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NO. 5.

REPORTS REGARDING THE RIVAL FLEETS

ROJESTVENSKY MOVING TO JOIN NEBOGATOFF

Russian Agents Are Trying to Secure Collies for the Fleet in Far East.

Saloon, April 5.—Advises just received from Kamranh bay say that 20 Japanese warships passed the bay between 8 and 9 o'clock on the evening of April 23rd.

It is reported that four Russian cruisers are lying off the coast. The statement that the crew of the Russian protected cruiser Diana joined Admiral Rojestvensky's squadron are again pronounced absolutely unfounded.

PROBABLY SHIPS UNDER NEBOGATOFF.

Paris, April 26.—A dispatch from Saigon to the Petit Journal states that nine warships, supposed to be Vice-Admiral Nebogatoff's detachment of the second Pacific squadron, doubled Cape Bate, 50 miles northwest of Saigon, the night of April 26th.

REPORTED TO HAVE SAILED TO SOUTH.

Tsingtau, Shantung Peninsula, China, April 25.—Russian officers here have received news that Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet, on leaving Kamranh bay, sailed in a southerly direction to join Nebogatoff's detachment.

MAY WAIT UNTIL MORE SHIPS ARRIVE.

St. Petersburg, April 26.—The probability of a sortie by the Vladivostock squadron in an effort to join Rojestvensky is discussed by the Rasiedchik, a military weekly paper, which confirms the report that the three cruisers, Gromobol, Rossia and Bogarty, have concentrated, and comments upon this concentration of strength to Rojestvensky.

UNFOUNDED STORY FROM TSINGTAU.

Berlin, April 25.—An investigation shows that the German cruiser Sperber reported from Tsingtau as having sighted on April 22nd, in the Straits of Formosa, a Japanese man-of-war towing another one which was badly damaged.

RUSSIA SEEKS TO SECURE MORE COLLIES.

London, April 26.—It is stated in shipping circles in London that Japan has purchased a large number of steamships in England for her trade with Formosa, China and Port Arthur.

WILL KOURPATKIN RETURN FROM FRONT?

St. Petersburg, April 25.—The Bourse Gazette published a report that General Kourpatkin, commander of the first Manchurian army, will return from the front, and be succeeded by Gen. Koultars, commander of the second Manchurian army.

RUSSIAN LOSSES IN BATTLE OF MUKDEN.

Gunshu Pass, April 25.—An exact statement of the losses in all categories of the battle of Mukden from February 1st to March 14th, compiled by the general staff, shows that the casualties were greatly over-estimated in earlier reports. Statements from Japanese

warships sighted off Linting Island by the steamer Calchas were the British, and not Russian warships.

It was announced from Hongkong on April 24th that the British battleships Glory, Centurion and Ocean, and the cruisers Hague and Bonaventure had left Hongkong for an unknown destination.

This would indicate that the extent of the Japanese victory and the disorders of the Russian retreat have been exaggerated.

PREPARING FOR DASH FOR LIBERTY.

London, April 25.—The correspondent at Tokio of the Daily Telegraph sends the following: Japan is vigorously protesting against the preparation for flight from Shanghai of the Russian protected cruiser Askold.

It is feared that more difficulty will arise on account of China's inability to enforce her neutrality with respect to the report that the Russian Pacific squadron is coaling off Hainan.

ON LOOKOUT FOR VLADIVOSTOCK SHELPS.

New York, April 25.—A Shanghai dispatch to the Herald dated Monday says: "The northern waters of the sea of Japan, the Tsuguro straits and Laperouse straits, are illuminated every night by searchlights of Japanese torpedo boats, whose object is to prevent the passage of the Vladivostock squadron."

"The Japanese fleet is now probably in the sea of Formosa awaiting Admiral Rojestvensky.

"Whether the Baltic fleet may slip northward far to the east of Formosa. The Japanese ships are showing extraordinary vigilance along the entire Chinese coast."

A dispatch from Amoy, China, to the Herald says: "Three torpedo craft, which appeared to be Japanese, threw searchlights on the British ship Ruby on Saturday night sixty miles east of Hongkong."

RUSSIAN ARRESTED AND REMANDED.

Singapore, Straits Settlement, April 25.—A Russian giving the name of Vladimir Antorchik, but carrying a passport made out in another name, has been arrested on the fortified island of Kranai and is being held in a government prison without authority. He was remanded for a week.

ENTERTAINING GERMAN PRINCE AT TOKIO.

Tokio, April 25.—Prince Charles Antonovich Hohenzollern, representative of the Emperor of Germany with the Japanese army, accompanied by Prince hetchite, of Kanis, arrived here today from Mukden en route to Germany.

NEBOGATOFF HAS NOT JOINED ROJESTVENSKY.

Tsingtau, China, April 25.—Positive confirmation has been obtained here of the statement that the Russia squadron left Kamranh bay on April 22nd, and that the Russian cruiser Svetlana, the Russian hospital ship Orei and 14 transports are still off Kamranh bay.

TOGO WAS OFF KOREA COAST LAST WEEK.

Chifoo, April 25.—(9 p.m.)—It was reported from Korea today that Admiral Togo with the major part of his squadron was at Masampo bay, near Fusan, Korea, on April 20th.

WERE MISTAKEN FOR RUSSIAN WARSHIPS.

Hongkong, April 26.—The British steamer Calchas from Glasgow for Yokohama, which put in here today, reports having sighted three Russian battleships and two cruisers which morning steaming southeast off Linting Island about 100 miles southwest of Hongkong.

Later—it now transpires that the

SHAKESPEARE WEEK.

Festival at Stratford-on-Avon—Poet's Grave Decorated.

London, April 25.—Shakespeare festival week is being celebrated at Stratford-on-Avon with great spirit. The town is gay with bunting and crowded with visitors.

Yesterday besides the customary procession to decorate the poet's grave with wreaths, Ben Johnson's masque "Pans Anniversary" was performed in the Bancroft gardens.

At the annual theatre 15 of Shakespeare's plays will be acted during the festival. Floral tributes, etc., were received from all parts of the world.

CZAR IS FIRM IN DETERMINATION REGARDING CONVOCATION OF REPRESENTATIVES.

St. Petersburg, April 25.—(Noon.)—"My will regarding the convocation of representatives of the nobility is unwavering and the minister of the interior is making every effort for its speedy realization."

Emperor Nicholas, receiving in audience at Tsarsko-Selo on Sunday the marshal of the nobility of Kostroma, a government of middle Russia, directed that the above message be communicated to the nobility of Kostroma.

The message was read by the emperor and published to quiet the fears of those who are impatient at the delays of the fulfillment of the promises contained in the imperial rescript. It is very significant that the Emperor used the words "Convocation of representatives of the people," thus going beyond the expression employed in the rescript, setting at rest all doubt as to His Majesty's meaning.

The Novoe Vremya hails the new assurance with much satisfaction, saying: "These words will spread over the people, thus going beyond the expression employed in the rescript, setting at rest all doubt as to His Majesty's meaning."

EASTERN MERGER.

Hollins-Zimmerman Syndicate Is Acquiring New Lines of Railway.

Toledo, O., April 24.—The Times says: "The Hollins-Zimmerman syndicate in control of the Great Central lines is gradually acquiring, by purchase or lease, new lines of railway, and when their gigantic scheme of mergers is completed they will dominate a system which will be one of the most important in the world."

"It is possible that some of the deals for purchase now under negotiation will fall, notably that of the Louisville & Nashville railway, but if the deal for outright purchase fails, a traffic deal providing for through freight and passenger trains between important cities will be concluded."

The Erie railway deal, long rumored and often denied, is to be concluded, and the Erie will become a member of the new group of trunk lines.

"This Great Central system is being built up by the purchase and merger of old independent lines and by lease of the same. When the general scheme is worked out the Great Central system will extend from Lake Superior to the Gulf of Mexico and from St. Louis to the Atlantic seaboard."

"The first step scheduled after the Ann Arbor and Detroit Southern merger is completed will be the closing of the Erie railroad deal."

DUEL IN STREET.

Result of Fend Which Has Extended Over Two Decades—Two Men Killed.

Bakersfield, Cal., April 25.—A feud between two well-known mountain families, the Walkers and Burtons, and extending over a period of two decades, broke out again in the mining town of Havilah yesterday, where Newton Walker and Dave Burton fought a duel in the street, resulting in the instant death of Burton and his companion, a man named Bagby, ten or a dozen shots were fired before Burton fell. Walker made his escape and is now hidden in the mountains.

This is the third of the Burton boys to die violent deaths. Fletcher Burton was killed by Ben Walker in 1861, and Walker is still unconquered. The Gibson boys were convicted as accessories to the crime and sentenced to life imprisonment, but were pardoned. Jim Burton was shot down on the same night that Fletcher was killed, but he recovered, only to meet death a year later at the hands of C. H. Allison, a partisan of the Gibsons. Allison subsequently was acquitted. There is but one of the Burton brothers alive now, Luther by name, a prominent mining man of Nevada. He has been notified of his brother's death.

Only last week Phil Walker, the youngest member of the Walker family, pleaded guilty to murdering an old man by the name of Nicoll and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

W. D. E. Lappe, aged nineteen years, a member of a prominent and wealthy family at Pittsburg, Pa., was shot and killed early on Tuesday by a policeman, Rufus Ullom. Two of young Lappe's companions were arrested and detained as witnesses, and a third escaped.

THE DEFAULTING BANK PRESIDENT

FRANK G. BIGELOW RELEASED ON BAIL

Is Charged With Embezzlement—Made Confession at Meeting of the Directors.

Milwaukee, Wis., April 24.—Frank G. Bigelow, president of the First National Bank of Milwaukee, was arrested today, charged with the embezzlement of over \$100,000 of the bank's funds.

The arrest of Mr. Bigelow followed his confession that he was a defaulter to the extent of \$1,450,000. Following Mr. Bigelow's confession he was removed from the presidency of the bank and the facts of the case were laid before the federal authorities.

The complaint was sworn to by United States District Attorney H. K. Butterfield. It charges that Bigelow, as president of the First National Bank, embezzled a sum exceeding \$100,000.

A complaint and a warrant identical with those in Bigelow's case was made out for Harry Goll, assistant cashier of the bank, but Goll could not be found.

President Bigelow was taken before United States Commissioner Bloodgood and bail was fixed at \$25,000. He was released to appear before the next federal grand jury.

President Bigelow's confession was made at a meeting of the board. He met the directors yesterday and all of last night. In addressing his fellow directors, President Bigelow said he had a painful statement to make—a confession that he had misdirected the funds of the bank and that an examination of his books and a comparison of figures would show that he was indebted to the bank for more than \$1,450,000.

Mr. Bigelow said he had been a persistent bull in the wheat market, and recent losses in grain had added to heavy reverses in Wall street. From small manipulations of the bank he had extended the defalcations until his short-ages passed the million dollar mark.

He saw no possibility of returning the money, and therefore waited their action. During the meeting of the directors, which was almost continuous for thirty-six hours, several plans were suggested for protecting the interests of the bank; one, it was said, being to accept the resignation of the president and to permit him to go to Europe, while the directors made good the amount of his shortage.

This alleged proposal never came to a conclusion because several directors demanded that the defaulter be punished. A plan to make up the shortage for the protection of depositors was then approved. Bigelow was removed from the presidency of the bank, and the case was referred to federal officers.

When the federal marshal called at the Bigelow home to serve the warrant the former bank president was in the library with his wife. Mrs. Bigelow refused to withdraw and the warrant was served in her presence.

"I will be with you at once," said Bigelow. Then he kissed his wife and left with the officer. None of Mr. Bigelow's friends were in the court room during the brief readings. Henry Goll, assistant cashier of the bank, was also indicted on the statement of President Bigelow that he was aided by Goll in concealing the shortage.

The method adopted was an old one. Collection accounts were manipulated an even 50 per cent. to make it appear that the reserve fund was intact, and the amount of the increased special stock operations. The reserve maintained in the bank was tampered with, the books of the First National Bank being so fixed that the reserve appeared to be larger by several thousand dollars than it really was. Those and other methods were pursued by Bigelow in securing money from the bank.

Two bookkeepers were also implicated in Bigelow's statement. The bookkeepers on the orders of Bigelow and they have not been discharged nor suspended and they will be called as witnesses in the criminal proceedings against Bigelow. The first intimation that there were irregularities came to a director on Friday evening when an employee of the bank gave Mr. Pfister information sufficient to investigate. As soon as the director ascertained the full extent of the pecuniary steps were taken to protect the depositors and other creditors.

When the bank closed this afternoon some two thousand depositors were waiting for their money. Nearly \$1,000,000 was paid out in two hours. The run on the savings department assumed the greatest proportions. After the facts became well known, however, other persons who believe in the soundness of the bank were coming forward with deposits, and so persistent were the friends of the principal revolutionary leaders.

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This alleged proposal never came to a conclusion because several directors demanded that the defaulter be punished. A plan to make up the shortage for the protection of depositors was then approved. Bigelow was removed from the presidency of the bank, and the case was referred to federal officers.

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DOMINION AND IMPERIAL BURDENS

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH AT TORONTO

Anti-Japanese Legislation Re-Enacted at the Recent Session Has Been Disallowed.

Ottawa, April 25.—Earl Grey, speaking at Toronto, said that Canada might look to enormous trade with Japan, and later on with the great content of which Japan was assuming the porch. He spoke of Canada assuming the share of imperial burdens, of its having led the way with preferential tariff, preferential postal arrangement, and said he read with delight the notice in the press which welcomed the decision of the Dominion to assume the responsibility of defence of Halifax and Esquimaux. In conclusion Earl Grey expressed the hope that there would be no rice and no creed conflict in Canada. In a complete union between the two great races lies the secret and strength of Canada's future.

Disallowed.

Copies of the acts passed at the late session of the British Columbia legislature, hostile to the people of Japan, having been received at Ottawa, very prompt action has been taken in dealing with them. They are chapters 67, regulating immigration, and 81, relating to employment on works under private acts, and 85, coal mines regulation act. These acts contain the prohibition and disqualifications of the Japanese formerly found in acts which were repeatedly disallowed, and in repealing such legislation the British Columbia House knew that it would meet the same fate. These three acts were disallowed today.

GERMANY AND STATES.

Imperial Government is Ready to Negotiate a Reciprocity Treaty.

Beilin, April 26.—3:20 p.m.—The Imperial government, preparatory to including the United States from the privilege of the new reciprocity treaties signed recently with seven European states, has formally notified the American government that the tariff agreement between Germany and the United States of July 10th, 1900, will terminate on March 1st, 1906, the day the new treaties go into effect, but that Germany stands ready to negotiate a reciprocity treaty with the United States.

CANADIAN TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA

STEAMERS MAY MAKE FORTNIGHTLY TRIPS

More Than Seventy-Six Thousand Immigrants Arrived During the Nine Months Ending With March.

Ottawa, April 26.—Canada's trade with South Africa is increasing to such an extent that the government has arranged for a fortnightly trip in May, instead of monthly as at present. If the same keeps up the fortnightly service will be made permanent. The service will start about May 21st.

JUMPED OVERBOARD.

New York, April 26.—An unknown passenger on the steamer Orion, bound from New York to New London, committed suicide by jumping overboard when the steamer was off Whitestone landing last night. The man was about 35 years old. He was sleeping with another passenger. He jumped out of bed and rushed to the side and jumped before the other could stop him. The steamer was stopped, and boats were lowered and a search was made for the man, but he did not come to the surface.

PHYSICIAN DEAD.

Ossing, N.Y., April 25.—Dr. Graham Barber, formerly a member of the New York legislature, surgeon of the park department of New York city in 1897 and for eleven years physician at the Sing Sing prison, is dead here aged 85.

FIRE AT NANAIMO.

Nanaimo, April 25.—R. H. Gardner's grocery store and dwelling on the esplanade was badly gutted by fire this morning at 4 o'clock. The origin of the fire is unknown. The loss is about \$2,000.

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