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TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 1904.

NO. 15.

EIGHTY SAVED FROM BATTLESHIP

VICEROY SENDS A REPORT ON DISASTER

Text of Dispatch to the Czar—Report of Newchwang Bombardment Unconfirmed.

London, April 22.—The Tokio correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says that Port Arthur undoubtedly is effectively blocked and that events are culminating around the doomed fortress.

The correspondent of the Standard at Tientsin says that Japanese troops are now embarking from Korea and possibly being reinforced by the forces on the Yalu river, from which the Russians have practically withdrawn.

Paris, April 22.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Petit Parisien says he has learned that General Kouropatkin has ordered the advance of the Russian forces which are massed in northwestern Korea, and that a brigade of infantry with 5,000 Cossacks is withdrawing to the Japanese side of the banks of the Tumen river.

St. Petersburg, April 21.—The Emperor has received the following telegram from General Kouropatkin: "I respectfully report to Your Majesty that two Japanese officers, named Stoev Yukuoka and Gishka Oki, were arrested near the station of Tur Chi Kia.

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St. Petersburg, April 21.—The admiral, it is announced, intends to fit out two ships purchased from Germany, which were formerly in the trans-Atlantic service, together with a number of smaller vessels, to be used for the defence of the Pacific to prey upon Japanese commerce.

St. Petersburg, April 21.—The ships of the Baltic fleet which are to be sent to the Pacific are to be sent to the Pacific to prey upon Japanese commerce.

Washington, April 21.—A report by mail from Capt. Marshall, commander of the Vicksburg, giving an account of the engagement at Chemulpo between the Japanese and Russian naval forces on February 9th, was received by the United States navy department.

Capt. Marshall says the Varies and Koruz, however, moved out at 11.30 a. m. about four miles from the point where the Gordon River intersects the boundary of the E. & N. Railway.

Washington, April 21.—A report by mail from Capt. Marshall, commander of the Vicksburg, giving an account of the engagement at Chemulpo between the Japanese and Russian naval forces on February 9th, was received by the United States navy department.

Capt. Marshall says that, on learning there were a number of Russian vessels heading toward their anchorage at full speed, and as they approached it was seen that the Varies and Koruz were being fired upon by the Japanese.

Capt. Marshall adds: "On my ordering to the Zaire used as a

notary quarters, they were taken to the Elba, where their captain detained them and declined my offer with thanks."

Continuing, the captain reported: "These two officers very freely stated themselves that they had opened valves in the engine and firerooms with the object of sinking their vessel. The first," he said, "continued spreading, burning fiercely until the vessel rolled over and sank." During all that time, he says, there were frequent explosions; the Koruz, Captain Marshall reports, was not hit, as far as he could learn.

There were two distinct explosions, according to the report, which were very strong as to lift and heel the Vicksburg, giving the impression on board that the forward magazine of that ship had exploded. Immediately after the report says, the crew of the Chinese Eastern Railway Company's steamer Russian Flag, set fire to her and abandoned her.

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Altogether seven officers and seventy-three men were saved.

"The Potliva, which was following the Petropolvsk two cable lengths astern, stopped her engines, and remained on the scene of the disaster.

"At a signal from Rear-Admiral Okomsky the other warships made for the entrance of the harbor, manoeuvring towards the Peresviet in line.

"A mine exploded under the starboard side of the Pobieda. She listed, but proceeded, and entered the harbor with all the other ships astern of her.

"The enemy remained in sight until 3 o'clock and then disappeared.

"The night preceding the sortie of the squadron, lights and the outlines of ships were seen in the distance from the roadstead, and the commander of the fleet kept watch in person until dawn from the cruiser Diana, stationed in the outer roadstead. He left her at 4 o'clock in the morning.

"In concluding, I take the liberty to announce respectfully that despite the ill-success which has attended the Pacific fleet, the crews of the ships retain their morale, and are ready to perform all the duties required of them.

"The gracious words of Your Majesty addressed to the fleet, and the support of our trial serve as a consolation and a support to all the force in their efforts to overcome the enemy, to the glory of their beloved sovereign and their country."

OFFICIAL STATEMENT. Russian Government Has No Confirmation of Reported Bombardment.

St. Petersburg, April 22.—The Associated Press is authorized to announce that the government at this hour has received notice to confirm the report of the alleged bombardment of Newchwang or the landing of Japanese troops in that vicinity.

NOT CONFIRMED. Japanese Reported to Have Bombarded Newchwang and Landed Troops.

New York, April 22.—A cablegram to the World from St. Petersburg says: "The Japanese are reported to have bombarded Newchwang and to have landed troops, who will probably endeavor to effect a junction with the forces supposed to have landed near the mouth of the Yalu river three days ago."

SEEKING WARSHIPS. Russia Is Trying to Secure Vessels From Greece and Argentina.

Paris, April 22.—Information reaches the official here to the effect that Russia is negotiating with Greece and Argentina for the purchase of warships. The indications are that the negotiations with Greece are the most advanced.

MAY FLOAT LOAN. Report That Russia Is Negotiating With Principal European Bank.

the destruction of a launch and the loss of 24 men by the explosion of a Russian torpedo at Port Arthur has added to the gloom which has prevailed since the disaster to the Petropolvsk.

"We are paying the price of carelessness," said the admiral, "and previous disasters seem to teach nothing."

The war commission suppressed part of the viceroys dispatch, which showed that the Russian fleet was engaged in a battle with the Japanese.

Rumors are in circulation that the two barges attempted the assassination of General Kouropatkin when he was in Newchwang a few days ago. It is said the barges succeeded in approaching the general and were about to fire when a guard noticed that one of them put his hand inside his robe. The men were seized and searched, and knives were found upon them. It is said that the men were Japanese. The rumor cannot be verified to-night.

Russians Driven Back. St. Petersburg, April 22.—The following telegram from Viceroys Alexieff has been received by the Emperor:

Quite a series of reconnaissance carried out on the Yalu has shown that the Japanese are concentrating in considerable force. It is believed that they have about one division to the north of Wiju.

They are also beginning to concentrate troops in Wiju, from which place they have moved the Korean populace.

"On our right flank our scouts encountered during reconnaissance extending over several days on the left bank of the Yalu, as the result of which it has been ascertained that there are only a few troops south of the River Pomakua, but that the Japanese are occupied in preparing for a junction with the forces of two other corps and 30 men proceeded there in three boats. The detachment was, however, discovered by the enemy and shots were exchanged, the result of which was that the Japanese were killed. Staff Captain Susein and 11 men were severely and Lieut. Oushihik and four men slightly wounded. The detachment returned to the bank of the river under the cover of two of our guns."

London, April 22.—Rumors of severe fighting on the Yalu river are received in various forms, and from various sources. For instance, the Shanghai correspondent of the Morning Post says he hears that the first Japanese army has crossed the Yalu almost without opposition, and the Daily Chronicle reports that the Japanese are advancing in the direction of the Yalu.

St. Petersburg, April 22.—The Novosti expresses delight at the report that King Edward is seeking to mediate, and finds in the fact that Japan's ally ventures to broach the subject which Russia is striving to reverse her defeat, conclusive evidence of sympathy of European powers, which realize the menace of a Japanese victory.

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them before giving battle in force. Kouropatkin's plans in this respect are fully approved here.

Of course the Russians will do all in their power to render the crossing as difficult and expensive as possible, but the first decisive engagement will occur in Manchuria, where the Russians believe they will have all the advantage of position.

The Japanese fleet is again reported to be off Port Arthur, but the report is not officially confirmed.

RUMORED JAP REVERSE. News of Engagement on the Yalu is Credited in Paris.

Paris, April 22.—Information reaching the highest quarters here tends to confirm the report that a rather serious engagement has occurred on the Yalu river, involving a reverse to a Japanese column. The information is credited in influential quarters.

The correspondent of the Associated Press is informed that China has taken the highest precautions to guard against the possibility of a serious consequence to the relation between Russia and China.

STRAATEGICAL ACHIEVEMENTS. St. Petersburg Paper Says Naval Squadron Impressed Caution on Japanese.

St. Petersburg, April 22.—The Russian Slav prints a letter from an official in the French secret service which reports the presence of numerous Japanese spies in France well provided with money. They are endeavoring to ascertain the exact date of the departure of the Baltic fleet and the points on which the Japanese are concentrating their forces. The Novosti states that the Russians should feel gratified at the strategic achievement of the naval squadron which imposed caution upon the Japanese operations, and gave Russian ships a preponderating military force into Manchuria. The most favorable time, the Novosti continues, for Japanese military operations has passed.

A letter written by Col. Agaper, an officer of marines on the Petropolvsk, who was thrown, describes the routine upon the battleship "We rise," he wrote, "at 6 o'clock, learn the news of the night and drink tea. At 8 we attend colors and then read the papers in hope of obtaining information of the latest news of the enemy. Afterwards we go to a meeting at headquarters and discuss questions of defence. Lunch comes at 1 o'clock. Afterwards we either visit the city or transact our own affairs. Dinner is at 6 o'clock, when rumors of all kinds circulate."

Inter-City Contest. Chicago, April 22.—The inter-city tournament here last night between Boston and Chicago boxers, in five contests, resulted in a victory for Chicago, the local man winning three of the bouts. Boston receiving one, and the remaining fight was declared a draw. In the wind up between former welterweight champion Martin Duffy and Billy Melody, of Boston, Duffy was knocked out in the fourth round. Duffy was knocked down twice in the first round and again in the third round was sent to the floor for a count of nine. A right swing on the jaw early in the fourth knocked him out completely. The other bouts resulted as follows: Tommy Scully, of Chicago, knocked out B. Evans of Boston in the second round; Billy Egan, of Chicago, knocked out Jack Flanagan, of Boston, in the second round; Mike Monahan, of Chicago, and Hugh Murray, of Boston, fought a fast six-round draw.

Won on Points. Milwaukee, Wis., April 23.—Charles Neary, of Milwaukee, got the decision on points over Jimmy Briggs, of Chicago, in a six-round bout before the Milwaukee Boxing Club last night. Both men finished strong. Maurice Sawyers, of Milwaukee, won from Chester Goodwin, of Boston, in the sixth round.

In Four Rounds. Toledo, O., April 23.—Willie Fitzgerald, of New York, stopped Fred Green, of this city, last night in the fourth round of what was to be a ten-round go.

TRANSFER OF CANAL. Only Five Panama Company Shareholders Voted Against the Resolution.

Paris, April 23.—The resolution of the Panama Canal Company shareholders, ratifying the sale of the canal to the United States, was adopted most unanimously. There were only five voted against it. The second Panama resolution was also adopted. There were only two dissenting votes. The meeting then adjourned. This completed the transfer of the canal to the United States.

Anxious For Money. Washington, April 23.—The state department has been notified of the conclusion in Paris of the Panama canal purchase. The money for the canal company will be paid over by the secretary of the treasury. It is understood Secretary Hay himself will pay to the state of Panama the ten million dollars to which it has become entitled. This payment will be made in Washington to Senator Crossman, the newly appointed minister from Panama, as soon as the government of the state authorizes him by cable to accept the money. The authorities in Panama have become clamorous for this payment, as the money is needed to defray certain expenses already in connection with the creation of the new state.

messengers reports that the Russians burned the Japanese consulate at the Korean custom warehouse, rifled the telegraph office and finally, it is supposed, retired to the northward.

The presence of a Japanese squadron along the east coast of Korea will, it is thought, effectually stop all future Russian marauding expeditions.

GOLD FOR JAPAN. More Than Six Million Yen Has Passed Through Hands of Express Company.

Seattle, April 23.—A shipment of Japanese gold, amounting to more than 6,000,000 yen, has passed through the hands of the Wells Fargo Express Company for the East, to be used, it is said, for the purpose of purchasing supplies for the Japanese government.

MORNING BULLETIN. Everything Quiet at the Front—Survivors of Battleship Resume Duty.

St. Petersburg, April 23.—2:04 a.m.—Everything is reported quiet from the seat of war.

Of the officers who were saved from the Petropolvsk two midshipmen have resumed duty, and two lieutenants have been assigned as aides to the commandants of Port Arthur and Vladivostok respectively. The condition of Captain Jakovlev and Midshipman Shipp is improving.

LETTER TO CZAR. New Ambassador Will Be Bearer of a Message From the King.

London, April 23.—It is understood that Sir Charles Hardinge, the new British ambassador to Russia, who leaves London for St. Petersburg at an early date, will be the bearer of an autograph letter from King Edward to Emperor Nicholas. Sir Charles has been summoned to an interview with King Edward.

BOXING MATCHES. Johnson, World's Champion Colored Heavyweight, Defeats McEvoy—Tournament at Chicago.

San Francisco, April 23.—Johnson, the world's champion colored heavyweight, knocked out Sam McEvoy, of Oxnard, last night in the twentieth round. The local game within half a minute before the close of the round and contest. Johnson, who had made a punching bag of McEvoy all through the fight, finally caught him on the point of the jaw with a right and left swing to the jaw, and McEvoy went down and was counted out.

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THREE CAR BARN BANDITS HANGED

NEIDERMEIER HAD TO BE CARRIED TO SCAFFOLD

Snatched the Death Warrant From the Sheriff and Put It in His Pocket.

Chicago, April 22.—Peter Neidermeier, Gustave Marx, and Harvey Vandine, the notorious car-barn bandits and confessed murderers of eight men, were hanged to-day.

Neidermeier was the first to die. He was so weak, as the result of his recent attempt at suicide, that the jail guards were forced to carry him to the scaffold. He was then placed in a chair and the drop sprung at 10.35. His body moved convulsively as he hung. Although it was first believed by the physicians that he was strangled, it developed that his neck had been broken. Twenty minutes after the drop fell he was pronounced dead, and the body was cut down.

Previous to the execution, Neidermeier maintained the same sullen demeanor which has characterized him since he became a prisoner. While the death warrant was being read he snatched the document from the sheriff and put it in his pocket, making a sarcastic reference to his execution. He was carried to the gallows in a jail truck, then carried down a flight of stairs to the scaffold.

Marx, accompanied by two priests, was led to the scaffold, repeating a litany after the clergy. He made no statement upon the scaffold, but met death bravely. The trap was sprung on him at 11.17. He was pronounced dead at 11.34, his neck having been broken.

Harvey Vandine was hanged a short time after the execution of his companion, Marx. The incidents of Vandine's execution were similar to those of his companion. He was carried to the scaffold, and after a prayer which he repeated with his spiritual advisers was snuffed. With Vandine's lips still moving in prayer the trap was sprung at 11.55. His neck was broken.

The hanging of the youthful car barn bandits followed eight murders, all of which were committed in the name of the Chicago gang. Vandine was composed pre-arranged execution. With the Catholic priests who had accompanied Marx, Vandine walked unflinchingly to the scaffold, attired neatly in black like Marx, and wearing a white waistcoat and a white necktie. He made no statement upon the scaffold, but the prayer which he repeated with his spiritual advisers was snuffed. With Vandine's lips still moving in prayer the trap was sprung at 11.55. His neck was broken.

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