



TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 1904.

VOL. 85.

NO. 30.

NAVAL BATTLE IN KOREAN STRAITS

Jap Ships Engage Three Cruisers Which Escaped From Vladivostock--Entrance to Port Arthur Cleared.

Tokio, June 13.—A long report has been received here from Admiral Togo, in which he covers the operations of the fleet since June 6th, and repeats his former account of the bombardment of Liao Yang peninsula.

Japanese divisions which departed at Taku Shan on Gen. Kuroki's divisions which were at Suwen are marching toward Haicheng.

OFFICERS ESCAPE FROM PORT ARTHUR.

Liao Yang, June 14.—The two officers who escaped from Port Arthur and arrived here on June 11th, after crawling through the Japanese lines for four days, brought important dispatches from the Russian military forces at Port Arthur.

TWENTY-EIGHT JAPS KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Tokio, June 14.—4 p. m.—While the Taihoku was engaged in laying mines at the entrance to Port Arthur last night a mine exploded, killing one officer and sixteen men, and wounding two officers and seven men.

MORE SUBMARINES FOR JAPANESE NAVY.

New York, June 14.—The Americans say "Captain" has understood the director of the lake submarine boat protector, sails today on the North German Lloyd steamer Kaiser Wilhelm for Europe.

RUSSIAN POLICE HELD ITS POSITION.

St. Petersburg, June 14.—Emperor Nicholas has received the following telegram from Lieut.-General Baron Stakeberg, bearing to-day's date from Vladivostok.

REPORT OF SECOND DAY'S FIGHTING.

St. Petersburg, June 15.—3.16 a. m.—The general staff remained in session until almost midnight this morning to translate and give out Lieut.-General Baron Stakeberg's message announcing the fight at Vafangow.

RUMORED REPULSE OF JAP BATTALIONS.

Haicheng, Manchuria, June 11.—(Delayed in transmission.)—A flanking movement of the Japanese around the Russian left from Feng Huang Cheng, June 9th, was repulsed with a loss of two whole battalions.

GREAT BRITAIN AND WEL-HAI-WEL.

London, June 14.—It appears from a question and answer in the House of Commons today that the fall of Port Arthur will mark the end of British tenancy of Wel-Hai-Wel.

JAPS ARE ACTIVE ALL ALONG THE LINE.

St. Petersburg, June 14.—Emperor Nicholas has received the following dispatch from General Kouropatkin, dated June 13th.

RESERVES CALLED OUT AT VERENEZH.

Verenezh, Russia, June 14.—An Imperial order calling out the reserves of this district has been published.

TWO THOUSAND MEN WANTED AT BOBOFF.

Boboff, Russia, June 14.—The partial mobilization of the reserves in this district has been proclaimed. Two thousand reserve men are wanted from here.

ITALIAN MINISTER REFUSED DECORATION.

Rome, June 14.—Signor A. Monno, the Italian minister to Korea, has refused the decoration granted him by the Emperor.

por at the time he decorated the other members of the foreign diplomatic corps.

FOR USE OF TROOPS DURING WET WEATHER.

St. Petersburg, June 14.—The war office has adopted the recommendations made by Lieut. Botkin embodying the use of the United States army model tents.

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FIVE HUNDRED PERSONS PERISHED

Fire on Steamer Carrying Excursionists to Long Island Sound--Most of Victims Were Children.

New York, June 15.—Five hundred persons, mostly children, perished to-day by the burning of the excursion steamer General Slocum near Hell Gate in the East river.

The Slocum, having on board the annual Sunday school excursion of St. Mark's German Lutheran church of this city, was on her way up the river to-day to a resort on the Long Island sound.

When just off about 125th street, persons on shore saw smoke and flames spring from the upper part of the crowded steamer. A panic ensued on the boat almost immediately. The crowds on the forward deck, panic stricken, began to spring overboard or to crowd to the after part of the boat.

The screams of the terrified passengers could be heard on shore and hundreds of small boats immediately put off to the rescue.

Owing to the rocks on either side of the channel at this point, it was impossible to beach the vessel. The captain stuck to his post and steered the vessel straight through Hell Gate for North Brother Island, where she went ashore in the shallow water.

First Bulletin.

New York, June 15.—Information has reached police headquarters that a large excursion-steamship is on fire in the East river off 138th street. It is reported that people are jumping into the river from the boat.

It is reported that the burning steamer is the General Slocum. Soon after the report reached police headquarters, a call was sent for fire ambulances, and inspectors were sent out to take charge of a detail of harbor police, which was ordered to the scene.

The General Slocum left to-day with an excursion from St. Mark's, and while in Hell Gate the boat caught fire, and it is reported that one hundred persons were burned.

Eye-Witness's Story. New York, June 15.—Five hundred feet of open water lay between the point where the General Slocum went aground and shore, and many persons perished either in the water or on the burning vessel after the beach.

It was estimated that the steamer carried more than 2,000 persons. The General Slocum is the largest excursion steamer in these waters. She was piled for years to Rockaway beach, and could carry about 4,000 passengers.

The latest report is that at least 500 persons have been burned. Many were rescued by tugs and other vessels, which took them to the hospital.

REPORTED ATTACK IS NOT CONFIRMED.

St. Petersburg, June 15.—A dispatch from Mukden says that the Japanese army besieging Port Arthur is in line at an assault on the Russian position.

RUSSIANS REJOICE OVER NEWS OF VICTORY.

Newchwang, June 15.—4 p. m.—There are persistent rumors here of severe fighting south of Kaichow, which it is impossible to confirm. Of three trustworthy messengers sent out on the night of June 12th, two returned having been unable to pass the Russian lines at Kaichow, and the other is expecting to arrive early to-morrow.

The two who have returned learned nothing except that the Russians are becoming more strict about allowing natives to pass their lines.

FLEET WAS SIGHTED OFF PORT ARTHUR.

Chefoo, June 15.—Noon.—The captain of a steamer which passed through the Gulf of Pechili last Monday night reports seeing the searchlights of a large fleet, also flashes from their guns, 28 miles southwest of Port Arthur.

It is believed here that the Russians are moving a force of sixty-four thousand men south only to make it appear as though they were attempting to relieve Port Arthur, and upon the first encounter with the enemy it will be withdrawn north again.

A private telegram received here by a German resident late this afternoon from Chefoo said that the Japanese had suddenly appeared at Port Arthur, and the Russians in town are celebrating the news to-night.

JAPANESE KILLED BY RUSSIAN SHELLS.

Chefoo, June 15.—Noon.—A Russian merchant, who was at Kinchow at the time of the recent battle there, and who accompanied the Russian army on its retreat to Port Arthur, has arrived here in a junk. He says that the Russians had no permanent fortifications at Kinchow, but simply trenches; the country around had been mined, forcing the Japanese to take to the water. When they did so the Russian gunboat Bob was taken to the head of Tallienwan Bay, from whence she threw shells across the narrow neck of land, killing hundreds of Japanese.

MORE REINFORCEMENTS FOR KOUROPATKIN.

St. Petersburg, June 15.—1.40 p. m.—The appointment was Lieut.-General Leonidas Dembowsky as commander of the Fifth East Siberian army corps is evidence that the larger reinforcements are to be placed at Gen. Kouropatkin's disposal. The four corps originally formed of Siberian troops are mobilized in Man-

Shoe Co. Ltd. AND RETAIL. d Shoes, oots, Etc. Shoe Co. Ltd. A. B. C. Ananimo, B. C.

Shoe Co., Ltd. d Smelters of d Silver Ores. Works at VER ISLAND, B. C. N. Ry. or the sea. THOS. KIDDIE Smelter Manager.

Eggs With Water Glass FULL DIRECTIONS. Chemist and Druggist, 98 Government St., Near Yates St., Victoria, B. C.

Notice is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to make application to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a special license to cut and carry away timber from the following described lands: Commencing at a stake planted on Mellich Point, about 3 miles east from the head of Orford Bay, on the east side of Bute Inlet, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence north 80 chains, thence east following bank of river to point of commencement.

Notice is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to make application to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a special license to cut and carry away timber from the following described lands: Commencing at a stake planted on the south side of Mellich Point, about 3 miles east from the head of Orford Bay, on the east side of Bute Inlet, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence north 80 chains, thence east following bank of river to point of commencement.

Notice is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to make application to the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a special license to cut and carry away timber from the following described lands: Commencing at a stake planted on the north side of Mellich Point, about 3 miles east from the head of Orford Bay, on the east side of Bute Inlet, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence north 80 chains, thence east following bank of river to point of commencement.

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FOR SALE Residence of Mr. W. J. Smith, HILLSIDE AVENUE. Tenders will be received up to noon of 5th June, 1904, for the purchase of Lots 255 and 256, Block 13, Hillside Extension of Work Estate, with brick residence thereon.

CREASE & CREASE, Victoria, B. C. Solicitors for the Mortgage.