4 P.M. EDITION

London Advertiser

4 P.M. EDITION

42ND YEAR. NO. 17408 THE ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1905. PRICE TWO CENTS.

HOUSE OF COMMONS MEETS; MR. R. F. SUTHERLAND SPEAKER

Swearing In of Members Commences, and Gov.-General Will Officially Open Parliament on Thursday.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 11.—The House of Commons met at 3 o'clock today and was summoned to the Senate, where Sir Elzear Taschereau directed the members to return and elect a Speaker for tomorrow. The Governor-General would be present tomorrow to inform them as to the reasons why they were assembled. The members then returned to the House and selected Robert F. Sutherland their speaker. There was no opposition.

The swearing in of members commenced at noon today. The customary roll of past years which the members signed, has been discarded and a bound volume has been substituted. This is following the British practice. There was a large attendance of members.

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 11.—There was a brief sitting of the Senate at which Sir Richard Cartwright and Senators Ross and Davis, of the Northwest, were introduced.

CABLE BROKE

Four Men Instantly Killed in Michigan Mining Shaft.

Houghton, Mich., Jan. 11. — Four men have been instantly killed and two others injured at a shaft which is being sunk at Rockland by the Victoria Mining Company for a hydraulic power plant. The dead: Wm. Penrose and two Austrians and one Finlander, whose names could not be learned.

The accident was due to the breaking of a cable while six men were coming to the surface in a skip at the noon hour.

A QUADRUPLE TRAGEDY

Chicago Man Kills Wife, Two Daughters and Commits Suicide.

Chicago, Jan. 11. — With a pistol and razor, John Miller, a cook, killed his wife and infant daughter Annie today, fatally wounded another daughter, Martha, 2½ years old, and then committed suicide. Jealousy is believed by the police to have been the cause of the quadruple tragedy.

DEATH OF MRS. TICHENOR

Was Mother-In-Law of Lord Cunard of Steamship Fame

New York, Jan. 11. — Alice Valentine Burke Tichenor, widow of the late James Frederic Tichenor, former president of the British Columbia Copper Company, and mother of Lady Cunard, died early yesterday at her apartments in East Seventeenth street, says the Herald. Her daughter, who has been her constant attendant during her long illness, was present, and is now ill from grief and shock. Mrs. Tichenor was 60 years old, and suffered from a gradual breaking down, which a weak heart finally made fatal. Since her return from England, where she spent last summer with her daughter, Mrs. Tichenor has been unable to leave her bed.

SHOT BY SAVAGES

Cold-Blooded Atrocities Committed by the Hottentots.

Cape Town, Jan. 11.—Whatever sympathy existed in Cape Colony with the Hottentots in Southwest Africa in their struggle against the Germans has been extinguished by the terrible stories of native atrocities on women and children brought by a refugee, Mrs. Bothma, to a Cape police camp on the Orange River.

Mrs. Bothma states that one farm on the German side of the Orange River was visited by 70 Hottentots, who shot six men in cold blood and afterwards murdered five children, one of them an infant only 18 months old.

At another place the natives wounded a little boy of 5 years, who tried to hide himself among his brothers and sisters, and begged the savages to spare his life. But they tore him from his mother's arms and shot him together with his father.

WAS BIDDING AGAINST KING

Croker's Friends Say It Accounts for Action of the Jockey Club.

London, Jan. 11.—A serious scandal promises to develop in racing circles as a result of the Jockey Club's action in interdicting Richard Croker from training his horses at Newmarket. The history of the affair given out by friends of Mr. Croker is that when at the Newmarket sales in September Mr. Croker appeared as a bidder for certain yearlings, he was informed that he was opposing Lord Marcus Beresford, who, it is well known, has entire charge of King Edward's racing stables. This did not deter Mr. Croker, and it was suggested to him that if he insisted in competing he would not be allowed to train his horses at Newmarket. Mr. Croker, however, was not influenced, claiming that his conduct was not discourteous, as he was dealing through an agent who did not know his adversary in the transactions and merely carried out his instructions.

In an interview in Dublin Mr. Croker said he was still completely in the dark regarding the whole matter and expressed astonishment at he fac that the stewards did not give a reason for their action. A newspaper today says Mr. Croker intends to sell his residence at Wantage, England. For some months past he has been living in Ireland, where it is reported he will reside altogether hereafter.

NASH IMPROVING

But May Not Be Able to Resume Position on Force.

Windsor, Ont., Jan. 11. — Sergeant Nash put in a good day yesterday and his condition, although very grave, is slightly improved. Owing to the aneurism of the artery the least excitement or shock may cause the blood to burst out and death would ensue in a few minutes. It is possible, therefore, that Nash may not be able to resume his place on the force if he recovers because of the danger from excitement or exertion.

HERRMANN RESIGNS

Will Vacate Chairmanship of National Baseball Commission.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Jan. 11. — A sensation was caused today by the announcement that August Herrmann, president of the Cincinnati club, will resign as chairman of the National baseball commission. All the baseball men now here are trying to prevail on Mr. Herrman to reconsider his determination to resign. Mr. Herrman has announced, however, that he is through with the National commission, and will not change his decision. The minor league men are particularly anxious for Mr. Herrmann not to resign, but if he insists they say they want John T. Brush, president of the New York National League team, to succeed him. It is regarded as scarcely likely that Mr. Brush will accept the position. An effort will also be made to have minor league representation on the commission, in which event either George Tebeau or Howard Griffiths and one more minor league man, possibly Pat Powers, may be admitted to the commission. The consideration of the Taylor case has been postponed, and it will be taken up in Chicago on a date to be fixed by Mr. Herrmann.

MURDER IN FAR NORTH

President of Big Marble Company Said to Have Killed Friend.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 11. — Word was received here last night of the killing of William Dippe by Robert Ball on Fox Island, in Southeastern Alaska, on Jan. 2. The men were friends and associates in some marble properties close to the scene of the shooting, until a few months ago, when they had a business disagreement, which resulted in a personal encounter in this city, in which Ball was worsted. Since that time they have been bitter enemies, and it is said that each had made threats to kill the other.

Ball was president of the great American Marble Company, a concern capitalized at $70,000,000 until last October. He claimed to be a graduate of the Michigan University, College of Law, and said that he had practiced his profession in New York and in San Francisco. Dippe had been a miner and prospector for a number of years, and was well known in Alaska.

Carnegie Will Help.

Windsor, Ont., Jan. 11.—The trustees of the Central Methodist Church have received intimation from Andrew Carnegie, that he will pay the last half of the price of the organ to be installed at a cost of $3,500. The society lost its church a year ago by fire and is building a new one.

NAVAL BATTLE IN INDIAN OCEAN

Reports Say That the Japanese Squadron Has Arrived at Chagos Islands.

London, Jan. 10.—Reports from Port Louis, Mauritius, persist in stating that a Japanese fleet is steaming westward. The latest rumor is that the fleet has arrived at Diego Garcia, the southernmost of the Chagos Islands, in the Indian Ocean, whence scouts are being sent out.

In an interview at Tamatave, Madagascar, on Jan. 3, one of the aides of Admiral Rojestvensky, commander of the Baltic fleet, said that the admiral had learned the day before that a Japanese squadron had started to meet the Baltic fleet. The latter from the time it passed the Cape of Good Hope had increased its measures to prevent surprise. The weather had been stormy off the South African coast, but none of the vessels were damaged. All the crews are now healthy and in high spirits. The fleet is bound for Vladivostock, where it expects to arrive at the beginning of March. Admiral Rojestvensky estimates that a month will be occupied in crossing the Indian Ocean.

Port Said, Jan. 11. — Rear Admiral Botrovsky's division of the second Russian Pacific squadron entered the canal at noon. Its destination is uncertain, but it is probably Madagascar by way of Jibutil, French Somaliland. The warships were only permitted to ship a thousand tons of coal among the seven ships, besides taking on board provisions.

A PROVISIONAL PEACE.

Paris, Jan. 11. — Vice-Admiral Doubassoff, the Russian member of the North Sea commission, is quoted by the Echo de Paris as having stated in an interview that he had submitted to Emperor Nicholas a programme for a reorganization of the navy, which is absolutely indispensable for success in the war against Japan. Twenty months will be necessary for its execution. Admiral Doubassoff thought the prospect for Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky's squadron was hopeless. He unhesitatingly declared that he considered a provisional peace would shortly be probable, Japan retaining Port Arthur and the territories which she has occupied. Russia, meanwhile, the admiral said, would prepare an vincible fleet for a future effort.

NORTH SEA COMMISSION

Expected That the Tribunal Will Sit for a Month.

Paris, Jan. 11. — The international commission appointed to inquire into the North Sea incident has prepared a protocol of over 20 articles governing the procedure. The question whether the pleadings shall be verbal or written has not yet been decided. Provision is made that the press of the various nations shall have equal facilities during the public hearings.

After the adoption of the protocol the hearing of the case will begin. The expectation is that the sessions will last a month.

OIL WELLS BURNING

Employers Willing to Concede Day of Nine and a Half Hours.

Baku, Jan. 11.—The oil fires continue to spread, and already have involved the Baku, European, Caspian, and other companies, and have destroyed 100 tanks and a number of dwellings and warehouses.

There has been no settlement of the strike. The proposition of the employers to concede a work day of 9½ hours, with no change in wages, is still open, but notice has been given that if the men do not accept the terms offered, their places will be filled.

RUN ON A STATE BANK; UNCLE SAM TO THE RESCUE

Sends Four Hundred Thousand Dollars in Gold, But Withdrawals Continue.

New York, Jan. 11.—Five hundred excited Hebrews, who had deposits in the State Bank in Grand street, waited at the doors of that bank all night last night and, early today, more than 1,000 persons were waiting anxiously to withdraw their deposits. Since daylight the number of excited depositors had doubled, and police reserves had been called out to maintain order in the crowd. The run on the bank, which began yesterday afternoon, was resumed as soon as the doors were opened today. The trouble began yesterday from a rush of depositors to place their money in the bank. The excitable small depositors of the east side misunderstood the nature of the rush to the bank and mistaking it for a run, joined in and began to take out their money. The bank officers at first tried to explain the situation and then accepted it and paid out $25,000 yesterday afternoon.

At midnight an attempt was made to reassure the anxious crowd of night watchers, but they paid little attention to an address in Yiddish by Sam Cohen, the janitor of the bank. After the beginning of the run yesterday, the bank officers made preparations to meet a renewal of it today, and were ready to pay over the money cheerfully when it was commenced again. A truckload of canvas sacks, said by the cashier of the State Bank to contain $400,000 in gold, arrived at the bank this morning, and a squad of policemen who preceded it cleared a way through the throng to place it in the bank. The gold is said to have come from the United States subtreasury, and officers of the bank declared that they could pay every depositor.

The arrival of the money did not stop the run, and the depositors pushed their way into the bank to make heir withdrawals.

THE WRONG MAN

Spent Six Months in Jail for Theft of Another.

Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 11. — Addison Lucas has just been released from Lockport jail, where he has been confined since last July under an indictment charging grand larceny in the second degree, in abstracting money from envelopes of an express company by which he was employed. After his arrest the thefts continued and further investigation led to the arrest of another man, who when confronted by the evidence, is said to have confessed, also admitting taking the money which Lucas was accused of stealing. The officers of the company say they will right the wrong done Lucas by giving him a better position.

CARRIED INTO REICHSTAG

Social Democrats to Make Parliamentary Question of Strike.

Berlin, Jan. 11.—The conditions of labor in the Westphalian coal fields, which have induced the growing strike, will be made the subject of an interpellation in the Reichstag this week. The Social Democrats are preparing to demonstrate that the status of the mine workers is most miserable, and that in spite of the wishes of the leaders of the unions, the strike is spreading, shift after shift unanimously ceasing work. There are 30,000 persons now out on strike and there is not the slightest hope of preventing the strike from becoming general. Thus far, there have been no disturbances.

Disaster Off Hebrides; Twenty-Two Lives Lost

Waterford, Ireland, Jan. 11. — The steamer Zeno arrived here today with the captain and twelve men of the American steam dredges Texas, which foundered in a storm off the Hebrides. The crew entered the small boats, but one containing the chief officer and 21 men sank immediately. All its occupants were drowned. The survivors drifted for several days before being picked up.

THE WEATHER.

Tomorrow—Cloudy With Snow.

London, Wednesday, Jan. 11.
Sun rises..7:50 a.m. Moon rises..10:29 a.m.
Sun sets...5:01 p.m. Moon sets...10:08 p.m.
Toronto, Jan. 10—8 p.m.

Strong winds and moderate gales have prevailed today in the Maritime Provinces, accompanied by light falls of snow or rain. Elswhere in Canada the weather has been cold, especially in Manitoba and over the greater portion of the Territories, where the temperature has remained much below zero.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Port Simpson, 26—32; Victoria, 34—42; Edmonton, 14 below—10; Prince Albert, 42 below—10 below; Minnedosa, 44 below—6 below; Winnipeg, 36 below—12 below; Port Arthur, 20 below—2 below; Parry Sound, 2 below—24; Toronto, 9—24; Ottawa, 6—22; Montreal, 16—24; Quebec, 14—24; St. John, 22—38; Halifax, 20—36.

FORECASTS.

Wednesday, Jan. 11—8 a.m.

Fresh to strong northeasterly to easterly winds; cloudy, with snow, more especially during the night and on Thursday.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather.
Calgary	10	2	Cloudy
Winnipeg	—16	—40	Clear
Parry Sound	— 8	—16	Cloudy
Toronto	10	4	Cloudy
Ottawa	— 8	— 8	Fair
Montreal	0	— 4	Clear
Quebec	0	— 2	Clear
Father Point	10	10	Cloudy

Thesign — indicates below zero.

WEATHER NOTES.

Decidedly cold weather prevails generally, with temperatures at zero and below over a large portion of the Dominion. Snow or rain is falling over the greater portion of the States south and west of the lake region.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Tuesday were: Highest, 28.5°; lowest, .5° above.

BORDEN WILL ATTEND CAUCUS

Ex-Leader Wires That He Will Be at the Capital on Friday Next.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 11.—Senator De Boucherville and Mr. Taylor, Conservative members, received telegrams from R. L. Borden this forenoon, stating that he would leave Halifax this afternoon, and would be in Ottawa to attend a caucus of the party. It is understood that a caucus will be called for Friday forenoon.

12,000 RUSS DESERTERS

Immense Numbers, Mostly Poles and Jews, Reach Austria.

Berlin, Jan. 10. — A dispatch from Lemberg, Austria, states that 12,000 Russian deserters, mostly Poles and Jews, have arrived there. A majority of them are in a destitute condition. The residents are raising a subscription to enable them to proceed to the United States.

A Narrow Escape.

Woodslee, Ont., Jan. 11.—Eugene Dufferd, of Maidstone Township, had a narrow escape from death here last night. He was struck by a Michigan Central express train while crossing the track, but escaped with slight injury. His sleigh was smashed and his horses were slightly hurt.

FINANCIAL RECORD A BRILLIANT ONE

What Ross Govt. Has Done for Old and New Ontario

FINE NEW TERRITORY OPENED

Railways Built and the Mining Industry Assisted—Conservative Corruption Record.

Cornwall, Jan. 10.—Hon. G. W. Ross, delighted an audience which was only limited in numbers by the capacity of the town hall by the vigorous defense of his Government and the spirited defiance of his political opponents to prove that he or any of his colleagues in the cabinet had countenanced any form of political corruption. Admitting with sorrow that there had been electoral corruption by individuals on both sides, which he did not hesitate to denounce, he boldly asserted that the Liberals had not furnished the blacker record of the two parties, pointed to the severe punishment meted out to offenders and appealed for a continuation of public confidence upon the splendid record of progressive legislation and honest and economical administration of the affairs of the Province for upwards of thirty years.

The Premier received an ovation when he arose to address the gathering. He was in a happy mood and expressed his pleasure, whether in the capacity of "the grand old man" or the "old war horse," at being present in the old town of Cornwall, with its history of upwards of a century, and the record of having furnished the Province with its first Premier after Confederation. Referring to the ridicule which the Opposition sought to make at his suggestion that he intended to "fight," Mr. Ross said his opponents had never been able to spell the word aright. The last time they tried it they made it "fright," and as soon as he called a convention, Mr. Whitney took fright, and called a conference. When he started out to address a few meetings Mr. Whitney took fright again and started after him. The next time his opponents tried to spell it, on Jan. 25, they would make it "flight." (Laughter and applause.) Mr. Whitney claimed that he should be placed in office because the Liberals had done wrong. But were the Conservatives free of corruption? The records showed that since Confederation there had been thirty-six Liberals and forty Conservatives unseated for corrupt practices; thirty Liberals had been disqualified and forty Conservatives. In the 1902 election one Liberal and seven Conservatives were reported for corrupt practices. He challenged the Opposition to show where any Liberal deputy returning officer had tampered with a ballot-box or "switched" ballots, had spoiled ballots or had destroyed or burned a ballot-box. On the other hand, it had been shown that in Muskoka ballot-boxes containing a Liberal majority had been burned; thousands of ballots had been spoiled. In North Ontario, it was proved that Liberal ballots had been stolen from the ballot-box and Conservative ballots substituted. An election in the fall having suggested "burned ballots," Mr. Ross explained, to the evident satisfaction of the audience, the unfortunate mistake under which the West Elgin ballots were burned, incidentally remarking that the election, in which the ballots were cast, was necessitated by the Conservative member being unseated for corrupt practices.

Mr. Ross pointed to the legislative record of the Government as justification for its retention in office, and passed on to the splendid financial showing of the Province. He submitted to his audience a statement of assets and liabilities of the Province as they stood on the 31st of December last. The assets of the Province are placed at $9,481,788, and the liabilities at $5,894,487, leaving a clear surplus of assets over liabilities on Dec. 31 of $3,587,301, and of this $3,100,000 was in cash in the banks. (Cheers.) After nearly 34 years of Liberal administration he claimed there was a most satisfactory balance sheet. "Besides," he added, "the Province was free from debt." Mr. McCorkill, treasurer of Quebec Province, stated at a banquet in Toronto a week ago that Quebec was in debt $26,000,000 and that her interest account was $1,535,000. Ontario on the other hand receives in interest $1,000 a day. (Cheers.) Ontario under Liberal rule was the only province that had carried on large public works, that had met the demands of asylums, of the schools and of the internal development of the country and had a satisfactory balance on the right side of the ledger. (Applause.)

Mr. Ross paid particular attention upon the policy of the Government in developing New Ontario. In this connection he did not want it to be understood that the Government had been neglectful of the interests of old Ontario, in conclusive evidence of which he pointed to the expenditure of $20,000,000 on education and $24,000,000 on asylums, hospitals and churches, $5,000,000 on agriculture and arts, $11,000,000 on railways, about $10,000,000 on public buildings, $1,000,000 on good roads, nearly all in older Ontario. But if Ontario was to hold her position among the other provinces the newer portions must be developed. In doing that the Government had already spent $3,694,000 on colonization roads, by means of which they had constructed 5,672 miles of road in the newer districts. He summarized some of the steps for the development of New Ontario as follows: A railway from North Bay to the junction with the G. T. Pacific at Abitibi, a distance of 200 miles, furnishing access to what is known as the "clay belt" of 16,000,000 acres, said to be as rich as the best part of old Ontario; a land grant to the Algoma Central Railway, connecting Sault Ste. Marie with the Canadian Pacific, a distance of about 200 miles, and opening up a most important district in the western part of the Province. A subsidy for the construction of the Canadian Northern Railway from Port Arthur to the boundary of Manitoba through the Rainy River Valley, a distance of 263 miles. The James Bay Railway, from Toronto to Sudbury, running through the districts of Muskoka and Parry Sound, a distance of 265 miles. Bruce Mines and Algoma Railway, 18 miles, constructed, and 100 more projected. Manitoulin and North Shore Railway, 15 miles to the nickel mines in the neighborhood of Sudbury, and if to these is added the National Transcontinental Railway, known as the G. T. P., a distance of 800 miles, a total of 1,761 miles is under way, over 900 miles of which owe their existence to the direct efforts of the Ontario Legislature.

PELTED WOMAN WITH BANK NOTES

Maid Gathered Them Up for Mistress in Dustpan.

REOPENING OF PLATT CASE

Struggle On In Court for Possession of Three-Quarters of a Million Dollars.

New York, Jan. 11. — The final stage in the struggle for possession of nearly three-quarters of a million dollars between John R. Platt, an aged millionaire, and Hannah Elias, a negress, who, he charges, wrongfully obtained the money from him, was scheduled to begin before Justice Eischoff in the supreme court today. In this suit it was expected that the whole amazing story of the affair, which attracted the attention of the entire country when the secret of Platt's relation with the woman were revealed by the filing of his suit last summer would be brought out. Interest in the case was intensified from the first by the strange and tragic death of Andrew H. Green, one of the city's most prominent men, who was shot to death almost at the door of the Elias woman's home on Central Park west, a few months before the Platt suit was filed. Green's murderer, a negro, who was captured, and later sent to an insane asylum, said he had shot Mr. Green, because he was jealous of the latter's attentions to Mrs. Elias. With the filing of the Platt suit the contention of Mr. Green's friends that he was a victim of mistaken identity when the fatal attack was made, was practically proven. There was a remarkable similarity in personal appearance between Andrew H. Green and John R. Platt, and Mr. Platt himself has said that he believed the insane negro intended to kill him and mistook Mr. Green for him. Mrs. Elias maintains that the vast sum named in Platt's suit was given to her voluntarily by Platt—that he literally threw money at her. She has told of one instance, when she says, after pressing her to take a large sum which she refused, he threw a great handful of banknotes on the floor, and she had a servant gather them up on a dustpan. On the other hand, Platt claims that the defendant resorted to every trick and device her ingenuity could command to extort money from him during the 20 years of their acquaintance.

There the matter stood when the case was ready for trial today.

Mr. Platt is now 87 years old, and very feeble.

In the first trial his memory seemed almost entirely shattered, and when pressed by counsel for Mrs. Elias, he could not maintain any statement he had made, even but a few minutes before. He seemed completely bewildered.

It was believed that the ordeal which will confront him when he goes on the stand in the present trial of the suit will be even more severe than that in the magistrate's court.

RUSS WORKERS RESETLSS

The Factory Hands Demand Better Treatment by Employers.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 10.—An extraordinary delegation of factory hands called on Gen. Fullen, the chief of police, today, as the result of an indignation meeting held by the factory hands of St. Petersburg. While no recognized union exists, factory workers to the number of several thousands have a strong secret organization. The meeting was not so much with regard to hours of labor and wages, as to protest against factory conditions. It was alleged that there exists oppression and discrimination by employers and foremen. The meeting passed resolutions demanding the discharge of a foreman in one factory, and an energetic inquiry in all factories, with a view to reforming the whole factory administration.

Gen. Fullon received the deputation and promised such inquiry as the proposition permitted. The working people express themselves as being exceedingly aggrieved, and say they have not hitherto participated in demonstrations, but that the present situation, if not remedied, is full of potential trouble.

HIGHHANDED ACT AROUSES BRITAIN

Lansdowne Makes Inquiry as to Seizure of Ship by Brazilians.

London, Jan. 11. — Foreign Minister Lansdowne has cabled to the British minister at Rio Janeiro to investigate the circumstances of an alleged outrage on officers of the steamer Rio Xapury, at Para. The Scottish Shipmasters' Association reported to Lord Lansdowne that while the Rio Xapury was anchored at Para on Nov. 29, 1904, she was boarded by uniformed men, who arrested the ship's officers, took them ashore and imprisoned them. No reason was assigned for this action, and the following day the ship's officers were released. Meanwhile, however, their cabins had been entered and property and money stolen.

Attempt to Ruin Statue.

Washington, Jan. 10. — An unsuccessful attempt was made today by one or more civilians to blow up the statue of Frederick the Great, recently presented to the United States Government by the Emperor of Germany, and now standing in the War College grounds. No damage resulted to the statue or to property or persons. The police authorities have been notified, and all available information is being placed before them with a view to arresting the guilty parties.

JAPANESE DIE REMOVING MINES

Twenty Killed in Explosions at Port Arthur.

TROUBLES OF GEN. KUROPATKIN

Serious Bickerings Between Russian Commander and His Brother Generals.

London, Jan. 11. — The correspondent at Port Arthur of the Daily Mail says that on Jan. 8 twenty Japanese were killed by the explosion of a contact mine inside the forts, and two mines in the town also exploded.

Tokio, Jan. 10, 7 p.m. — Information which has reached certain reliable quarters here, state that the Russian generals in Manchuria are losing confidence in Gen. Kuropatkin, and that the Russian situation around Mukden is a serious one. It is feared that if Kuropatkin attacks the Japanese position along the Shakhe River, he will court disaster, and that his further retreat will mean the demoralization of his army.

This information goes on to say that there is constant bickering at Russian Manchuria headquarters, and that the soldiers are discontented, dissatisfaction beginning with the series of retreats after the battle of Telissu, (Vafangow), and the withdrawal from Liao Yang, when it was believed it was possible to hold that place. The climax came with the Russian defeat at the battle of Shakhe River following Kuropatkin's strongly-worded order, directing the forward movement, dated Oct. 2. This defeat brought a storm of criticism upon the commander-in-chief and resulted in discord among the officers. Long inaction, the informant alleged, is undermining the morale of the Russian army, and it is pointed out that recent skirmishes and outpost brushes indicate that the Russian soldiers are becoming disheartened, as they do not show their former fighting spirit or qualities.

The siege guns, to be sent to Manchuria from Port Arthur, will probable be placed in advanced positions for the purpose of enabling the Japanese to shell far into the Russian lines.

Asahi reports that Since Jan. 6 the Russians at Mukden have begun to advance in the direction of the fighting line on the Sha River. There are also indications that Russian advance posts are about to move southward. Reinforcements of infantry apparently are arriving near Tengchipao. The Kokumin says the fall of Port Arthur has had already a marked effect upon the Chinese court.

The Real Defender.

London, Jan. 11. — The Daily Telegraph's Port Arthur correspondent says that, according to stories by prisoners, the real defender of the fortress was Major-General Kondratenko, commander of the Seventh East Siberian Rifle Brigade (who was killed Dec. 15), and that, had he lived, it is possible the fortress would not have surrendered. General Stoesel, the correspondent adds, was inclined to surrender as early as last August. The garrison, he concludes, included 10,000 Poles, who were indifferent fighters.

Russia and the Balkans.

London, Jan. 11. — Discussing the effect of the fall of Port Arthur on the near eastern question, the correspondent at Sofia, of the Times, says that belief in Russia's invincibility has received a severe shock, the result of which among the Balkan States is rather exaggerated fears of Russian encroachment in Macedonia. These nervous apprehensions tend to increase Servian efforts at a rapprochement with Bulgaria. The effects produced in Constantinople, the correspondent says, are likely to be more serious. Turkey is quick to appreciate the military significance of events in the Far East, and is likely to stiffen in her attitude towards the reforming powers in Macedonia. Already there are indications that Turkey is preparing severe repressive measures to forestall the apprehended rising in the spring, but there is reason to fear that these measures may hasten rather than avert the outbreak.

ONLY BRUISES IN TREASURE HUNT

Earl Fitzwilliam's Party Meets With an Accident and Goes Home.

Panama, Jan. 11.—Earl Fitzwilliam and party, on the Old Castle Line steamship Veronique, which the earl had bought and refitted for the purpose, sailed from Panama recently for Cocos Island, on a hunt for treasure, long supposed to be buried there and often searched for. It appears that after blowing out the side of a hill on the island the earl and his companions descended into the hole that had been made, whereupon the hill caved in, injuring seven members of the crew of the Veronique, three of them badly, though not fatally. The latter are now in the hospital here. The rest of the crew are aboard the Veronique in the bay.

The earl himself is all right. He sailed for England from Colon last Friday. He met with no success in his treasure hunt, which has evidently been abandoned.

At Vladivostock.

Vladivostock, Jan. 8. — Delayed in Transmission. — Admiral Skrydloff and his staff left today for St. Petersburg. The admiral was given an enthusiastic send-off by the garrison, sailors and officers of the municipality. Addressing his men, Admiral Skrydloff said there were likely to be important developments soon in the region of Vladivostock, and he hoped that, in case the town should be called upon to stand a siege, the garrison would emulate the devotion and heroism of Port Arthur. The men responded with cheers.