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STRENGTHENING THE

MANY OF WOUNDED REIURN TO THE RANKS

Report That the Japanese Forces Are Moving Northward, Preceded by Cavalry.

London, April 20.-The Associated Press was informed at the admiralty this afternoon that the statement that the British Mediterranean fleet was taking steps to watch the Dardanelles is assurances that France would observe strict neutrality. Notwithstanding the ships are simply in pursuance of ordinary arrangements. The story was start- tion and effect of Dr. Motono's action is d on top of a continental report that the Russians were preparing to send out heir Black Sea fleet.

M. Taburno, an Associated Press cordent, who has returned from Manhuria for a short vacation during the lull in operations there, says he does not expect serious fighting for at least a month or six weeks. He says the Russian army, which is occupying a line southward of Sipinghai, is busy with re-connaissances as far south as Changtufu, and has already been recruited to the strength it had before the battle of Mukden. Many of the wounded have returned to the ranks, and the morale is excellent. The present position of the army It is persistently and circumstantially

orted that Russia has bought several South American warships through Paris ntermediaries.

A telegram from the seat of war in

Manchuria states that the Japanese armies are advancing northward, preced-

ANOTHER REPORT REGARDING THE FLEET.

St. Petersburg, April 21 .- 2.15 a.m. The ministry of finance has received a telegram from a confidential agent at Shanghai giving a rumor that Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky has already passed the Straits of Formosa without equicountering Admiral Togo.

CAPTURE COLLIERS

St. Petersburg, April 20.-It is claimed here that Admiral Rojestvensky has not overstepped the French rules of neutrality at Kamranh bay, the coaling and prorisioning of his ships occurring outsid territorial waters. Russia has not been advised that Japan has lodged a protest n Paris. The charges of Russia's viola tion of neutrality, coupled with the story that Russia intends to send her Black Sea fleet through the Dardanelles, and leet has been sent to the Aegean sea to I follows about the Russian second squad nead off the Russian fleet, cause extreme irritation. The Associated Press is again authorized to state that Russia has no and two funnels of the Dmitri Donskoi

Chinese Sea through the Straits of Sunda of the harbor. for the purpose of throwing the Japan-ese off the secent when Rojestvensky passed through the Straits of Malacca, e in the hands of the Japanese. Roestvensky reached the Straits of Malacca before the colliers arrived at the Straits of Sunda, and the Japanese then withdrew from the latter straits, having missed both the quarry and the decoys. The admiralty is silent as to whether

FRENCH REPLY TO

PER YEAR, STRICTLY IN ADVANCE, TO ANY ADDRESS TO

CANADA, UNITED STATES, OR GREAT BRITAIN.

Paris, April 20.—Acting under intructions from his government, Dr. Moono, the Japanese minister to France, night and submitted representations on behalf of Japan concerning the presence of the Russian squadron at Kamranh bay. An official communication issued after the meeting states that Minister Motono's action had not the character of a formal protest against an alleged vio-lation of neutrality, but was to obtain

JAP REPRESENTATIONS.

in the nature of a protest.

The text of the official communication pon the conference is as follows: "Dr. Motono, minister of Japan, has taken steps to call the attention of the minister of foreign affairs upon the reported presence of the Russian warships in Kamranh bay. At the ministry of for-eign affairs it is stated that Minister Motono's action does not take the character of a formal protest against alleged violation of neutrality by France relative to the Russian fleet. The Japanese minister particularly desired to obtain from the French government, as he had done when the Baltic squadron passed Cher-bourg, and more recently when it sojourned off Madagascar, some formal assurance that France would continue to observe strict neutrality. These assurances evidently seemed more and more ndispensible to Japan as the fleet approached the coast of Indo-China and entered the theatre of war. The French government has on frequent occasions pointedly affirmed that all pre-cautions have been taken for the observance of neutrality. Special instructions have been forwarded to Indo-China on the subject. The minister of foreign affairs is therefore ably to allay the uneasiness Japan has manifested which has not been justified up to the present by

It remains for Tokio, to which the French reply was sent to-night, to say whether the assurances are considered sufficient. The opinion prevails here that M. Delcasse's answer is of a nature to avert serious complication.

Paris, April 22 .- A semi-official tele gram from St. Petersburg says Emperor vensky's squadron to leave French ter-

APPARENTLY PREPARING FOR VOYAGE NORTHWARD.

department has issued the following statement of an indisputable witness who personally observed and reported as

ron in Kamranh bay:
"Two cruisers, one with three masts ntention of sending out the Black Sea class, the other with two masts and fleet.

The admiralty officials are quite elated over the receipt of news showing that three funnels, were seen cruising outside of the harbor. Two four-masted merchantmen and a one-funnel steamer

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"Five vessels resembling battleships were anchored inside the harbor. Two

battleships, with two masts and three authorizes the secretary of war to retain funnels, flying admiral's flags, were anchored inside the harbor. Six war-whose enlistment will expire in May. ships auchored in single formation lay outside the harbor off its southern war department is at present using the entrance. Heavy smoke was seen rising territorial army largely for garrison nside the harbor."

Although the report does not say so it is believed that Rear-Admiral Rojestvensky is using the harbor to clean his ships, to coal, adjust his torpedoes, clean his guns, prepare ammunition and get

The Japanese newspapers continue heir unfriendly comment of the French overnment over the Kamranh bay ineident, despite the efforts of the conservatives towards repression pending the result of negotiations. Popular feeling is growing more intense.

WITHOUT NEWS FROM RUSSIAN COMMANDER

St. Petersburg, April 22.-No reply is expected from Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky for several days relative to the nstructions to him to respect the neutrality of French waters. Admiral Wirenus stated last night that Rojestvensky's telegram announcing his arriva at Kamranh bay took four days in transmission. Admiral Wirenus added that he had no idea of the present whereabouts of Rojestvensky, but that he believed he had left Kamranh bay.

GROSS VIOLATION OF LAWS OF NEUTRALITY. ninister of the interior of Japan, in the course of an interview with the London orrespondent of the Matin, stated that he French laws of neutrality had not foreseen a case of breach of neutrality involving fifty warships. The presence of a Russian fleet in French Indo-Chi-nese waters constituted a flagrant breach of neutrality. Japan could understand two or three belligerent vessels seeking temporary refuge in neutral waters in case of danger, but no international conference and no juris-consul could tolerate any excuse for fifty warships, especially when so close to the theatre of war. Japan demands of France fair play and justice, nothing more. The presence in Kamranh bay of the enemy's enormous fleet, the Baron concluded, was a gross violation of the laws of neutral-

WILL NOT BE ALLOWED

Paris, April 22, 1.35 p.m.—The foreign office received advices from St. Peters-burg this morning showing that the in-structions sent to Admiral Rojestvensky nust keep outside of French waters. The nature of the instructions is said to such that he must observe them by

his last telegram showing he was at a

small point south of Hanoi. Further official advices show that radrecently at Haifong (Tonquin), where her repairs were sufficiently advanced to permit her to rejoin Admiral Rojestvon-sky's squadron and thus add another owerful cruiser to his strength, but the French authorities peremptorily required the cruiser to be placed in a condition making it impossible for her to go to sea. Therefore such parts of her machinery as are indispensable to her moving, such as her shaft and propeller, have

The officials here desire to direct attention to this case as showing the deter-mination which French neutrality requirements are being enforced.

It is officially confirmed that Emperor from Kamranh bay. The departure of the squadron is considered imminent, but official dispatches have not yet an-

BRITISH WARSHIPS HELD IN READINESS.

London, April 22.—A special dispatch from Hongkong says all shore leave of the crews of the British warships has been stopped, and the dockyard employees on their Easter leave of absence have been recalled, so that the ships can be ready for sea at the earliest possible

RUSSIANS MASSING NEAR POSSIET BAY.

Tokio, April 22.-It is reported from various sources that the Russians are concentrating their forces in the vicinity of Possiet bay, and are planning to cross the Tumen river, and then move southof Possiet bay, and are planning to cross the Tumen river, and then move southward into northeastern Korea. The numerical strength of the Russians is variously estimated. It is doubted whether the Russians seriously plan

not a single collier dispatched to the anchored outside the northern entrance aggressive action, and it is rather be lieved that they are preparing to bar the An imperial ordinance issued to-day

VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 1905.

ASSIST ROJESTVENSKY

St. Petersburg, April 22.—Private dispatches say the Russian armored cruisers Rossia and Gromoboi and the protected cruiser Bogatyr are cruising outside of Vladivostock trying to make a diversion in favor of Admiral Rojestvensky at an pportune moment.

The admiralty has sent an immense

amount of material for repairing ships to Vladivostock, and is now sending many dockyard laborers and mechanics there to take part in the work of refitting Rojestvensky's ships in case he achieves a victory. Over 600 left St. Petersburg for Vladivostock by special train last night. A big crowd saw them depart, and great enthusiasm was manifested.

BRITAIN SUPPORTS THE JAPANESE.

London, April 22.-The Pall Mall Gazette this afternoon announced in a dispatch from Paris that Sir F. L. Bertie, the British ambassador of France, has presented Foreign Minister Delcasse with a note from the British government courteously supporting the representatives of Japan in regard to the stay of the Russian squadron at Kamranh bay MORE SHIPS FOR

THE BUSSIAN NAVY. St. Petersburg, April 22.—A commission, headed by the Grand Duke Alexander Michaelovitch, governor-general of the mercantile marine, which has already raised \$5,000,000 by public contributions

for the navy, has announced its programme. The vessels to be built are as gunboats of the Giliak type, ten river gunboats of 183 tons, one mine transport of the type of the Yenisti, one torpedo coat destroyer, torpedo boats and sub-

marine boat, and ten coast defence ves-

The names of several ships destroyed at Port Arthur, like the Bayan and Pallada, will be repeated, and a number of the ships will be named after deceased officers who distinguished themselves by ndividual exploits at Port Arthur, most-TO JOIN SQUADRON. In upon torpedo beats early in the war.
One of the cruisers will be named Admiral Makaroff.

BOUNDARY MINES.

are positive and explicit and that he Shipments For Week Reached Total of 17,051 Tons.

Phoenix, April 22.-Boundary ore shipwholly respecting French neutrality or ments for last week were as follows, else subject himself to punishment from each district smelter having some furhis government. Therefore the officials naces out of commission for repairs: here feel that France has succeeded in Granby mines, to Granby smelter, 9,850 securing the limit of what Japan can tons; Mother Lode, to B. C. Copper reasonably ask. The government still awaits the reply treal & Boston smelter, 3,150 tons; Rawor M. Beau, governor-general of Indo-hide, to Montreal & Boston smelter, 180 China, as to whether the Russian fleet tons; Mountain Rose, to B. C. Copper is within or without French waters. His smelter, 231 tons; Dominion Copper Co.'s absence from his headquarters at Saigon Stemwinder dump, to Trail smelter, 70 may delay the governor-general's reply, tons; Oro Denoro, to Granby smelter, 70 tons. Total for the week, 17,051 tons; total for the year, 284,164 tons.

The treatment at the Boundary smelical steps have been taken to prevent the Russian protected cruiser Diana, in- Granby smelter, 12,018 tons; B. C. Copterned at Saigon after the naval battle of August 10th, from putting to sea and resuming her active operations. The week, 19,166 tons; total for the year to Diana is understood to have been lying date, 290,807 tons.

POISONED BULLETS

Are Used by Assailants of Officials in Poland.

St. Petersburg, April 22.-In all recent attacks on the police and administrative officers in Poland the assailants have used poisoned bullets and daggers. At the music halls performers are arousing great demonstrations by singing and reciting revolutionary verses. These are introduced as encores, not appearing on the regular programmes, which must be

passed by the theatrical censor.

In order to insure prompt action in Nicholas has personally sent an order to case of demonstrations the governors and Admiral Rojestvensky to leave French, other officials of the provinces have been waters. This led to reports in the directed to remain at their offices during chamber of deputies to-day that the Russian squadron had actually departed any emergency.

WILL ENTERTAIN DR. OSLER Dinner to Be Given in His Honor Before He Leaves For Oxford.

New York, April 22 .- Dr. Wm. A. Oser of John Hopkins University, whose talk about the comparative uselessness of men past 40 attracted attention and who is soon to assume his duties at Oxford University, will be entertained, by the medical profession of the United States at a dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria on Tuesday evening, May 2nd. Dr. Osler is by birth a Canadian and leading Canadian physicians have signified their in-tention of being present at the dinner. It is understood Dr. Osler will leave this country for England in June.

GERMAN ACTRESS DEAD.

A MAJORITY OF THE VICTIMS WERE PUPILS

Four Women Over Eighty Years of Age Also Lost Their Lives - Two Sisters Seriously Injured.

Montreal, Que., April 21.-Fifteen lives were lost last night in the burning of the convent of St. Anne at Ste. Genevieve, a little village eighteen miles from this city. Of the dead, ten were pupils, four were old women over 80, pensionaires of the institution, and one was a nun, Sister Marie, who perished in attempting to save the little ones in her

The list of the dead follows: Sister Marie, adjutor. Parmelia Dugas, Ste. Genevieve. Eglantine Proulex, 1,010 Rue St.

Anne, Montreal.
Maria Legault, Ste. Geneviev Marceline Villemaire, Montreal. Emma Perrault, St. Henri, Montreal Amanda Gerand, Ste. Genevieve Leonie Daoust, Ille Bizard. Berthe Tessier, Ille Bizard. Aldea Robitaille, Ste. Genevieve. Irene Bertrand, Ste. Genevieve.

All of the above were pupils of the stitution, girls ranging from 12 to 17 years of age.
Madame Michel Lalande Madame Cardinal.

Madame Poltvin. The latter would have been 100 years of age on May 16th. The origin of the fire is so far wrapped in mystery and even the precise place in which it broke out is in doubt. Those who were earliest on the scene says that it appeared to have started in the "Hospice," as the portion of the Woods Milling Company to-day made building occupied by the old women is one of the most important announce-

given is that the fire started from one of the inmates smoking in bed contrary big mil' in Montreal and a new mill in to the rules.

The convent building was a three a capacity of 4,000 barrels of flour per story and a half stone edifice, built in day, and the Winnipeg mill a capacity of 1871, with a frontage of 75 feet and a 5,000 barrels per day. At the present

heavily timbered. This lumber was very the total output when the proposed new dry, and was the cause of the fire mills are constructed will be about 14,spreading so rapidly. The villagers first learned of its outbreak at 11.15 p. m. When the firstcomers reached the place, smoke was pouring from all the windows, and quite number of inmates had escaped from the burning building. Others were still inside, but they could not be reached. ladders being lacking. Some found their way to the windows and jumped, but the great majority of those who perished were undoubtedly asphyxiated as they

lay asleep or before they could reach a window or the stairs. Many had narrow escapes. One little girl, named Grondin, was sleeping on the second floor, and being awakened, rushed into the hall and started up the stairs instead of down. When she got near the top, she slipped. That is all

Two of the sisters, Marie Therese Dejesus and Marie Robistine were seriously injured by jumping from the third

erished slept in the upper story of the with contents; also the offices of Dr. One of the first to reach the convent fter the fire was discovered was

lphonse Garaud, who lived immediateopposite. He had two daughters residing in the institution, and his first and fell into Louise basin this after-thought was naturally for their safety. Luckily a ladder he had been using a but will not interfe few days previously stood in front of his No one was injured. house and procuring it, he raised it at one of the buildings to one of the windows of the dormitory in which he knew one of his children slept, When he smashed in the window a great rolume of smoke poured out. Garaud escue one girl, while a minute later a econd girl jumped from the adjoining window. He called, but received no reply. In another moment the ladder had caught fire, and he was compelled

From Garaud's story it is evident that, with the exception of the two girls who escaped as described, all the in-mates of this floor, including Sister Marie, must have been asphyxiated while they lay asleep or else overcome before they could reach the windows.

SCHEME TO BUILD NEW ELEVATORS IN NORTHWEST

Proposal to Form Company With Capital of Ten Million Dollars -The Rodney Murder.

Montreal, April 20 .- It is understood that strong financial interests contemplate the formation of a company with a capital of \$10,000,000 to \$12,000,000 for the purpose of building from three to five the foreign office. Lately the strain hundred elevators throughout the Can-adian Northwest. These elevators are question of France's neutrality had been to be of the most modern and up-to-date type, possessing the greatest facilities for the farmers. It is understood that this strong elements in parliament. Although company will be allied with the Ogilvie confidence is strong that the minister interests. It is also proposed to erect one, or possibly two, large flour mills in Great Britain, the whole to be under the direction of F. W. Thompson, vice-presi-Delcasse insists on retiring. The names ent and manager of the Ogilvie Flour of M. Etiennet, now minister of the in-Mills Company.

New Flour Mills. Montreal, April 20.-The Lake of the

the cause. Most of these old women are company, already one of the biggest in fond of smoking, and the explanation the British Empire, will practically triple depth of 45 feet. It was of old-fashioned construction. The interior was very out about 5,000 barrels daily, so that

000 barrels per day. Ice Breaker Aground.

morning. The ice breaker Moncalm personal intentions also embraced the was moved up a little and grounded, but her position is not dangerous

Suspect in Custody. St. Thomas, Ont., April 20.-A giving the name of A. W. Arnold, and his home as Windsor, was arrested here this morning on suspicion of being the murderer of Miss Lowry at Rodney early yesterday morning. Arnold arrived in the city from the West on the Michigan Central freight train and made application at the Columbia hotel for accommodation. His face is badly cut. He later told the police he hailed from Detroit, not Windsor. He says he fell off a train, which caused the in-

juries to his face. Warehouse Destroyed. Owen Sound, Ont., April 20.—The iron warehouse of Butchard Bros.'

Quebec, April 20 .- Some three hundred feet of the stone wall forming part of the Louise embankments bulged out

Howie and Greenwood's bicycle shop.

Embankment Collapses.

but will not interfere with navigation. M. DELCASSE DECIDES

TO REMAIN IN OFFICE

After Interview With French President, Minister Announced He Would Retain His Portfolio.

Paris, April 22.-M. Delcasse's final lecision upon his resignation as minster for foreign affairs was still in the balance up to noon, but powerful inremain in the cabinet. President Loubet personally appealed to the minister on the grounds of friendship and patriotic duty, and this was supplemented by urgent requests from Leon Bourgeois the council of ministers, and other fore-

The letter of M. Delcasse to Premier Bouvier giving the first intimation of his purpose to resign was very brief. It based his action solely on the grounds of health, and made no allusion to any political or international considerations

recently spoken of the tremendous strain placed upon his health by the cares of his position. Madame Delcasse also felt that his health was being endangered particularly severe, and to this was added the wavering allegiance of some will be persuaded to withhold his resignation, at least for the present, attention terior: M. de Frevcinet, former president affairs; Salon Bougeis and Paul Cambon, ambassador of France to Great

Britain, are prominently mentioned. M. Rouvier had a lengthy conference known. There were five of these, and ments that the business and financial with M. Bourgeols last night, but the only one escaped. She knows nothing of world has heard for some months. The latter holds that it is essential that M. Delease remains. M. Bourgeois's near friends say he would not accept the re-sponsibilities of the foreign portfolio, but consideration is being given to his taking the interior portfolio while M. Etiennet would be transferred to the foreign office. This, however, is subordinated by the universal desire in high quarters

to have M. Delcasse retain the portfolio of foreign affairs. Responding to the personal request of President Loubet, M. Delcasse went to had an interview with the President. casse to remain in the cabinet, and although his final determination has not yet been announced, it is believed he will yield to the pressing solicitation, and that an effective solution of the situation

Paris, April 22.—4.15 p. m.—M. Del-casse has informed Premier Rouvier that he will retain the portfolio of for-

FIGHT WITH ROBBERS.

Laborer Killed by Flying Bullet in a San Francisco Saloon.

San Francisco, April 22.-A pitched battle was fought early to-day between two robbers and John Brutt, a saloon In all there were 50 people in the iron warehouse of Butchard Bros.' Leeper in the latter's saloon. Thomas uilding, and of these 35 escaped.

All the pupils and the nun who stroyed by fire this morning, together the flying bullets. Both robbers escaped.

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