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TWENTY-FOURTH YEAR FOURTEEN PAGES—SATURDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 13 1904—FOURTEEN PAGES

## RUSSIAN TOKILED BOAT BLOW UP BY STRIKING A MINE AT PORT ARTHUR FOUR OFFICERS AND 91 MEN LOST

Admiral Togo Sends a Report of the Fight Off Port Arthur on Feb. 8 and 9.

### IMPERIAL PRINCES UNHARMED OFFICERS COOL DURING ACTION

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## LOOSENING HIS GRIP.



THE JAPS: Av, come off, you big bluffer, come off.

## ADMIRAL WIRENUS FOUND AT FRENCH SOMALILAND

But Seems in No Hurry to Get on to the Scene of Action.

London, Feb. 12.—The Russian squadron, under Admiral Wirenus, which vanished into thin air after passing the Straits of Gibraltar, was found at French Somaliland, the port of French Somaliland. Evidently the admiral is in no hurry to get to the far East. His squadron has been at French Somaliland since the middle of January, and has been engaged in the capture of the island of Djibouti, which is a strategic point on the coast of the Red Sea.

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## ONE CENT

### DID COUNSEL ADVISE PAGE TO WITHHOLD OTHER CASES?

Knew They Existed and So Told His Solicitor Before Investigation Was Opened.

That the investigation into the assessment rolls will not bring out sensations is undoubted. In spite of the fact that Harry Page, in the witness box, said he knew of no other instance of padding having been done, it was asserted yesterday that he made the statement on the advice of counsel interested in the case, and contrary to the facts.

When seen last night in regard to the statement Mr. Page was averse to saying anything for publication. He desired to reserve anything he had further to say for the witness box. But that there is more to come may be inferred from the remarks he made to the world.

After several interviews with my solicitor, Mr. Hales, he said, "on his advice I made a statement to him four or five days before the investigation began. That statement covered the whole situation as far as I was concerned, and I must refer you to Mr. Hales for any further information concerning it."

James Hales was seen and confirmed Harry Page's admission. In view of the query having been made, he seemed to think it due to the public to anticipate to some extent what is still to be divulged.

"Several days before the investigation opened," he said, "Mr. Page did mention other names as being included in the list of names. He did not, however, remember that those names were connected with Euclid-avenue and Euclid-place. Evidently when the surprise was sprung on him he was confused, and unable to connect the new names with those he had in his mind. He immediately after leaving the witness box he recalled the circumstance and mentioned it to his solicitor and to Mr. Hales."

THE GRAVEST.

Of all the political scandals that ever existed in Canada the gravest is the intimacy between the Attorney-General of Ontario and the private corporations holding public monopoly franchises in the municipalities. How can a man who is up to his eyes in shares in these corporations be fair to the people who are taxed down to them? Mr. Penne, the M.L.A. for Kingston, might answer this question.

J. A. Ready in the City.

J. A. Ready, who has been connected with the Sovereign Bank since its organization as secretary, arrived in Toronto yesterday. Mr. Ready will act as assistant to G. G. O'Rourke, general manager of the Crown Bank of Canada, and will immediately assume his duties in the Crown Bank upon his arrival. Mr. Ready's banking experience extends over more than a quarter of a century, he having been connected with the Merchants Bank of Canada for more than 20 years.

A Great Victory for the Japs.

The Japanese are undoubtedly carrying everything before them, and Japan is now the admiration of the world. Among all their victories, the capture of the main squadron at Port Arthur is easily the first, and the admiration of those whose eyes are sound.

David Hoskins, F.O.A., Chartered Accountant, 107 Wellington Chambers, City Hall Square, Phone Main 210.

Metropolitan Office, Toronto, Ont., Feb. 12.—9 a.m.—The weather is still fairly cold, but has become milder than during the early part of the week. Light snow falls are reported from Montreal and the Territories, and snow buries have occurred in Ontario and the Maritime Provinces.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 36-44; Calgary, 12 below-10 below; Qu'Appelle, 8 below-12; Winnipeg, 20 below-8; Port Arthur, 27-30; Perry Sound, 10 below-2; Toronto, 2 below-14; Ottawa, 2 below-12; Montreal, 2-10; Quebec, 2-10.

Probabilities.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Weather becoming mild; strong southeasterly winds, with light snow before night.

The best lunch to be had in Toronto at Tremont Hotel Lunch Counter, Young Turkey, Dressing and Sausage 15c today.

STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

Feb. 12. At. From. Montreal, Liverpool, St. John, Halifax, New York, Boston, Portland, Liverpool, Halifax, La Champagne, Havre.

TO-DAY IN TORONTO.

W. A. exhibition of Dutch Paintings, last day. Philharmonic Orchestra, complimentary concert to Mendelssohn Choir, Massey Hall, 3 p.m. Toronto Driving Club, "The Guns," Queen's Park, 3 p.m. W. B. Yates on "Poetry in the Old Time and the New," Toronto University, 3 p.m. Toronto Industrial Exhibition Board, Grand, Tenny College, 3.30 p.m. Students' Volunteer Union, Variety Y.M.C.A., 4.30 p.m. Canadian Pony Society, King Edward Hotel, 8 p.m. Toronto District Labor Council, Richmond Hall, 8 p.m. Princess "Dorcas Robertson," in "Hamlet," 2 p.m.; "The Light That Failed," 8 p.m. "The Volunteer Organist," 2 and 8 p.m. Maletic, "Shadows of a Great City," 2 and 8 p.m. Shea's vaudeville, 2 and 8 p.m. Star, burlesque, 2 and 8 p.m.

I regretably to report that...

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## THE STRATEGICAL SITUATION.

Little news of importance is transpiring from the seat of war, and it is believed the silence covers a most important movement in which the Japanese land forces are at present engaged. There are various indications which, combined, lead to the inference that the immediate object is the capture of Port Arthur, Russia's Manchurian stronghold. Probably no other sea attack has been made than those of Feb. 8 and 9, which resulted in the displacement of two battleships and five cruisers. The more recent reports cabled from various points in China and Japan, describing a fresh engagement at Port Arthur, almost certainly refer to the original attacks. News travels slowly in China, as telegraph facilities are limited, and as the accounts reach the various centres they are caught up and cabled by the resident correspondents, thus resulting in a confusion of dates.

Port Arthur, according to the best information, is weakly fortified landwards, and the Russian guns in the fortifications do not cover Pigeon Bay, a landing place on the western side. A Japanese force disembarking there could assail the town on the flank and in the rear while the land batteries are engaged. Such an attack, if successful, would almost certainly result in the Russian loss of both town and fleet. Such a reverse would be a humiliating and irreparable blow to Russia.

Regarding the operations on the Korean mainland, the Japanese troops are understood to be pushing their way rapidly towards the Yalu River. The strength and exact location of the Russian force is unknown, although the Japanese intelligence department is no doubt fully informed. But it is unlikely that the opposing armies will come into touch south of the Yalu. Japanese authorities say the number of the Russian troops is greatly exaggerated, and they profess to have no doubt that they will be driven back towards Harbin, the point of junction of the Trans-Siberian and Manchurian railroads. If they succeed in this it will enable them to cut the main line of communication between Port Arthur and the mainland of Manchuria, thus preventing reinforcements from reaching the Port Arthur garrison.

The Japs are greatly elated at having been allowed so easily to occupy and fortify Masampo. It is a place of immense importance to Japan, as it commands the Straits, and in Japanese hands makes them for Russia another Dardanelles. Baron Hayashi declares that with the fortification of Masampo the integrity of Japan is assured forever. No fleet, he says, can pass there against Japanese wishes. "Even if we are beaten, we would not give up Masampo."

At the beginning to break down Russian prestige in China, and for the purpose of ultimately effecting the union of the forces which would make the "yellow peril" a reality.

been tightened by the Russian and Japanese officials, and few despiches of an authoritative nature have been allowed to pass. The Japanese campaign has been planned with deliberation and with the advantage of experience in the war with China. While writers like Spencer Wilkinson are waiting for more trustworthy information than the rumors of the press agencies respecting the continuance of the bombardment of Port Arthur and the repulse of landing parties, they forecast operations on a large scale between Port Arthur and the mouth of the Yalu or the breaking of railway communication from the

British Wants Horses.

Ottawa, Feb. 12.—Is Great Britain making preparations for eventualities in the Far East? This question is placed upon the visit to Canada of Col. Lawley, who is on a mission for the War Office. The Colonel's mission had to do with the purchase of horses, and he does not say so himself. On the contrary, he asserts that he is

What Can He Do?

Rome, Feb. 12.—The government has received a message from the commander of the Italian cruiser Edda, which is at Chemulpo, Corea, saying that several Russian sailors from the warships sunk there by the Japanese in the recent engagement took refuge on board the Edda, where they were kindly received. The commander further states that he cannot deliver these men to the Japanese because they would be made prisoners, and that he cannot return them to Russia, as this action might be interpreted as a breach of neutrality.

Revolt in Russia.

Montreal, Feb. 12.—Mr. De Zvirick, representative of the Russian Revolutionary Fund in this city, stated today that that organization expected to take measures against the government during the present war.

Want It Kept Dark.

Chefoo, Feb. 12.—The British steamer Fu Ping, when leaving Port Arthur, was fired upon by Russians. Members of the crew were wounded. The Russians afterwards apologized for firing on the vessel. The Fu Ping upon its arrival at Wei-Hai-Wei filed a protest with the British commissioner. The American consul has reported to the United States Congress that the Russian authorities have refused to allow the American steamer Pleades to leave Port Arthur. The Pleades sailed from Seattle on Feb. 12 with a cargo of flour.

Fear Complications.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 12.—The report that Russia is negotiating for permission to bring her Black Sea fleet thru the Dardanelles cannot be confirmed here. In diplomatic circles, while it is not believed the Porte would offer objections to this, the impression is that such an attempt would precipitate grave complications with the powers signatory to the Dardanelles convention.

Russia Mobilizes.

## Russian Navy Scores One

Chases 2 Japanese Merchantmen Only One Steams Away

Vladivostock Squadron Heard From in Two Different Encounters and Still More to Come—Five Russian Cruisers Reported to Have Bombaraded Hokodate, Japan.

London, Feb. 12.—At last the Russian navy has done something comparable to the exploit of the United States fleet at Manila—"the greatest sea fight since Trafalgar." On Feb. 11 two Japanese merchant steamers, the Nakanoura Maru and Zensho Maru, were peacefully pursuing their course from Saigai, Otaru (on the island of Hokkaido). Of the coast of Honshu (Kushiro) they were surrounded and shelled by four Russian cruisers, probably the Vladivostock squadron, which a few days ago was reported to be frozen up in that harbor. Victory was ultimately declared for the Russian squadron—the Nakanoura Maru captured with honor and arrived safely at Fukuyama, on the island of Hokkaido.

London, Feb. 12.—It is reported that five Russian cruisers from Vladivostock, under the command of Admiral Hakedate, Japan, on Tuesday, Feb. 11, shelled the town of Hokodate, on the island of Hokkaido, the most northern of the three Japanese islands, which harbor there is excellent and the town, containing about 50,000 inhabitants, is well and regularly built. There is a Japanese naval school there. The Russian cruiser Hakedate, which has been shut up at Vladivostock, and tried some time ago to take the main squadron at Port Arthur.

ONE STEAMER SUNK.

Washington, Feb. 12.—The Japanese legation this evening read the following cablegram under of Tokio, Feb. 11: "Two small Japanese ships, Seensho Maru and Nakon Ooran Maru, while in the bay of Vladivostock, were

Kingston Railway Now Inquires What City Power Will Cost

than the company seem inclined to consent to is evident from the declaration today to the effect that if the Council on Monday night fail to take a decisive step, means will be sought whereby Premier Ross will be officially requested to intervene, and a request sent to the Union of Canada, which has the right to act in the matter. However, it is expected the City Council will take vigorous action, and will not consent to this extreme measure.

Some Interesting History.

SMITH FOR RECIPROCIITY.

London, Feb. 12.—Prof. Goldwin Smith, writing to Harold Cox, ex-secretary of the Cobden Club, says that the Canadian visitors to England who declare that Canada favors Mr. Chamberlain's scheme are merely Imperialists of the real nature of the scheme. Not a single journal of mark has yet declared itself. Three things, however, are certain:—(1) The Imperialists are inclined to demand additional duties on the import of raw materials from British competition and will not consent to a further reduction in the import duties; (2) Canada will not give any part of their manufacturing industries for the sake of preferential duties on grain; (3) self-government will be strongly opposed by the people of the Dominion of French-Canada, with whom the government does not share the manifest desire of Canada is reciprocity with the United States.

Success a System.

Try the Deaneer at Thomas.

PC-day Ambassadors, Marguerites La Courde, Les Slides, Old Abers, 4 for 25c. H. H. Cuthbert, Temple cigar store.

DEATHS.

BRISTON—AT 127 GERRARD-ST., Toronto, Feb. 11, Mary Ann, relict of the late Alexander Briston.