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TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR

TEN PAGES—THURSDAY MORNING MAY 5 1904—TEN PAGES

ONE CENT

PORT ARTHUR EFFECTUALLY "CORKED"

JAPANESE REPORTS PORT IS ABSOLUTELY SEALED.

Tokio Correspondent of London Telegraph Says Port is Absolutely Sealed. London, May 5.—The opinion gains ground here that the Japanese had at last effectually blocked Port Arthur. No official Japanese news about the subject has yet been received, but the Tokio correspondents are very positive regarding the matter.

The Daily Telegraph's correspondent declares that the entrance to Port Arthur "IS ABSOLUTELY SEALED," and adds the Japanese fleet, in effecting its purpose, steamed to the entrance at full speed, and that the naval officers, who made the two previous attempts, begged permission to carry out the next attack by daylight, that being easier, and their request was granted.

It is determined here that the Japanese will not be deterred by the fact that the entrance to the harbor is so narrow that a couple of vessels sunk in the fairway would probably suffice to seal up the entrance, while there is a noticeable evasion and half-heartedness in the Russian denials of the enemy's success.

There is no confirmation here of the Paris rumor that an engagement between Russian and Japanese cruisers had taken place off the coast of St. Petersburg. It is reported that the Japanese fleet is expected to arrive in the Gulf of Finland in the next few days.

Major-General Kashtalinsky's insistence on the fact that he was ordered to accept battle by Lieut.-General Zassalitch is interpreted as showing his intention to throw the responsibility upon that officer for risking a fight with inferior forces, and to confirm the reports that General Zassalitch had been censured.

Reports have been received here that the Japanese captured a quantity of railroad material after Sunday's battle. This is supposed to indicate that the Russians had made great progress with the Japanese in the main Manchurian line to the Yalu. If this is so it would be a simple matter for the Japanese to materially assist them in their advance thru a difficult country.

Word of Fight. English correspondents with the Japanese forces on the Yalu are permitted to send amplified reports to the people and country, but not a word about the fighting.

The Standard's Tientsin correspondent says he is convinced that the Russian position in southern Manchuria is exceedingly weak in consequence of the enormous expenditure of money to obtain provisions. He believes that the forces at Hailuocheng and Liaoyang are greatly over-estimated. The Yung are numerous, but there are few men in them. There are several fortifications in the line between Fengwangcheng and Hailuocheng, but the line of communication is weak and straggling.

Some reports current here state the Japanese loss will be \$50,000,000, at six per cent, and will be issued simultaneously in London and New York.

REPORT IN TOKIO. Tokio, May 4.—The reports which have been received here of the successful blocking of the entrance to Port Arthur harbor by the Japanese, coming on the heels of the news of the victory on the Yalu, and the news of another popular demonstration, and to-night thousands of men carrying lanterns, swinging high from bamboo poles, paraded thru the city. Half a dozen bands of music led the various processions.

The officers of the war and navy departments, and the general staff were the scenes of the greatest enthusiasm. Two of the imperial princes visited the harbor, and the assembled crowd welcomed them with cheers. Then the throng demanded Admiral Ito, chief of the general staff, and the Japanese minister on the Yalu during the China-Japanese war. He appeared in response to the calls of the people and saluted the crowd.

It had been expected that tidings of the Port Arthur engagements would come from Vice-Admiral Togo some time during the day, but none were received. The report which has reached here from Europe is that the Japanese commander-in-chief of the Russian campaign becomes, the more speedily will be Japan's victory.

TIMES ON WAR. London, May 4.—The Tokio correspondent of The Times sends the following: "The Japanese consider that Russian strategy at the battle of the Yalu showed the same defect as that of the Chinese in 1894, namely, the lack of offensive initiative."

"Captain Arima, who commanded in some of the attempts to block Port Arthur, in a lecture which he delivered here, said that the Japanese from observation had an accurate knowledge of Vice-Admiral Makarov's tactics, which enabled them to place the mines that destroyed the Petropavlovsk. For a moment the Japanese squadron refrained from the use of tobacco and wine on the day of the disaster to show that they mourned the death of Makarov."

"No Japanese torpedo boat or torpedo boat destroyer has been obliged to return to the harbor for repairs since the beginning of the war. All have been repaired at sea."

A.T.C. Smoking Mixture, 25c and 50c tins at N. W. Vardon's, 78 Yonge street.

"CORKED" AT LAST.

McCREARY, M.P., FOUND DEAD PASSED AWAY IN HIS SLEEP DISCOVERY AFTER 24 HOURS

LONDON, May 5.—The Tokio correspondent of both The Daily Telegraph and The Daily Chronicle assert that Port Arthur is effectually "corked."

House Adjourns Out of Respect For the Popular Westerner—Ottawa Saddened by Death Summons.

Ottawa, May 4.—(Staff Special.)—Tonight the flag on the tower of the parliament buildings flies at half-mast in honor of the memory of two members of parliament, who have been taken away within the past twenty-four hours. Senator Reid of British Columbia died after a lingering illness. The death of W. F. McCreary, M. P. for Selkirk, came with shocking suddenness. His body was discovered in his room at the Russell House, this evening, where it had evidently lain for twenty-four hours.

When Discovery Was Made. The world's representative, with Chief Powell, made the discovery at 6.30 this evening. While leaving their rooms, which adjoin each other, a chambermaid stated that she had not been able to get into the room all day, and that she feared something was wrong. Looking thru the transom door, she saw a light under the door, and it was evident that the occupant of the room was dead. Chief Powell forced the door, and entering with The World representative, the dead body of W. F. McCreary was found lying on the bed. The body lay in a natural position, with no covering save an undershirt and bed clothes, which had been gently pushed to the foot of the bed. William McCreary had evidently gone to sleep lying on his back, his head well up on the pillows, and had passed away in his sleep. His two hands, closed but not tightly clenched, rested on his breast. His eyes were closed, and but for the palor of the body it might have been thought that he was still sleeping.

Everything in Order. The wearing apparel which Mr. McCreary had worn during the day was folded neatly on a chair, and the room was in perfect order. It was clear that Mr. McCreary had no warning of the fatal stroke. Chief Powell at once communicated with the coroner, while The World representative informed the management of the hotel, Edward Farrar, commiserated with some intimate friends of Mr. McCreary, who will break the news to the widow and seven children, who live in Winnipeg.

Rarely has the death of a member of parliament occasioned so much sorrow as the sudden taking away of William F. McCreary. Members of parliament were stunned by the news. As late as eleven o'clock last night Mr. McCreary was in the house, apparently in his usual good health, taking part in the debate. He was the picture of health, hardly fifty years of age, of massive frame, strong, rugged face and the muscles of an athlete. W. F. McCreary was one of the last in the house who would have been thought of as likely to meet an early death.

Dead and Complainant to Few. Only two or three of his nearest friends had ever heard a murmur of complaint from him. To these friends, it appears, Mr. McCreary had repeatedly complained of dull pains in his chest. It is said also that on one or two occasions last session he admitted to the house that he was suffering from the doctors who were called in connection with the illness.

Success Already Assured. The directors of the Western Assurance Co. are president, Hon. G. A. Cox, vice-president, J. J. Kenney, and Hon. S. C. Wood, G. R. Cockburn, George McMurich, H. N. M. Bell, E. W. Cox.

What Transaction Means. The practical effect of these transactions is to reduce the capital base of the company submitting to it in the stock market, which are not only to reduce the capital base, but also to reduce the carrying of large quantities of capital stock in no way corresponding to the actual standing of the company. The companies can be congratulated on having faced the situation squarely and done what was necessary to re-establish the business confidence of the insurance world.

Standing of the Companies. The summary of the financial statement of the Western Assurance Co. for the year ending 1903 is as follows: Fire and marine losses \$4,582,673.99; Agents' commissions and other expenses \$1,218,500.98; Total expenditure \$5,801,174.97; Profit for the year \$8,918,912.90; Total assets \$2,548,357.25; Capital \$2,000,000.00; Reserve fund 1,289,530.00; Security to policy holders \$3,289,530.00. The summary of the financial statement of the British-American Assurance Co. for the year ending 1903 is as follows: Fire and marine losses \$2,216,710.12; Agents' commissions and other expenses \$27,208.18; Total expenditure \$2,243,918.30; Profit for the year \$204,677.94; Total assets \$2,024,996.52; Capital \$1,000,000.00; Reserve fund \$39,572.87; Security to policy holders \$1,830,522.57.

RUSSIANS STUNNED BY DEFEAT PAYING A TERRIBLE PRICE. Greatest Loss Came in Defending the Two Regiments Left in Antung.

St. Petersburg, May 5.—(Staff am.)—The Russian losses at the battle of Hailuocheng were 2000 men and 40 officers, far greater than previous reports indicated.

This is the official estimate of Major-General Kashtalinsky, who directly commanded the division that suffered the brunt of the attack, and whose report was received yesterday by the emperor. Many are inclined to place the Russian losses even higher. Gen. Kashtalinsky mentions also that more than 700 wounded had arrived at Fengwangcheng, and these may not be included in his calculations. He made no attempt to estimate the Japanese losses, merely stating that they must have been colossal.

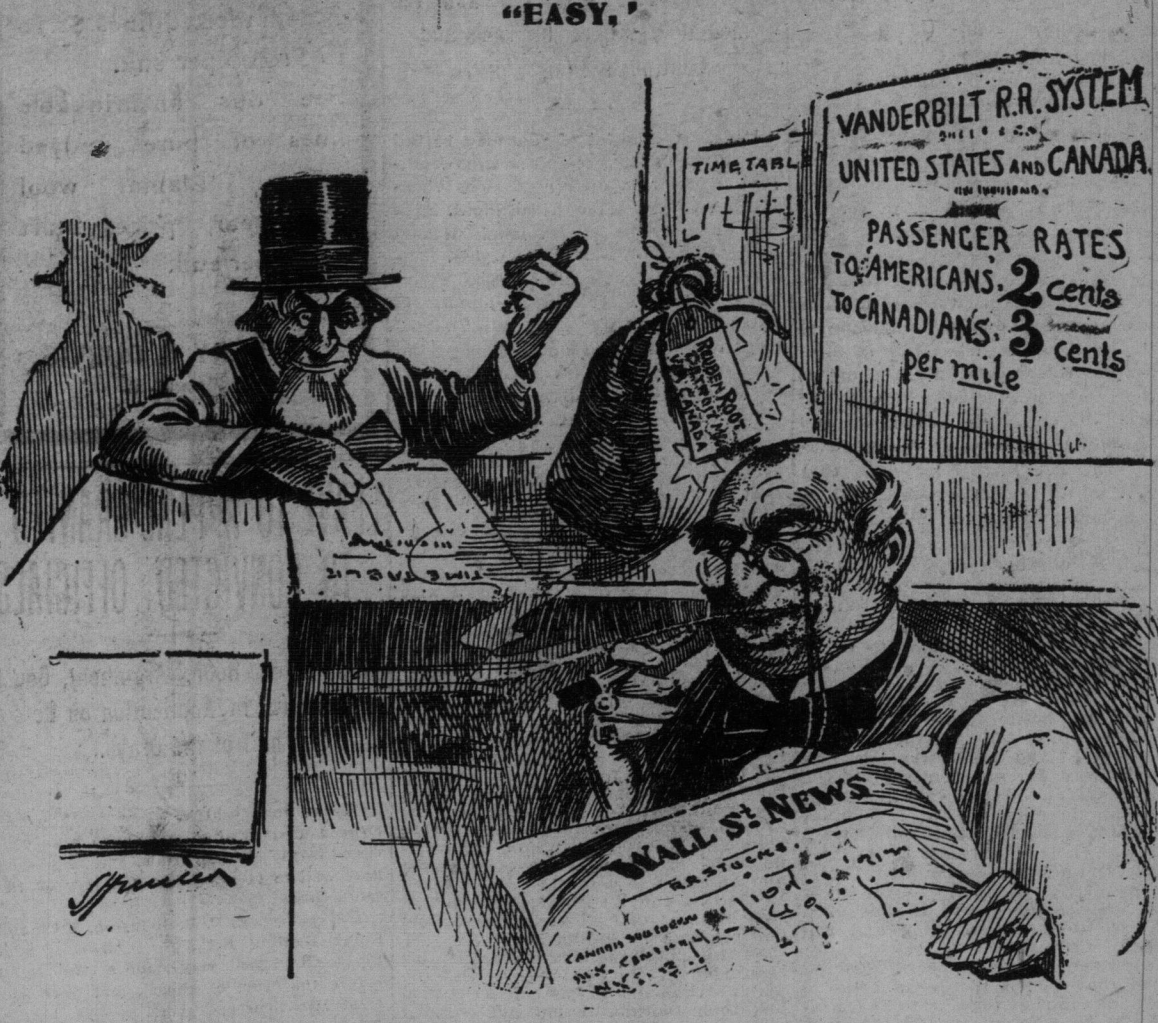
Death and Bravery. The magnitude of the Russian losses had an almost stunning effect on the Japanese, and caused general grief, mitigated only by satisfaction at the bravery displayed by the Russian troops. Not for a moment was there any intention to pay such a terrible price for delaying the enemy's crossing of the Yalu. This fact was known to the Japanese, and it was reported that Gen. Kuropatkin had officially censured Lieut.-Gen. Kuropatkin for this was so, Gen. Kuropatkin's telegraphic criticism of Zassalitch was carefully cut out of the despatches which have been published. The general impression now held is that he will remain in Manchuria.

When Loss Came in. Gen. Kashtalinsky's report established the fact that the Russians sustained the greatest loss in order to save the two regiments which were occupying Antung. The 11th Regiment was given the post of honor at the rear, with instructions to hold back the oncoming Japanese. The 12th Regiment and the third battery's quick-firing detachment were directed to retire. By the time the latter movement commenced the Japanese had almost surrounded the Russian position. The 12th Regiment was compelled to charge with the bayonets fixed to the rifles, and the enemy's line, the second battery's quick-firing detachment, without horses, could not move the guns and the men of the second battery put their shoulders to the wheels in an effort to push the guns up the mountain side, but the Japanese fire was so hot that they retreated to the protection of the 11th Regiment.

Led by a Priest. Nearer and nearer approached the Japanese, and a charge upon the 11th Regiment and the second battery was made. Then a priest led the troops and they began the terrible march across the valley. "Killing is history, and we must now deal with impending events," said an officer of the general staff to the Associated Press. The idea has prevailed that the Russians would not make a stand at Fengwangcheng, but the fact that the Japanese occupation of that point would enable a movement to the south-west, thus cutting off the Liaotung Peninsula, which is taken in connection with the authorities, leads to the expectation that Gen. Kuropatkin will dispatch strong reinforcements there and make a determined stand.

The activity of the Japanese, it is remarked here, is not only north of the Yalu, from which there is constant scouting, but also off the Liaotung Peninsula, the failure to seal Port Arthur may interfere with the operations there, and have the expected carry out on the west coast of that peninsula.

CHRISTENED "RIVERDALE." His Worship the Mayor yesterday announced that the eastern portion of the city, across the Don, would hereafter be officially known as Riverdale.



U. S. TRAVELER: "Why do you make the Canucks pay more's us folks?" U. S. RAILWAY MAGNATE: "Why? Because they're a fine easy, open-handed people, my friend, who pay anything the railroads demand—even to railway subsidies."

WESTERN AND BR. AMERICA TO WRITE OFF \$1,500,000 RE-ISSUING IN NEW STOCK

Presented at the annual meeting of the British-American Assurance Co. Ltd. Fire and marine premiums \$4,582,673.99; Interest and rent receipts \$1,218,500.98; Total receipts \$5,801,174.97; Fire and marine losses \$2,216,710.12; Agents' commissions and all other expenses \$27,208.18; Total expenses \$2,243,918.30; Profit for the year \$3,557,256.67; Total assets \$2,024,996.52; Capital \$1,000,000.00; Reserve fund \$39,572.87; Security to policy holders \$1,830,522.57.

Best Way of Facing Recent Reverses and Success Said to Be Already Assured. As a result of meetings of the directors of the Western Assurance Co. and the British-American Assurance Co., held yesterday and last night, it was decided to write off from the paid-up capital stock for like amounts \$2,000,000, the sum of \$1,000,000, which stands at \$1,000,000, the sum of \$500,000, for which amounts new stock will be issued. This step is of course due to the recent configurations at Baltimore and Toronto, in the former of which the two companies fared badly, as well as in the latter.

The following is the statement which was handed to the press at an early hour this morning: "The directors of the Western and British-American Assurance Companies have decided to write off from the paid-up capital stock of the former company and \$500,000 of that of the latter company, and to issue new stock for like amounts in each company. The actual value of the stock is not reduced inasmuch as the assets represented by the shares will in no way be affected by this action. The reduction of the stock is merely a matter of bookkeeping, and its reinstatement by the new issue will only serve to strengthen the financial position of the companies."

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FIRE IN MONTREAL. Montreal, Que., May 5.—(Special.)—The heart of the business section of this city is on fire at 210 this morning. It started in the wholesale business section on St. Paul street, in Waldron and Drouin's hat and fur establishment, which is now burning. The fire is spreading, and as a brisk wind is blowing, the fire chief fears that the whole district will be destroyed. The newspaper offices are in this district and great fear is expressed for their safety.

3 a.m.—At this hour the flames were got under control, but it took the entire brigade to do it. Waldron & Drouin were completely burned out. The loss is placed at \$75,000.

Broderick's Business Suits, \$24.90 118 King-street West.

The Canada Metal Co. Solder, best made

MARRIAGES. FARWOOD-GREENE.—On Wednesday, May 4th, at the Cathedral of St. Alban the Martyr, Toronto, by the Rev. Canon Macnab, Stephen Farwood of Melton, son of the late C. St. George Farwood, Esq., and Edith Alberta, only daughter of Columbus H. Greene, Esq., Barrister, of Toronto.

DEATHS. CASWELL.—On Wednesday, May 4th, at the family residence, 15 St. Andrew street, Toronto, after a lingering illness, Fanny, beloved wife of N. F. Caswell, and eldest daughter of the late Charles Busch. Funeral on Friday, May 6th, at 2.30 p.m. London papers please copy. CAIRNS.—John H. Cairns, fell asleep in Jesus, May 3rd, 1904, at his residence, 223 Brock street, aged 52. Funeral Thursday at 2.30 p.m. Master Plumbers are requested to attend. FEE.—On Monday, May 2nd, his father's residence, 499 Queen street east, Sarah R. Fee, aged 21 years, youngest daughter of Joseph and Mary Jane Fee. Funeral on Wednesday, May 4th, at 3 p.m. from above address, to the Necropolis. Friends and acquaintances please accept this intimation. BUSSELL.—At Winnipeg, on Monday, May 2, sudden, of heart failure, John Russell, barrister, formerly of Richmond Hill. Funeral (private) on the arrival of the train at Markham Station on Friday afternoon on St. Andrew's Cemetery. A.T.C. Smoking Mixture, 25c and 50c tins at N. W. Vardon's, 78 Yonge street.

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MANY SIDED DEVELOPMENT WESTERN MEN'S PROBLEMS

How the Cattle Men of the Plains View Chamberlain's Fiscal Policy.

Calgary, May 4.—(Staff correspondence.)—The writer lacks interest in the Chamberlain preferential tariff scheme in the west strikes the average eastern man as one of the curious changes of sentiment on this subject.

At Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton, Calgary and other industrial centres of public opinion the subject enters into no part of the general discussion. But the new scheme for cementing the ties of the empire. The explanation has been made frequently to The World that this indifference to the new fiscal policy is more apparent than real. It is said the west looked upon the proposition with much favor when first enunciated, but that the tremendous industrial and political questions bearing more directly upon the material interests of this section of Canada are so numerous as to wholly overshadow all other considerations. In other words, internal improvement, betterment of transportation facilities, the removal of the embargo on Canadian export cattle to England and raising the tariff to prohibitive proportions on some lines from the States, interest the masses far more than the possible tariff preference in favor of the grain of the west in English markets.

A gentleman who speaks with some measure of government authority observed to The World at Regina that the people of England and Eastern Canada had lost sight apparently of the fact that the west is developing in more directions than one. So much had been said of Canada's wheat yield that the world in general appeared to be under the impression that the west produced nothing but this article. But on the contrary the interests of the west had become diversified in any scheme contemplating protection in home markets of the grain of the Dominion that did not at the same time provide equal protection for the live stock industry of the west, would be a discrimination as between two natural products equally identified.

Causes of Dissatisfaction. There is some spirit of resentment in this part of Canada toward those responsible, both at Ottawa and in England, for the disregard with which the industrial, agricultural and commercial development of the west has been treated in the past. For instance, it is asserted by some men who are supposed to be leaders of public opinion from Winnipeg to Calgary that in many respects the west has progressed in spite of, rather than with the help of, those charged with the duty of protecting by legislation the infant industries of Western Canada. Aside from the rank failure to provide rail equipment for the transportation of western products, which after all is the most serious arraignment indulged in by western people—there are other serious omissions and commissions. The producers of wheat mention only the imposition of outlandish high railroad rates and the utter failure to provide the cars required to move the crop, but the people of the great plains between Regina and Calgary indict the government for the embargo on their cattle and the failure to adequately protect rangeland from the depredations and assaults of the people of the West.

Continued on Page 6.

FOR DELEHANT'S FAMILY. Welland, May 4.—At the Welland County Assizes to-day, Judge Britton presiding, the jury granted a verdict of three thousand dollars damages to the widow of the baseball player Delehan and two thousand dollars to the daughter against the Michigan Central Railway. Delehan was drowned at Bridgeburg some time ago, having been put off a Michigan Central train.

Children's Hats. The time to purchase children's hats is now, that is if you go to the Dineen Co. They have imported some new designs in London and New York fashions. Every one something unique, both in quality and finish and style. Tams from 25c to 75c. Scotch Caps from 25c to \$1.25, and Sailors at all prices.

FINE AND WARM. Meteorological Office, Toronto, May 4.—The weather remains unsettled and showery in the Northwest Territories, attended by numerous thunderstorms. In the West Canada it continues dry; every part very warm. Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 34-50; Victoria, 40-50; Calgary, 42-50; Winnipeg, 46-65; Montreal, 50-60; Port Arthur, 34-54; Parr Sound, 40-50; Toronto, 42-50; Pymouth, New York, 48-56; Quebec, 42-78; St. John, 33-48; Halifax, 32-42.

Lower Lakes, Georgian Bay, Ottawa Valley, Upper and Lower St. Lawrence—Fine and continued warm Gulf—Fresh to strong westerly winds; fine and warm. Maritime—Fresh southerly to westerly winds; fine and warm. Lake Superior—Fine and warm to-day; rains showers on Friday. Manitoba—Unsettled and showery; local thunderstorms.

ASK YOUR DRUGGIST FOR GIBBONS TOOTHACHE GUM. Price 10c.

STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS. May 4. At. From. L. Manitoba, Liverpool, St. John, N.B. and Charlottetown. New York, Toronto, Montreal, Quebec, St. John, N.B. and Charlottetown. New York, Toronto, Montreal, Quebec, St. John, N.B. and Charlottetown. New York, Toronto, Montreal, Quebec, St. John, N.B. and Charlottetown. New York, Toronto, Montreal, Quebec, St. John, N.B. and Charlottetown.

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