the Mississippi river at a height of about 200 feet, was almost totally wrecked. One of the huge stone piers was cut off by the wind as smoothly as if done with a knife.

Huge iron beams crashed down upon the roofs of a number of small houses and badly wrecked them. It is reported that two persons were killed, but this report is not verified. A number of persons were injured, some of them seriously.

Five Lives Lost and Two Miltion Dollars of Property
Destroyed.

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 21.—A cyclone
storm swept through the Twin Cities
stortly after 9 o'clock last night, killing at least five persons and probably

Smoking And Hangling

seriously.

No new has yet been received from the carbon shapped in the outlying districts, and it is feared that when they are, heard from the casualty list will be increased.

It is thought much damage was wrought in the midway district between the two cities of St. Paul-and Minneapolis and passing through St. Paul were injured.

SMOKING AND HANGING

Shanghal and Anchors Next Askold.

poses

Comox brought word that Hernby island is ablaze from end to end, and that big fires are burning all over Texada. Along the railroad between Union bay and Cumberland is a sheet of flame. ONTARIO CROP REPORT.

Toronto, Aug. 20.—Estimates of On tario crops in August show a falling off in the total yield of wheat of over seven million bushels compared with 1903.

There is a decrease of over five million bushels of oats and pagely will be only to the compared with the comp

There is a decrease of over five mil-lion bushels of oats, and nearly a mil-lion bushels of rye. Barley shows an increase of nearly a million bushels. There is an immense increase in hay and clover, the total yield being esti-mated at over five million tons, com-pared with little over three hundred thousand tons in 1908.

He said to be impossible for the Assignation of the

PHOTOGRAPH OF KINSHAN FORT PORT ARTHUR.

Japanese Destroyer Enters

An American Gunboat Immedlately Follows and Inter-

Complications Likely to Arise and Cu