

JAPS CUT KUROPATKIN'S COMMUNICATIONS; RETREATING RUSSIANS WITHIN IRON RING; 100,000 FALL IN WAR'S BLOODIEST BATTLE

Oyama's Big Guns Now Thundering at Gates of Mukden Japs Hemming in Russians on All Sides.

Reverse May Become a Sweeping Disaster and End the War.

Tokio, March 8. — Advice received here indicated that Gen. Kuropatkin is badly beaten in the bloodiest battle of the present war.

Tokio, March 9, 8 a.m. — It is officially announced the Russians began retreating yesterday morning. The Japanese armies are pursuing.

Tokio, March 9, 4 p.m. — The Japanese have cut the railway north of Mukden.

St. Petersburg, March 9. — The general staff has received the following dispatch from Gen. Sakharoff, Kuropatkin's chief of staff, dated today: "Several fierce attacks on our north front were made during the night. They were all repulsed. In other directions the night was quiet."

Gen. Sakharoff's reference to the Russian north front would seem to indicate that a Japanese force is between Mukden and Tie Pass. Though the Japanese may have cut the telegraph lines along the railroad, it is possible that field telegraph lines have been run between Fushun, where Kuropatkin may have his headquarters, and Tie Pass, thus accounting for the Russian silence. The Russian line of communications, which would be severed by the Japanese, is still open.

Retreating in Confusion. — With the Japanese Left Armies Wednesday, March 8. — Noon. — Via Fusan, March 9. — The left armies have cut and destroyed the railroad between Mukden and Tie Pass. Details are obtainable at present. The Russians are in retreat over the northern roads. The left column of the Japanese armies is at Likamp, seven miles north of the Hun River, and five miles west of the railroad, and has had a fierce fight with a Russian force three times its number. The Russian casualties number ten thousand. The Russian center is retreating in great confusion.

100,000 HAVE FALLEN Bloodiest Battle of the War and the End Is Not Yet.

Tokio, March 9, 6 a.m. — The great battle in Manchuria raged all day yesterday along the entire enormous front. The Japanese were generally victorious, and they drove the Russians from a series of important positions. By nightfall it seemed imperative that Gen. Kuropatkin would have to withdraw his shattered army, and avoid a complete disaster. Indeed, it appeared impossible for him to effect a retreat without heavy losses in prisoners, guns and stores.

The continuous battle is already the bloodiest of the war. Upon the ground Gen. Oku alone gained 8,000 Russian dead. The reports from other armies are expected to triple this figure. It is estimated that the Japanese have lost 100,000 men. Details of the combat are lacking, but it is believed that the Japanese have cut the railway north of Mukden, leaving only the road and a light railway from Fushun to Tie Pass as avenues for the retreat of the Russians, but army headquarters refrain from affirming or denying a report to that effect.

It is thought that Mukden is still in the hands of the Russians. The details of operations against Fushun are not yet at hand, but it is understood that following the capture of Manchuria, the Japanese renewed the assault on Tientsin, and dislodged the Russians. Various reports are in circulation concerning prisoners of war, but it is impossible to obtain reliable information as to the number taken. Field Marshal Oyama in an order, directing the pursuit of the retreating Russians yesterday, prohibited his troops from entering Mukden in masses, in order to respect the tombs and sacred places of the imperial Chinese household, and to protect the welfare of the inhabitants.

Tokio Celebrates.

Tokio, March 9. — Noon. — Although the actual extent of the success gained by Field Marshal Oyama's army is unknown, Tokio is already celebrating the victory. An official announcement of the result of Field Marshal Oyama's pursuit of the Russians is expected here later today.

NO DISASTER, SAYS PETERSBURG But Admits That the Peril of the Army Is Great.

St. Petersburg, March 9, 2:30 p.m. — A veil is drawn over the progress of Gen. Kuropatkin's heroic effort to extricate his beaten army, but the general staff insists that while he has been defeated, there has been no disaster. The peril of the whole army, especially of the rear guard, is admitted, and Mukden may have been evacuated during last night, although nothing definite has been received on this point. Yesterday Gen. Biderling's army, which held the center, fell back upon the Hun River, clinging all the day desperately to Madyapu at the apex southwest of the city.

Railway Dept. for McGill; Ask Intercolonial Help

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Ottawa, March 9. — Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, Principal Peterson and Dean Dwyer, of Montreal, were here yesterday, seeing the Minister of Railways with a view of getting assistance to establish a railway department in connection with McGill University. The delegation asked the railway department to assist, and not the Government as a government. The other principal railways of the Dominion have promised to contribute.

United during last night, although nothing definite has been received on this point. Yesterday Gen. Biderling's army, which held the center, fell back upon the Hun River, clinging all the day desperately to Madyapu at the apex southwest of the city.

Wounded Streaming North.

All day yesterday and last night, wounded, munitions, baggage and stores, streamed northward. The railroad and the main road were almost blocked at the last moment, notwithstanding the fact that an immense amount of stores, etc., were moved last week. The Russo-Chinese bank removed to Tie Pass on Sunday. The trains were run under the Japanese guns westward, some projectiles reaching the railroad.

Closing the Iron Ring.

Gen. Nogi, according to the latest authentic Russian reports, has already reached a point opposite the station of Souhaiat halfway between Mukden and Tie Pass, and it is believed that his left is swinging still further north. For a long time the line of communications, which would be severed by the Japanese, is still open.

Will It End the War?

St. Petersburg, March 9. — The old argument that Kuropatkin, with his army still intact, will again await reinforcements, while the Japanese will suffer the disadvantage of lengthened communications, is being made. In diplomatic circles, unless Oyama has been forced eastward in the direct line of retreat, and the Japanese have been forced eastward in the direct line of retreat, the international developments which follow when the full magnitude of the reverse is known.

May Seize Chinese Road.

Tien Tsin, March 9, 2 p.m. — The Japanese have requested the transportation of 450 tons of rice to Simintin. Unless the request is complied with the Japanese army will be in a critical position. It is believed to be a test case. The constant shipment of wheat and rice to Simintin by the Russians was not interfered with, and the Japanese demand impartiality. Today they again seized the telegraph office at Simintin.

Fierce Fight for Village.

Mukden, March 9, 2:30 a.m. — The Japanese yesterday attacked the village of Pudlusa, northwest of the Imperial tombs, and a stubborn fight followed, but the Russian advance guard was obliged to abandon the village. During the night the Japanese attacked the village of Santai, north of the Imperial tombs. The fight continues as this dispatch is filed.

May Help in Retreat.

London, March 9. — The Times' St. Petersburg correspondent says that Gen. Kuropatkin received a telegram from the Japanese a few days ago and that it is hoped these fresh troops will be able to crush Gen. Kuropatkin, peace is no more imperative now than it was last night. The movement on the other hand may be in pursuance of a plan for a junction between the Japanese and the reinforcing Russian army preparatory to giving battle to Admiral Togo's fleet.

Retired in Good Order.

Mukden, March 9, 5 a.m. — The Russian army is leaving positions south and southeast of Mukden. The sky is lighted with the brilliant glare of burning warehouses, where tons of commissary supplies have been set on fire. The retreat is being effected in perfect order, the Russians having been ordered to pursue Japanese. The withdrawal was necessitated by a heavy concentration of Japanese, west and northwest of Mukden, whither they have transferred a large share of forces from the southern front to reinforce the original striking force of Gen. Nogi. The Russians still hold Mukden. Continued on page 5.

he met successfully at Liao Yang, since now he is threatened on both flanks, his left wing being entangled in a mountainous region far from the railroad. Nevertheless, Russian artillerymen here express a fair degree of confidence in Gen. Kuropatkin's ability once more to extricate his army and avoid a Russian Sedan. Besides his skill in rear guard action, they base their hopes on the physical condition of the Japanese soldiers, who, while they are conceding to be the greatest marchers in the world, are well-nigh exhausted by their strenuous endeavors of the last fortnight.

Only to the initiated is the news of the reverse positively known at this time. Emperor Nicholas and high military officers, of course were informed by General Kuropatkin's telegram of Tuesday, stating tersely that Mukden must be abandoned, and they received details of the beginning of the withdrawals as they appeared in excited portions of the official dispatches given out yesterday. Last evening a newspaper contained a vague report, of doubtful origin, credited to Chinese sources, but the first positive statement was derived from the Associated Press dispatch from General Kuropatkin's headquarters, the contents of which were quickly telegraphed to many Liberals from friends abroad. The report probably will not be printed in this morning's papers, except the Government, true to its policy of breaking bad news gently, only preparing the way by authorizing the publication of a number of preliminary statements. The news, however, is only what was expected, ultimate retirement having been discounted from the moment that Oyama inaugurated his brilliant movement. From information in the possession of the Associated Press it is known that General Kuropatkin contemplated retirement before the beginning of the battle, and that he had hoped to accomplish it without a serious combat. The Japanese, however, forced him to accept battle. The double turning movement compelled him to send the major part of his reserves to the fighting line, and rendered an effective counter stroke out of the question, and the decision to retire was immediately taken on March 8, as was stated by the Associated Press on that day. Withdrawal was actually begun during that night. The great question now, and the one over which the general staff burned its lights late into the night, is whether Field Marshal Oyama has entangled his army in his strategic net sufficiently to prevent a successful retreat to Tie Pass. General Rennenkampf's force to the eastward admittedly is in a position of being cut off, and considerable force of Japanese appear to be operating on the Russian right well toward Tie Pass. If the Japanese succeed in reaching the railroad and interrupting traffic, it only for a few hours, it may have the greatest consequences for Gen. Kuropatkin, whose brilliant movement, gauged in a literal race with the Japanese, to reach a naturally defensible position 40 miles from the front, has stood off all attacks. Thus far he has stood off all attacks, and holds the flank of his army, and holds the line of retreat open. The number of siege guns on his Shakte position; but if he succeeds in turning over the army intact, with the principal portions of his army, he will be no means desperate, for Oyama will again have missed his quarry, and a comparatively barren victory will have been purchased at enormous cost of life. All reports indicate that the Japanese were utterly reckless of sacrifices, making attacks after attacks, especially on the center and westward, against machine guns and infantry fire which literally mowed down the advancing columns, making human flesh so cheap that the survivors could bastion themselves behind piles of corpses.

Kuropatkin To Be Recalled.

After this action, General Kuropatkin's deposition may be regarded as certain. War Minister Sakharoff is expected to be recalled, and a new general will be appointed. The Japanese are expected to be victorious, and the Russian army will be forced to retreat. The Japanese are expected to be victorious, and the Russian army will be forced to retreat.

THE WEATHER.

Tomorrow — Unsettled.
London, Thursday, March 9.
Sun rises, 6:41 a.m. Moon rises, 3:24 a.m.
Sun sets, 6:16 p.m. Moon sets, 3:41 p.m.
Toronto, March 9, 8 p.m.
Fair, with light rain today over Manitoba, and snow and rain in the Maritime Provinces. Over the greater portion of the Northwest Territories the weather remains fine and very mild. A marked disturbance tonight covers Minnesota and another one is situated over Louisiana. Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 44-64; Calgary, 32-51; Qu'Appelle, 29-41; Winnipeg, 2-18; Port Arthur, 8-16; Parry Sound, 18-32; Toronto, 25-34; Ottawa, 18-32; Montreal, 18-29; Quebec, 12-37; St. John, 28-38; Halifax, 12-40.

FORECASTS.

Today — Unsettled, snow or sleet this evening and during the night.
Friday — Still unsettled.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations. Sun. Min. Weather.
Calgary 24 20 Fair
Winnipeg 10 -10 Clear
Parry Sound 14 12 Cloudy
Toronto 24 18 Cloudy
Ottawa 20 18 Fair
Montreal 18 18 Fair
Quebec 14 14 Snow
Halifax 12 12 Cloudy

WEATHER NOTES.

Very disturbed conditions prevail this morning, marked depression covering the upper lake region and the Mississippi Valley. Much colder weather prevails in Manitoba, and continued very mild in Alberta.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

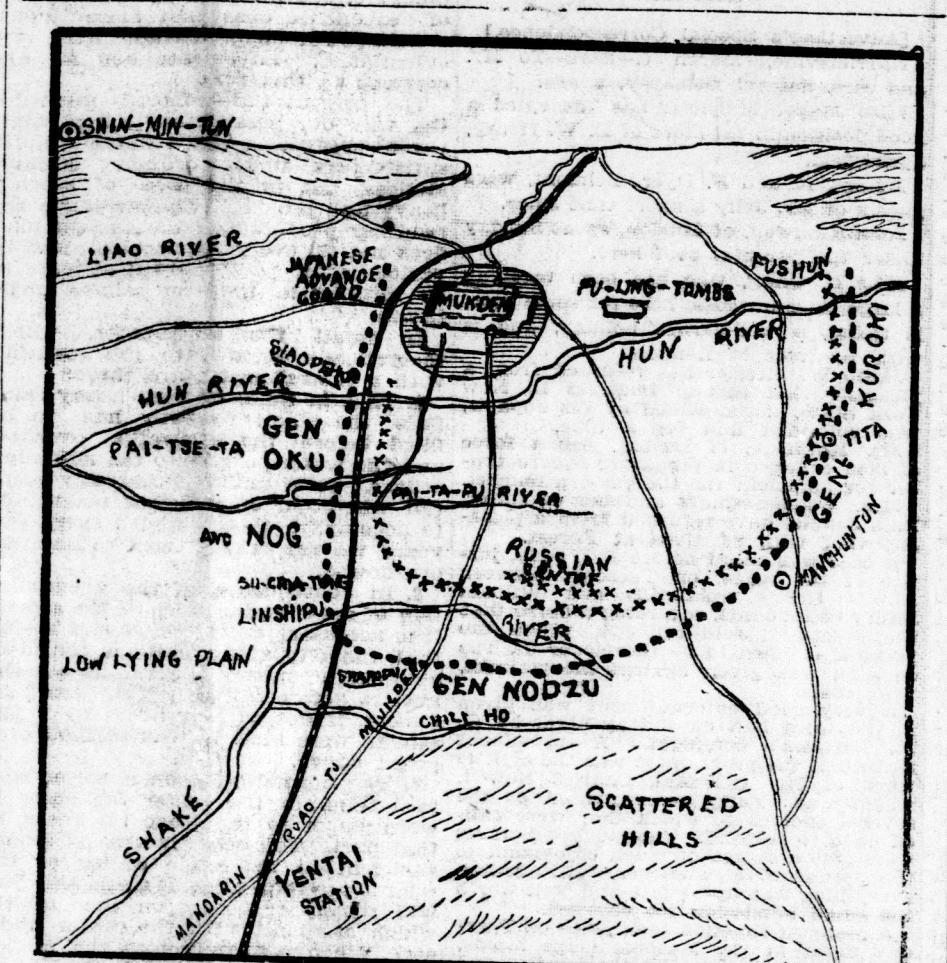
The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Wednesday were: Highest, 34°; lowest, 24° above.

Japs Win Race to Pass; Russians May Surrender

New Chwang, March 9, via Tien Tsin. — It is reported that Tie Pass has been invested by the Japanese, and that General Kuropatkin, having no alternative, will probably be forced to surrender within a week.

The Russians have not been reinforced from the direction of Harbin since March 1. Gen. Nogi's army made a forced march of 25 miles daily, and acting in conjunction with Gen. Oku's army, surrounded 80,000 Russians in the direction of Tie Pass and cut off their supplies.

The hurrying Japanese armies passed a division of Russians without giving it any attention until the enveloping movement was completed, when they crushingly attacked the Russians on all sides.



Map showing the disposition of Kuropatkin's and Oyama's armies on Tuesday. According to latest dispatches, the Russian commander has been compelled to withdraw his center, and is in full retreat towards Mukden both sides.

CONSERVATIVE CAUCUS P.sed Resolutions of Sympathy and Talked School Cause.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Ottawa, March 9. — There was a Conservative caucus here today. Mr. Lake presiding. Resolutions of condolence and sympathy with Mrs. E. F. Clarke, widow of E. F. Clarke, M. P., was passed, and another with Martin, M. P., of Prince Edward Island, upon the death of his wife.

Irving Drove Out.

Wolverhampton, March 9. — Sir Henry Irving drove out into the country yesterday. His physician says he is improving steadily. During the afternoon, the mayor and a municipal delegation visited Sir Henry at his hotel and presented him with an address expressed on an oxidized and enamelled solid silver casket.

RUSSIA SETTLES WITH BRITAIN

Hands Over \$325,000 to Lansdowne to Close North Sea Claims.

London, March 9. — Count Benckendorff, the Russian ambassador to Great Britain, today paid \$325,000 to Foreign Secretary Lansdowne in settlement of the North Sea claims.

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ASSAULTER OF IRENE COLE COMMITTS SUICIDE IN CELL

KENNEDY, WHO WAS YESTERDAY SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT, HANGS HIMSELF.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Brantford, Ont., March 9. — Joseph Kennedy, who was last night found guilty of criminal assault on Irene Cole and sentenced to life imprisonment, with 75 lashes, committed suicide in the jail during the night by hanging himself with a sheet.

Kennedy was watched all night by the jailer. This morning between 7 and 8 o'clock his watchman went to get his breakfast, and while gone Kennedy procured a sheet and hanged himself to the bars of his cell. The jailer was gone but a short time, but when he returned Kennedy's life was gone.

Kennedy was a year ago acquitted of the murder of 9-year-old Irene Cole, but was yesterday sentenced to life imprisonment and to receive 75 lashes by Justice Teetzel, for having carnal knowledge of the child.

All the evidence was in early in the evening, little that was fresher than the evidence produced at the first trial being adduced. Given the privilege of making a statement to the court, Kennedy said: "I think I have been unfairly tried. There have been certain witnesses against me who have sworn to lies." The address of the crown counsel, W. S. Brewster, K. C., lasted about an hour, and Mr. Justice Teetzel briefly reviewed the evidence, giving the jury the usual cautions.

WANT TRADING STAMPS ABOLISHED

Large Deputation From All Points Wait Upon the Government.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Ottawa, March 8. — A delegation of about 500 persons from Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, London and other points waited on the Government today and asked that the criminal code be amended so as to prevent the sale and use of trading stamps. The delegation met the Premier and Messrs. Mulock, Fisher, Brodeur, Fitzpatrick, Hyman and Fielding in the railway committee room of the House of Commons. Mr. Gervais, M. P., introduced the delegation.

THE NEW YORK STRIKE

New York, March 9. — With the opening of the third day in the Interborough trainmen's strike, there appeared to be marked improvement in the operation of trains in the subway. Otherwise, little change was noted. Traffic on the east side elevated lines during the early hours was almost at a standstill.

THE HILL CASE.

St. Thomas, March 9. — George Hill, the aged father of J. B. Hill, the insolvent merchant, who is awaiting trial on criminal charges, died at his residence on East street this morning. He was 71 years of age, and came to this city from Michigan. Mr. Hill's death is supposed to have been caused by worry brought on by his son's recent trouble.

Beresford Coming Over.

Southampton, England, March 8. — Vice-Admiral Lord Charles Beresford sailed on the North German Lloyd steamer Kron Prinz Wilhelm from Southampton tonight for New York, on his way to Mexico. Thence he goes to Florida.

Wouldn't Leave Parsonage.

Lexington, Ky., March 9. — Mearns Brook, 30 years old, blew out his brains because the trustees of the Baptist Church at East Hickman, near here, had notified him that he would have to surrender the parsonage building to a new preacher. Brook had been living in the parsonage for a number of years.

Scoffed at Oiler.

Centerville, Mich., March 8. — "I never felt better in my life, even if I am 72 years old," said William H. Smith, of this village, yesterday, while discussing the "vitamin" theory. A few hours later while spitting wood, he sank to the ground, dead of heart failure.

Arnold-Forster to Quit Is Rumor From London

Balfour Experiencing Difficulty in Filling Cabinet Vacancies.

London, March 9. — It again is reported that Premier Balfour is experiencing difficulty in filling the vacancies in the cabinet. It is rumored that Walter Hume Long and others have declined the post of Chief Secretary for Ireland, and that fresh trouble has arisen in the war office, which it is not unlikely will involve the resignation of Secretary Arnold-Forster. Gossip in the lobby of the House of Commons is to the effect that Anthony P. MacDonnell, Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, will be appointed to an important post outside of Ireland.

reviewed the evidence, giving the jury the usual cautions. The jury came to a verdict in a little over an hour. Kennedy walked to the prisoner's box with that same appearance of unconcern as has characterized all his actions. In pronouncing sentence the justice



JOSEPH KENNEDY. Sentenced for Life Yesterday for Assaulting Irene Cole, and Who Committed Suicide This Morning at Brantford.

remarked that he was thoroughly in accord with the verdict of the jury, and in his opinion the maximum penalty was none too strong for such an offense against society.

SUB-COMMITTEE PREPARES CLAUSE

Jury Unable to Account for Wound That Killed Woman.

Ottawa, March 9. — There was a meeting of a sub-committee of the cabinet, appointed to prepare a school clause of the autonomy bill, this forenoon. It is said that a satisfactory clause will be prepared today. Hon. Clifford Sifton was at today's meeting.

A BELLEVILLE MYSTERY

Belleville, March 9. — The coroner's jury, which sat at Plainfield yesterday to inquire into the cause of the death of Mrs. Adam Lloyd, after hearing some twenty witnesses and the result of the post-mortem examination, returned the following verdict: "That the deceased Hannah Lloyd did not come to her death through natural causes or by or through any suicidal causes, but by or through the death was due to the shock caused by the burning, aggravated by the wound on the side of her head. As to the direct cause of the fire or by what means she received the wound on the head, we are unable to say, from the evidence produced."

A. O. HOWLAND DEAD

Another Ex-Mayor of Toronto Has Passed Away.
Toronto, March 9. — Oliver A. Howland, K.C., C.M.G., ex-mayor of Toronto, died at 1:30 o'clock this morning at his residence, 55 Isabella street, after a lingering illness. Mr. Howland had been in poor health for some time, suffering from Bright's disease. Shortly after Christmas he was taken suddenly ill and was removed to the General Hospital, but he recovered sufficiently to be taken to his home about three weeks later. He had a relapse about two weeks ago and never regained consciousness.

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