

"It is stated on trustworthy authority that the Mikado has ordered that Port Arthur must be taken at any cost, even if it necessitates the suspension of operations in Manchuria, and it is quite possible that the main Japanese force will proceed to Port Arthur within a few days. A rain has stopped all operations." A dispatch from Mukden states that the Japanese Port Arthur army has been largely reinforced and has taken up a position in two large bodies, one on the heights between Lungwungtao and Pigeon bay and the other on the hills near Louis bay. Guns have also been placed on the heights east of Wolf hill.

**WILL THE RUSSIANS DESTROY BATTLESHIPS?**  
Tokyo, Aug. 15.—It is believed here that the Russians will not be able to repair the five battleships reported by Admiral Togo to have been damaged in the recent sea fighting at Port Arthur. The Japanese land army now commanding the entrance to the harbor could render this work impossible.  
Before the Russian fleet emerged from Port Arthur on August 10th, the Japanese batteries could reach the warships there with shells and the docks were exposed to a fire, the severity of which is increasing constantly. It is doubted if the ships will be able to get underway undergoing repairs, and it is reported that the Russians themselves will destroy them before Port Arthur falls.

**GENERAL ASSAULT ON PORT ARTHUR.**  
Chefoo, Aug. 15.—1.30 p.m.—A telegram just received here from a reliable source states that a general attack on Port Arthur began at 4 o'clock this morning and continued till 11 o'clock.

It is stated here that the Empress of Japan suggested that the Japanese arrange with the Russians for the safe departure of women and children and non-combatants to Dairen.

**REPORT OF ANOTHER NAVAL ENGAGEMENT.**  
Washington, Aug. 15.—The state department has received advices from Chefoo to the effect that it is reported there that a general naval battle at Port Arthur was begun at dawn to-day.

**ASSAULT BY LAND AND SEA FORCES.**  
Chefoo, Aug. 15.—11 p.m.—That a general land and naval attack was made on Port Arthur to-day is indicated by information from various sources.

The statement that a naval attack was made at 4 o'clock in the morning comes from an authoritative but not very reliable source. The attack, which is reported to have occurred at 4 o'clock, was said to be a surprise attack on the Japanese fleet. The Japanese fleet, consisting of three torpedo boats and three destroyers, were reported to have been destroyed. The Japanese fleet, consisting of three torpedo boats and three destroyers, were reported to have been destroyed. The Japanese fleet, consisting of three torpedo boats and three destroyers, were reported to have been destroyed.

**UNCONFIRMED RUMOR OF FALL OF FORTRESS.**  
St. Petersburg, Aug. 15.—5.45 a.m.—Aside from the official reports of the Japanese, there is no actual news from the front has been received.

There is a persistent rumor that Port Arthur has fallen, but it cannot be confirmed. There is a general belief, which is borne out by the dispatches, that the situation at Port Arthur is a desperate one.

**STOESSEL TELLS OF REPULSE OF THE JAPS.**  
St. Petersburg, Aug. 15.—4.20 p.m.—The war office has received a message from Port Arthur in which General Stoessel, under date of August 11th, reports a successful repulse of a general assault on the Russian outer position during the night following the departure of the Russian squadron.

He does not mention a naval engagement or refer to the return of the warships.

**JAPS SAVED PART OF THE RURIK'S CREW.**  
Tokyo, Aug. 15.—11 a.m.—A dispatch to the admiralty from the naval establishment at Takahashi says: "Admiral Kaurimura met the Vladivostok squadron 20 miles from Usan, Korea, at 5 o'clock on Sunday morning. The battle ended at 10.30 a.m."

"The Rurik sank by the stern, her bows standing up perpendicularly. The Japanese rescued 450 of the members of the Rurik crew."

"The Russia and the Gromobol caught fire several times and were heavily damaged."

"Only one of the Japanese ships was hit. Two Japanese were killed and seven wounded."

**SIX HUNDRED OF SURVIVORS HAVE LANDED.**  
Washington, Aug. 15.—The American consul at Nagasaki reports to the state department that 600 of the survivors of the big Russian cruiser Rurik, of the Vladivostok squadron, sunk by Admiral Kaurimura, have arrived at Sasebo, and will be landed by the Japanese as a naval base.

**RUMORED SINKING OF THE CRUISER NOVIK.**  
Chefoo, Aug. 15.—10.30 a.m.—An unconfirmed report which has been received from Tsintau, says the Russian cruiser Novik, which put into Tsintau after the battle of August 10th, off Port Arthur, which could there and put to sea within the 24 hours' limit, has been sunk 40 miles from Tsintau.

**JAPANESE DESTROYERS ENTERED PORT ARTHUR.**  
Liao Yang, Aug. 13.—(Delayed in transmission.)—The following further particulars of the Japanese attack on Port Arthur on July 26th, are given by a Russian correspondent:  
"The Japanese on July 25th sent a summons to the fortress to surrender and served a notice of their intention to storm."

"On the following morning at 6.30 they concentrated the fire of 120 guns on Green hill. Many of their shells were fired with melinite, which gave off noxious fumes. Their land guns were supplemented by the fire of the fleet, and the Japanese industry moved forward to attack the right wing of the Green hill position."  
"There was a perfect cloud of shells. The attack failed utterly, despite the bombardment."  
"The Japanese were never able to reach our positions. Finally the attackers were rolled back with terrific loss."  
"The decision to abandon the Wolf hill position, in view of the attack, and that on other positions of the line, was made on July 30th, and the troops fell back on Port Arthur."  
Another Russian correspondent, representing the Associated Press, says: "The Japanese balloon ascended three times on the morning of July 26th, carrying a photographic apparatus, but its observations were not particularly successful, judging by the results of the artillery fire."  
"Our fleet during the battle of July 26th greatly hampered the attempt of the Japanese fleet to surround the land attack on our positions."  
"The bombardment was furious on both sides. The Japanese torpedo boats came in several times and dinned at the temples of our vessels. Each time their attacks were frustrated."  
"Towards night the Japanese fleet put to sea, followed for a short distance by our destroyers, who finally lost sight of it."  
"During the thickest of the fight a shell from the Retzov put a Japanese cruiser out of action. The shell struck a boiler and the main steam connection, and the vessel was enveloped in clouds of steam. Control of her was lost, and she was towed out of action by another cruiser."  
"The Japanese fleet reappeared on July 27th, and July 28th, but did not come within range."

**JAPANESE CAPTURE RUSSIAN BATTERIES.**  
Berlin, Aug. 15.—A dispatch to the Loka Anzeiger from Tokyo, dated to-day, confirms the reports that heavy fighting has occurred at Port Arthur during the last few days.  
The Japanese captured three Russian batteries and secured good positions close to the inner fortifications.  
Both sides lost heavily.  
The Japanese have commenced a bombardment from Lang Mountain, on the harbor and inner defenses.

**REPORT THAT HARBOR HAS AGAIN BEEN CLOSED.**  
London, Aug. 15.—Russia's recent naval disaster has produced a great interest in England, as it was apprehension caused by the power of the cruisers Rurik and Rossia of the Vladivostok squadron which led the British to build the monster cruisers Terrible and Powerful.

The Tokyo correspondent of the Times Telegraph sends a report that Port Arthur was again bottled up on the night of August 11th, but there is nothing from other sources to confirm this report.  
According to the Daily Mail's Shanghai correspondent, the Japanese consul claims the cruiser Askold as a prize.  
The Chefoo correspondent of the Daily Mail, under the date of August 15th, says: "Three Russian torpedo boat destroyers left Tsintau last night and returned there this morning, thus ending the 24-hour limit. The victory refuses to accept the resignation of Admiral Sakai over the Ryeshihell affair."

The Tokio correspondent of the Times says: "The Russian commander has ordered out of range. When the fight had been under way for some time, the cruisers and smaller craft became engaged. Finally the Chefoo fort was surrounded by four battleships and two cruisers. She endured hours of terrific fire, fighting pluckily. The shell which killed Admiral Whitford rebounded from a turret."  
A message from the Associated Press correspondent at Tsintau states that the Japanese vessels in that harbor have been disarmed and their crews allowed them to remain until repaired.

**RUSSIAN FLAGS HAVE BEEN HAILED DOWN.**  
Tsintau, Aug. 15.—Noon.—The Russian flag has just been pulled down from the battleship Czarevitch, and the three cruisers which took refuge here. The lowering of the colors was done in the presence of the German governor.

Previous cables have stated that there were three torpedo boat destroyers at Tsintau, and it is probable that the above mentioned three destroyers instead of cruisers.

**WILL BE DETAINED UNTIL CLOSE OF WAR.**  
Berlin, Aug. 15.—The hauling down of the Russian vessels at Tsintau occurred yesterday in accordance with instructions of the German foreign office, which having ascertained that the damaged sustained by the warships were too serious for repairs to be made within a reasonable time, gave orders for them to be disarmed and detained for the rest of the war.

The foreign office having taken note of the report that Germany is preparing a Russian vessel in accordance with the requirements of international law, and requiring no extradition of her crew, the foreign office further denies the assertion, emanating from St. Petersburg,

that Germany is supporting Russia's protest against Japan's infringement of Chinese neutrality in the case of the Chefoo incident.

**THINK PART OF THE FLEET HAS ESCAPED.**  
St. Petersburg, Aug. 15.—12.25 p.m.—The newspapers to-day devote editorial space to the naval engagement of Round Island on August 10th, and generally express the belief that "the remainder of the Port Arthur squadron has broken through the Japanese fleet. The editorials mostly deal with the Ryeshihell incident."  
M. Sourven, editor of the Novoye Vremya, vehemently declares that Captain Shestakovsky by slapping the face of the Japanese commander administered the only punishment suitable for such an outrageous act.

All the papers made sarcastic allusions to the "bankruptcy of international law," and the Russ, Novoye Vremya and Nor-out reproduced an article from a Berlin paper based on the points of the work of the maritime law, pointing out that the Japanese were not justified in attacking a vessel without regard to the fact that she was armed or unarmed. The same authority invokes support for the contention that the Russian warships did not violate international law in seeking shelter in neutral ports.  
The Knight Commander's captain is expected to arrive in St. Petersburg shortly.

**ACTIVITY ON SHIPS OF THE BALTIC FLEET.**  
St. Petersburg, Aug. 15.—There is considerable activity aboard the ships of the Baltic fleet. A large amount of sailors' about being taken to the new battleship Orsk.

Orders have been issued that all torpedo boat destroyers of the second division, from Vladivostok, be ordered to the small roadstead at Kronstadt. Shore liberty on all vessels has been curtailed after sunset.

**ARE PREPARING TO ATTACK KOURPATKIN.**  
Liao Yang, Aug. 14.—(Delayed in transmission.)—The Japanese are preparing to make an attack. They make reconnaissance daily to ascertain the position of the Russians at Anshanchan.  
The Japanese are eight miles to the southwest of Anshanchan, and thence hold a line southeast, including the valley of Sishan, whence their line runs northeast to Holomung, which is occupied by a large force. Further north their outposts are some miles from the Japanese, whence their line runs north to the river of the Japanese outposts occupy Daodishan, whence the Japanese tried to force the Boshan, which is defended by the Russians. The road thence stands towards the Yantai mines, and the railroad north of Liao Yang. The Japanese occupy Tsanchuan, opposite Dapindoushan, on the Shintze road, over the Taipai pass and through the Sirtsinim to Mukden.

There are constant reports that the Japanese are moving large forces on the railroad to Sinitian, and that they are bringing up pontoons to cross the large river, thus threatening the Mukden and Liao Yang railroad.

From all it is easy to perceive that the Russian strategic position is very good. They occupy with Liao Yang the centre, a fortified semi-circle. The Russian forces can be concentrated easily and moved alongside the lines.

The Japanese, on the other hand, are outside, and therefore much dispersed. The Russian position, it is claimed, will be still better when they retire from the front.

**BOUNDARY MINES.**  
Shipments for the Past Week Amounted to 141,429 Tons.  
Phoenix, Aug. 13.—Ore shipments from the mines of the Boundary for the past week were: Granby mines, to Granby smelter, 10,020 tons; Mother Lode, to Greenwood smelter, 3,482 tons; Emma, to Greenwood and Nelson smelters, 855 tons; Oro Donoro, to Granby smelter, 33 tons; Rolland, to Granby smelter, 23 tons; total for the week, 141,429 tons; total for the year to date, 464,800 tons.  
The Granby smelter this week treated 11,646 tons of ore, or 364,061 tons this year.

**THE CZAREVITCH.**  
Empress and Heir to Throne Progressing Favorably.  
St. Petersburg, Aug. 15.—An official bulletin issued from the Peterhof Palace says that the Empress and the heir to the throne are progressing favorably. The Czarevitch has been gazed at the Altman (or chief) of all the Cossack forces.

**PORTION OF RAILWAY BLOWN UP BY CHINESE.**  
Liao Yang, Aug. 15.—Chinese bandits last night blew up a portion of the railroad ten miles south of Liao Yang. The road was repaired in a few hours.  
Twelve Chinese bandits have been

brought to Liao Yang for firing on Russian soldiers, during which two dragons were wounded.  
The weather is cool and the sky dull. Haze is falling occasionally. Absolutely no signs of autumn.  
The Russian troops are refreshed by their long rest, but they are disappointed at the absence of news from Port Arthur and the impossibility of going to the rescue of the fortress.

**AMERICAN PROMISES "NOTHING BUT WORDS."**  
St. Petersburg, Aug. 15.—To-day's issue of the Novoye Vremya comments ironically upon a dispatch from Washington saying the United States is unable to do more than lend moral support in preserving the neutrality of China. The paper declares that after having been the first to avow a determination to guarantee China's integrity, now there is necessity in action in connection with the Ryeshihell attack Chefoo all the American promises "evaporate, and are found to be made up of nothing but words."

**DANGER OF TRADE INTERRUPTION REMOVED.**  
London, Aug. 15.—The smashing of the Russian Vladivostok fleet by Kamimura is a great relief to Lloyd's, and all engaged in the North Pacific trade. Although British shippers have no desire to infringe on international law by supplying contraband to Japan, they breathe more freely now that danger of interruption of business "The collision between British steamers and Japanese vessels was freely taken in London to-day that Port Arthur would fall in a week and that Russian would sue for peace within a month.

**COLLIDED WITH THE STEAMER TREMONT**  
The Ramona Ran Into Outward Bound Liner During Fog at Port Townsend.

Port Townsend, Aug. 15.—Steamship Tremont, at anchor in the bay here, was run into during the night by the steamer Ramona.  
Capt. Garlick, of the Tremont, gave the Times representative the following account of the accident: "The collision occurred at 2.05 o'clock this morning. The fog was very dense, and we were drifting, not having turned the screw for some time. We were off Marrows Point, and four steamers were whistling in the neighborhood. The Whataboom just passed us when the Ramona poked her nose through the fog and struck us about eight o'clock. She was under way and disappeared."

The Ramona belongs to the Pacific Coast Company, and was bound for Seattle from Vancouver. She was on her way to the bay, and is anchored here awaiting the arrival of underwriters. Several parties are on board, but the exact details have not been determined. Capt. Jordan, pilot, was on the bridge with Capt. Garlick.

**THE WEEK AT BOSSLAND.**  
The Le Roi was Concluded Concentration Tests—Ore Production.  
Rossland, Aug. 13.—Excellent progress was made in connection with Rossland's mining industry this week without any features of unusual interest.  
The return to the city next week of A. J. McMillan, managing director of the Le Roi is awaited with keen interest.

The Le Roi has commenced concentrating tests and claim to have demonstrated the possibility of saving 30 per cent. of the values with ordinary concentration.  
Plans for a two hundred and fifty ton mill are complete and in readiness for commencement of construction. It is believed that Mr. McMillan will order a start on arrival.

The Le Roi No. 2 and Velvet-Portland concentrators are running continuously, while the Rossland Power Company's plant is in partial operation and White Bear mill is making excellent progress towards completion. The Le Roi experimental works are now being dismantled. One of the features being a shipment today of forty tons of concentrates produced during the tests.  
Ore production for the week ending tonight is: Le Roi, 1,800 tons; Centre Star, 1,500 tons; War Eagle, 1,200 tons; Le Roi No. 2, 300 tons; Spikes, 90 tons; Jumbo, 200 tons; Old 280 tons; Velvet-Portland (milled), 25 tons. Total, 6,080 tons; year to date, 219,193 tons.

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The Granby smelter this week treated 11,646 tons of ore, or 364,061 tons this year.

**CHINESE BANDITS MAY ATTACK THE RAILWAY.**  
Mukden, Aug. 15.—The Chinese bandit leaders, Kisevan, Tuisan and Folgo, with a number of followers, are now in the Sinitian district moving up the Liao river valley with the object of attacking the railway. Each of the bands, which were organized by the Japanese, is accompanied by a hundred Japanese with mountain guns.

**NAVAL PUPILS MAY SOON BE CALLED OUT.**  
Vladivostok, Aug. 15.—The commandant of the port has notified the pupils of the upper classes of the naval schools to hold themselves in readiness to assist either in the fortifications or on the vessels of the squadron. A portion of the lower classes may also be called out. All is quiet at present.

**FOB "BUN-DOWN" PEOPLE** there's nothing known in medical treatment to-day so effective and certain of a cure and so free from danger as the use of the Sarsaparilla American Nerve, because it strikes at the root of all nervous ailments, the digestive organs, allures rich red blood, drives away accumulation, gets on food and makes over physical weakness generally. Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—148.

**NEW STEAMSHIP LINE FOR PACIFIC**  
ALLAN COMPANY WILL INAUGURATE SERVICE

Outlook for Trade With China and Japan Justifies Placing of Vessels on Route.

Montreal, Aug. 15.—The Allan Steamship Company according to the announcement made by H. A. Allan, one of the leading members of the firm, has gone through into the question of the feasibility of establishment of a line of steamers to the Pacific from Canadian ports to ports of Japan and China, and would inaugurate such a service before the completion of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway.

The announcement is of widespread importance because the Allan line has always been regarded as pre-eminently a Canadian line, and has, during the past five years, done more than any other company towards the development of the St. Lawrence route.  
The Allan Company, he added, had consulted with different interests acquainted with the possibilities for increased trade between Canada and the Orient, and he was satisfied that they were more than sufficient to justify the inauguration of a fleet.

It is probable a bulk of the supplies for the British Columbia section of the Grand Trunk Pacific will be brought from England round Cape Horn, and the ships utilized in the trans-Pacific trade until new vessels are built.

**OPEN SHOP QUESTION.**  
80,000 Men Are Idle in New York and This Number May Be Increased.  
New York, Aug. 15.—To-day begins their third, and possibly the decisive year, in the controversy which threatens to put a stop to building operations in this city for months to come. It is declared by the leaders of both sides that everything points to a fight to a finish between the labor unions and the Employers' Association over the question of the open shops. Now about 30,000 men are out of employment, including skilled mechanics and laborers, as the result of the present strike. There are about 60,000 skilled workers in the building trades in this city who would be affected by a general strike or lockout. In the employ of the city there are about 45,000 helpers and laborers and 15,000 employees of material men would be thrown out of work, making a total of 120,000. Their loss in wages would amount in round figures to \$10,000,000 a month, in addition to which the capital to the 1,000 members of the Building Trades party would be lost. The value of dollars invested in property undergoing improvements would be tied up.

The employers declare they are determined that the arbitration agreement adopted a year ago shall be respected with the open shop policy as the alternative.

**STRIKE AT TORONTO.**  
Builders' Laborers Demand Increase in Wages—Building Operations Suspended.  
Toronto, Aug. 15.—Builders' laborers, to the number of 850, went on strike this morning for an advance from 25 to 28 cents per hour. The number of men thrown out of employment is very large, but no accurate estimate can yet be given. The Bricklayers' Association and the Carpenters' union are taking a hard line, and will accept material from non-union laborers, or sympathize with the strikers. The strike is likely to be of short duration.

**DROWNED WHILE BOATING.**  
Young Man Perished in the Gutwater River—Swept Over Falls.  
Ottawa, Aug. 15.—William B. Lynn, aged 21, a popular Ottawa young man, was drowned in the Gutwater river, near the Cascades, yesterday afternoon. He was rowing with two young ladies when the boat overturned and his companions on the overturned boat attempted to swim to shore, but was swept over the falls and drowned.

**GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC.**  
Vanouver, Aug. 15.—B. G. MacPherson, M. P., says there are no doubts that the Grand Trunk Pacific will be built simultaneously from both ends. Mr. MacPherson will probably go North with Messrs. Hays and Westminster next week.

**ANNEXED.**  
Great Britain Takes Possession of Bird's Island.  
Kingston, Island of St. Vincent, B. W. I., Aug. 15.—The British cruiser Tribune on August 11th landed a party in command of Lieut. Thelwell, at Aveo, Bird's Island, 127 miles west of the north end of the island of Dominica, and annexed it as a British possession. Love places him'ed through the surf and landed, the British flag was hoisted and a royal salute was fired.

The Tribune proceeded direct to St. Vincent, arrived here yesterday. The Tribune left to-day, being ordered to Venezuela to protect British interests at Caracas.

**DESTRUCTORS IN COLLISION.**  
London, Aug. 14.—The British Destroyer Deoxy collided with another destroyer last night off the Sicily Islands and sank. The crew were saved.

The issues between Turkey and the United States have been arranged to the satisfaction of both governments.

**THE KING'S SPEECH.**  
Imperial Parliament Has Been Prologued—Anglo-French Agreement.

London, Aug. 15.—Imperial parliament was prorogued to-day. The King's speech was brief. His Majesty mentioned his visits to the King of Denmark and the German Emperor, at which His Majesty said his reception in such cases was most cordial, and referred to the agreement between France and Great Britain, which, he pointed out, will be advantageous to all concerned and materially strengthens the friendship uniting Great Britain and France.

His Majesty added: "Hostilities I regret to say are still in progress between Russia and Japan. Upon the outbreak of the war, I issued a proclamation declaring my neutrality, and enjoining all my people to a strict observance thereof. Important questions involving the treatment of neutral commerce in the hands of belligerents have arisen in connection with these operations. The issues involved, which are of the gravest moment to the trade of the Empire, will, I trust, be amicably settled by the arbitration which is the commercial interest of this country. My government will energetically support my subjects in the exercise of rights recognized by international law as belonging to neutrals."

The King said the scheme for the re-organization of the Macedonian governments under foreign officials promised satisfactory results, and expressed the hope that the introduction of the elective element into the legislative council of the Transvaal, which was step in the direction of ultimate self government, would meet the united support of all big subjects in that colony.

In regard to Tibet, the King said that the arrival of the "political mission" which was formed by the greatest satisfaction, and reflected credit on the officers and men of the small force. He hoped the conference at Lhasa would result in an arrangement which would end the difficulties and friction on the northern frontier of the Indian Empire.

After commenting on the satisfactory situation in Somaliland and enumerating bills to which His Majesty had assented, the speech concluded with the King's remarks on the meeting of the House of Commons during the summer months. Other things are also contemplated in connection with the Gorge, which make it desirable that no opportunity should be lost to bring about improvements.

**THE THIBET MISSION.**  
British Force Now at Lhasa Has Much Difficulty in Securing Supplies.  
Lhasa, Thibet, Aug. 7.—(Delayed in transmission.)—The British mission is experiencing difficulty in obtaining supplies and no attempt has been made to enter the city.  
Thibet officials having been notified that supplies were not forthcoming the British would be obliged to sell their grain. The monks declined to take the grain, and three tons of the army, which then left the letter in a prominent place and returned to the mission body. The monks agreed to furnish a supply and sent two tons of barley and flour.

**ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.**  
Will Sail From Liverpool For New York on Friday—John Redmond's Visit.  
London, Aug. 15.—The White Star liner Celtic, which sails from Liverpool for New York on Friday, will take among her passengers the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Davidson, Mrs. Davidson and Lady Yarmouth.

Among the passengers who will sail for New York from Liverpool on board the White Star liner "Dauntless" on August 17th, will be John Redmond, the Irish leader, and Captain Anthony J. Donelan, and Patrick O'Brien, Nationalist member of parliament. They will attend the convention of the Irish League, which is to be held in New York on August 30th.

**TEN YEARS' IMPRISONMENT.**  
Goldfield, Nev., Aug. 15.—W. L. Elliott, a resident of that place, was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary for robbing a man. Jack Madigan, and possibly fatally wounded John Hamilton. Madigan had repeatedly threatened Elliott, and when he went into Elliott's saloon the other day they started to make trouble. In a scuffle Elliott shot both.

**GAS TANK IN FLAMES.**  
Bravery of Fireman Who Did Not Know When Explosion Might Have Occurred.  
New York, Aug. 13.—Fresh paint on one of the big gas tanks of the Consolidated Gas company on First avenue, between 110th and 111th streets, caught fire to-night and in an instant the big steel cylinders were enveloped in a sheet of flame, and but for the prompt action of the fire department, the result would have been disastrous.

The cause was the signal for a wild stampede of the residents for blocks around to get out of the neighborhood. In their panic people left their homes, shops and belongings, some even forgetting their keys in the apartment.  
The horrors-stricken Italians, who composed the bulk of the residents of the neighborhood, discarded everything that would hamper their flight, and trampled down the weaker one.  
The recreation park at the foot of 112th street soon became jammed with people, and but for the strenuous efforts of the police many would have jumped into the water.

While the fire was one of the hottest that the fire department has had to cope with in some time, it was of short duration, the last vestige of the sparks having been extinguished within 46 minutes after the outbreak of the explosion.  
The firemen worked under great tension, expecting every minute that the reservoir would explode.

**PILL-PAIN.**—30 cents a vial for Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills would not make them so easy to enjoy today if the curative power were not in them. Worth will get to the top and that accounts for the wonderful demand for these little gems. They positively cure constipation, biliousness, Sick Headache. Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—148.

**TO DEEPEN ARM PAST THE GORGE WILL BE URGED ON**  
HON. MR. PREFONTAINE

Tourist Executive Have a Plan to Place Before the Minister—Advocate a Canal.

(From Monday's Daily.)  
An invitation will be extended Hon. Raymond Prefontaine by members of the executive of the Tourist Association to make a trip to the headwaters of the Gorge. If it is accepted the advantage of having the Arm dredged from the bridge and the canal excavated through the neck separating the waters of Esquimaux and the Gorge will be pressed. The value of the suggestion is generally conceded, as there can be no doubt that the opening up of a continuous waterway from Victoria to Esquimaux harbor would increase the business of Victoria as a tourist resort and prove a boon to residents of the districts touching the proposed watercourse.

In an interview with a representative of the Times this morning H. G. Outhbert, secretary of the association, said: "The executive consider that Victoria's best asset from a tourist standpoint is the Gorge. We can do better than to improve that as much as possible, as it is within easy reach of the city, can be approached by four or five different roads, and is an unexcelled stretch of water for launch or rowing parties. Besides, the water is the best around the city for bathing. Now that the Gorge has secured the status of a park in that vicinity, it would not be difficult to erect bathing houses and provide modern facilities for those who enjoy swimming during the summer months. Other things are also contemplated in connection with the Gorge, which make it desirable that no opportunity should be lost to bring about improvements."

"The question the executive is now considering is 'What is the best way to make the Arm above the bridge navigable for ordinary sized boats?' Every year the weeds from the bottom grow longer, and the beds of sediment increase, leaving little water at low tides for the smaller craft to make its way beyond the point mentioned. The general complaint of the tourists and residents when reaching the Gorge bridge is 'How is it to be done?' It is impossible to use mill-dredge, King Edward, on such a job, and we know of no other that could be transferred to the ground past the bridge."

"In the opinion of the majority of the executive the easiest possible solution is to have a canal cut from the head of the Arm to Esquimaux, a distance of only three miles. It is a natural ravine between the two points, and the ground is soft, and would be easy to move, making the undertaking comparatively inexpensive."

"This accomplished it is thought that the continual ebb and tides would result in washing away considerable of the sediment which now blocks the upper part of the Gorge. At any rate it would be possible to bring a small size dredge in by way of Esquimaux for the clearing of a passage way of sufficient depth to make the water navigable for all pleasure craft."

Concluding, Mr. Outhbert said that an invitation would be extended Hon. Mr. Prefontaine to-day, and that arrangements would be made for a launch and other details attended to immediately should an acceptance be received. The minister will run right up to the head waters and it is probable that they will embark for an inspection of the neck of land that separates the Gorge and Esquimaux."

**TWO MEN SHOT.**  
In the hope of reaching the general public and drawing attention to the important matter of effectively combating the ravages of consumption the following letter has been addressed to the secretaries of all secret and benevolent societies:  
Sir:—There will be a meeting held on the grounds at the parliament buildings on Wednesday next at 4.30 p. m.  
The object of the meeting is to consider a proposition which is to be made regarding the best means of providing funds for the maintenance of a sanatorium for indigent consumptives. It is hoped your president or some member of your society will attend. I have the honor to be, sir, Your obedient servant,

C. J. PLEASANT, Secretary.

**TWENTY-FIVE PERISHED.**  
Were Drowned by Wreck of Steamer Chartered to "Kruger's Millions."

Durban, Natal, Aug. 15.—The coasting steamer Penguin has been wrecked and twenty-five persons who were on board her were drowned. The boatswain is the only survivor.  
The Penguin was chartered to search for "Kruger's millions," alleged to have been sunk with the steamer Zuni off this coast three years ago. Four previous expeditions with the same object in view have ended disastrously.

**FOR NATIONAL GALLERY.**  
(Associated Press.)  
London, Aug. 15.—Titan's portrait of Ariosto, the Italian poet, recently in Lord Darnley's collection, has been purchased for the National gallery. The price paid for the painting was \$150,000, of which amount \$52,500 was subscribed by a number of wealthy gentlemen.

"It is stated on trustworthy authority that the Mikado has ordered that Port Arthur must be taken at any cost, even if it necessitates the suspension of operations in Manchuria, and it is quite possible that the main Japanese force will proceed to Port Arthur within a few days. A rain has stopped all operations." A dispatch from Mukden states that the Japanese Port Arthur army has been largely reinforced and has taken up a position in two large bodies, one on the heights between Lungwungtao and Pigeon bay and the other on the hills near Louis bay. Guns have also been placed on the heights east of Wolf hill.