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TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR TEN PAGES—WEDNESDAY MORNING AUGUST 24 1904—TEN PAGES ONE CENT

CZAR, KING AND EMPRESS IN CONFERENCE

ON EVE OF THE BAPTISM AT PETERHOF AND RESULTS MAY BE WIDE-REACHING

Few Exchanges of Views Will Surely Bring About Better Understanding on Many Now Controversial Points at Issue.

ST. PETERSBURG SUPERSTITIOUS THAT CHRISTENING FETE DAY MAY BRING THE FINAL BLOW

Tokio, Aug. 24.—(9 a.m.)—ADMIRAL KATAOKA REPORTS THAT AS THE RUSSIAN BATTLESHIP SEVASTOPOL WAS EMERGING FROM PORT ARTHUR YESTERDAY, SHE STRUCK A MINE, AFTER WHICH SHE WAS SEEN TO BE LISTED TO STARBOARD. SHE WAS TOWED BACK INTO THE HARBOR.

The battleship Sevastopol was built in 1896 in Russia. Tonnage, 10,500; speed, 17.5 knots; crew, 700; armament, four 12-inch, twelve 8.5-inch guns.

While the general staff does not concede its anxiety, the military authorities have not abandoned the hope that Gen. Stoessel will be able to hold out.

Conservative critics say the pace of the Japanese is too fast to last, and that every day Gen. Stoessel holds out will render the Japanese position about

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CASE OF IDENTITY NOT SURE SMOLENSK STOPPED COMEDIAN

The Captain of British Steamer Has Named Russian Cruiser in His Protest.

IT WOULD MEAN RANK VIOLATION OF SOLEMN ASSURANCES TO BRITISH GOVERNMENT, WHICH NOW AWAIT CONFIRMATION.

Durban, Natal, Aug. 23.—The captain of the British steamer Comedian has lodged a protest against the action of the Russian auxiliary cruiser Smolensk in stopping the steamer and examining her papers on Sunday last, off the southeast coast of Cape Colony.

Liverpool, Aug. 23.—The owners here of the Comedian (now at Durban, Natal), have no confirmation from the captain of the steamer of the statement that it was the Russian auxiliary cruiser Smolensk which stopped the vessel off the coast of South Africa.

London, Aug. 23.—The foreign office has ordered the British officials at Durban, Natal, to make a complete report of the circumstances connected with the reported examination of the papers of the British steamer Comedian by a Russian auxiliary cruiser off the South African coast.

St. John's, Nfld., Aug. 23.—Bitter feeling has been aroused here over the action of Canada in deciding to establish a custom house in Hamilton Inlet, Labrador, which Newfoundland claims as her territory.

Halifax, Aug. 23.—(Special.)—The American schooner Two Forty was seized at Westport yesterday for a breach of the customs regulations in landing goods at Wood's Harbor, Shelburne County, last November, when Capt. Wood was in charge.

London, Aug. 23.—The Daily Telegraph demands that the government adopt rigorous measures to stop the importation of British shipping by Russian volunteers.

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ROOSEVELT TAKES SERIOUSLY AGITATION FOR RECIPROCITY

Decides to Deal With It in Letter of Acceptance, Fearing Chicago Platform May Injure His New England Support.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., Aug. 23.—(Special.)—President Roosevelt is alarmed by the magnitude of the demand for Canadian reciprocity in New England, which the national administration has so far ignored.

The president's idea is, however, that something must be done. He expressed the fear that New England would show a great Republican defection, especially in Massachusetts, due to the scant recognition given reciprocity in the Chicago platform.

The issue was the subject of a long and grave discussion at Sagamore Hill today on the part of the president, Senator Lodge of Massachusetts and Senator Aldrich of Rhode Island.

Senator Lodge visited him at his earliest convenience, and the Massachusetts senator arrived late last night.

While he was talking things over with the president today, Senator Aldrich, father-in-law of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., arrived unexpectedly in the bay on his yacht.

Senator Lodge endeavored to persuade the president that he had no reason to feel any alarm about New England.

Senator Aldrich argued vigorously as a spokesman for protected interests of New England against any concession to the reciprocity shouters of Boston, and urged that the party, and the president, too, were committed to the "stand-pat" course.

That's What's Hinted at From Ottawa Owing to Advances From British Corn Exchanges.

Ottawa, Aug. 23.—The members of Sir Richard Cartwright's special committee on the grain inspection act exercised over reports from the large corn exchanges of Great Britain.

The British corn merchants are opposed to the provision in the act which gives survey boards power to over-ride the government inspectors.

There can be no remedy, however, at present, as the new grain inspection act is already in force and cannot be remedied before the next session of parliament.

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Technical Description of the Chains of Ports Around It. From the Japanese standpoint, Port Arthur is expected to fall at any moment.

From the Russian viewpoint Port Arthur is "absolutely impregnable."



FIRST DAY OF O.R.A. CADET MITCHELL MADE POSSIBLE AT THE 500

Large Turnout of Tyros Indicates Interest in Shooting Aroused by Perry's Win.

The annual competitions under the auspices of the Ontario Rifle Association were begun yesterday under the most auspicious circumstances.

The weather approached the ideal from the marksmen's viewpoint during the afternoon, the sky being a cloudless blue and little wind stirring.

There was some complaint heard at the range that the sun's beams, which were of the brightest, interfered with the aim, but the results of the shooting, which represent a very good standard in the opinion of the range officers, would not bear out the contention.

The number of contestants who appeared was considerably in excess of that of any previous year. In the Canadian Club match the principal of the three events brought to a conclusion yesterday, there were no less than 225 entries.

The victory of Harbord Collegiate in the Cadets' Challenge Trophy match, was entirely unexpected. The team had a majority of 28 points over Dundas High School, St. Alban's Cathedral taking third, and the public school team last place.

The undoubted feature of the match was the splendid performance of Sergt. A. E. Mitchell of Harbord, he making a possible 25 at the 500 mark a feat equalled by but few of the tried veterans of the range.

Mitchell's showing at the distance was identical with that of last year, which would remove the suspicion of his having been favored by a lucky wind. Strangely enough, the 200-yard mark possessed difficulty for the event. Mitchell also ranked first among the 100-yard shots.

The 4th Highlanders made a splendid showing in the Canadian Club match, securing the team prize, the Jubilee Challenge Trophy, with 22 points.

Advance Shipments of Fall Hats. Nearly all the advance shipments of fall hats are now in the show cases of the Dineen Co. They include the very best designs by both English and American makers in Derby and Alpine blocks.

It will be wise of you to keep up to date by getting in line with one of the new styles in Nova Scotia and Alberta—and as far as quality and extent of assortment is concerned the best on the continent.

FAIR AND WARM. Meteorological Office, Toronto, August 23.—8 p. m.—With the exception of some light cool showers in Nova Scotia and Alberta, the weather has prevailed throughout Canada with moderate temperatures everywhere.

Probabilities. Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Moderate to fresh southerly to southwesterly winds; fair and warm showers or thunderstorms at night or on Thursday.

The Canada Metal Co. Soldier, best made STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS

Aug. 23. At. From. Sicilian Prince, New York, Naples. Georgia, New York, Liverpool. Montague, Liverpool, Montreal. Kensington, Liverpool, Montreal. Nunsimund, Liverpool, New York. Kates Wilbourn, Bremen, New York. Haverford, Queenstown, Philadelphia. Frederic Berg, New York, Bremen. Carvon, Queenstown, Father Pt., Newcastle.

Interment notice later. JARDINE—At his residence, 130 University Avenue, Toronto, on Monday, the 22nd August, 1904, Arcebio Jardine, in his 85th year.

Funeral on Wednesday, the 24th, at 8 o'clock. Interment in Necropolis Cemetery. MACKENZIE—Christina, eldest daughter of John Mackenzie (Gormley), died Aug. 23, in her 39th year.

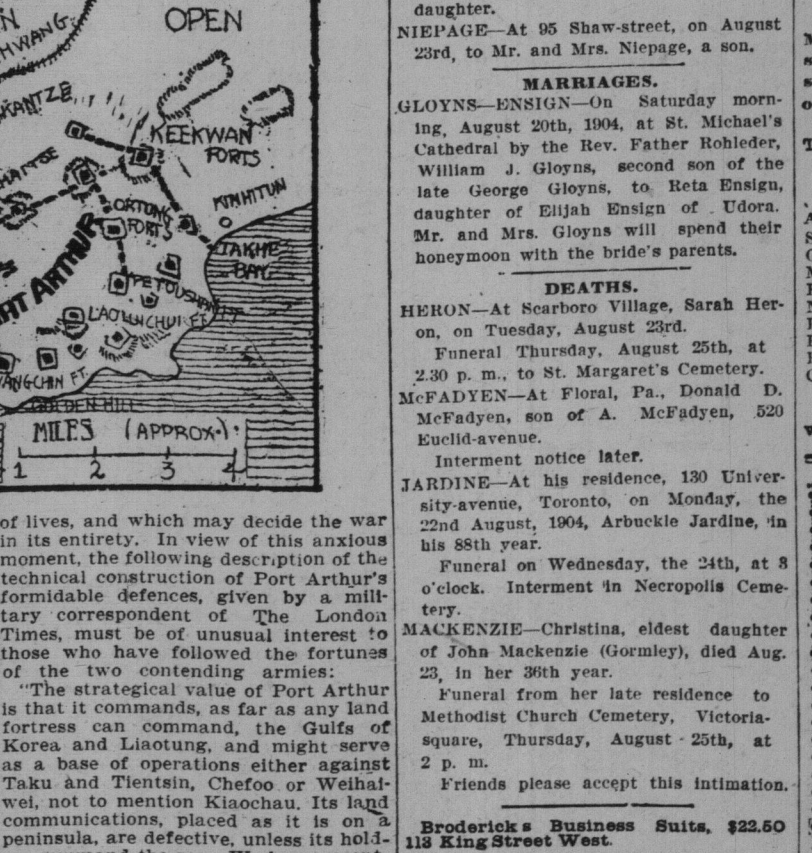
PORT ARTHUR AND ITS DEFENCES



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