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JAPANESE ARE MOVING ON MUKDEN

Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Forces Reports That His Position is Extremely Dangerous.

Two Hundred Thousand Japanese Have Succeeded in Breaking Through His Left Flank, Cutting It Off From the Remainder of the Army.

Newchwang, March 3.—(via Tientsin) Chinese from Mukden report that the Japanese have advanced almost to Mukden. The Russians, being reinforced, have captured several positions, out of which they had been driven. The battle is still raging.

The Japanese, bivouacking on the outskirts of Simintsin, withdrew this morning leaving only a picket.

The Russian station at Changtau has been reinforced.

Strings of Chinese carts are moving towards Mukden. Foreigners are still at Mukden. Owing to the absence of traffic, merchants laden with dollars are going to Tientsin. Refugees from the battle are arriving here.

Reports from the Shakhe river indicate, says the same correspondent, that the Russian morale is seriously impaired, and that there are numerous voluntary surrenders, not only of Poles and Jews, but of recently arrived European troops.

Their morale is so low that they are ready to surrender. The Japanese have been recalled and knowledge of the internal troubles in Russia causes a deep depression in the army.

Reports are current at Tokio, but not confirmed officially, that the Japanese have occupied Sakhalin.

St. Petersburg, March 3.—In a long dispatch from Gen. Kouropatkin, which was received here yesterday, the commander-in-chief of the army of Manchuria gives details of various attacks by the Japanese the last few days, and the Russian counter-attacks.

Mukden in a dispatch received at midnight indicates a continuation of the artillery duel, but neither report throws any light on the rumored intention of Gen. Kouropatkin to withdraw northward, which has been the gossip of St. Petersburg for the last two days.

A private dispatch received last night concludes with this significant sentence: "Within two weeks you may expect great events."

THE DESIRE TO REFORM IS REQUIRED.

Dr. Mackay's Specific for Alcoholism will reclaim the worst case of drunkenness. Directions are simple. It is the well-known remedy of the medical profession. It requires only the desire and determination to be cured to make an unhappy home happy. Write to the Leeming, Miles Co., Ltd., 288 St. James street, Montreal, for full particulars. All communications private.

THE FIGHT FOR LONE TREE HILL.

Sikhon, Manchuria, March 3.—Stubborn fighting has been in progress all day long.

Four Japanese divisions are about eleven miles west of Mukden.

The Japanese to-day made two infantry attacks on Lone Tree hill, but were repulsed. They have resumed the bombardment of the hill.

The Japanese attacked the Russian extreme left wing at two points as well as at Gautopass, where, during the morning, the fortification previously abandoned were recaptured by the Russians.

The bombardment of the Russian positions on the left and right flanks continued, while the Japanese swept Lone Tree hill with at least 2,500 shells from siege guns and mortars, the latter's projectiles being recognizable by their enormous explosive force and massive splinters.

Towards evening the Japanese advanced on the right wing where the stubborn fighting occurred. Though the bank of the Hun river the Russians are maintaining a stubborn resistance.

Four Japanese divisions engaged in the turning movement on the Russian right on the Liao river to-day reached Saw-tung, about 11 miles west of Mukden. But Russian reinforcements were sent out and checked the advance. Japanese attack on the positions east of

Erdaou at 4 o'clock this morning was repulsed.

The cover of an artillery fire and a mist, the Japanese opened an infantry attack on Poutloff hill (Lone Tree) at 7 o'clock this morning, but were beaten off by the desolating fire of the Russian guns. A second attack at noon was similarly repulsed after which the Japanese resumed the bombardment of the hill with siege guns preparatory to making an assault.

The losses on both sides are heavy, but those of the Russians are inconsiderable. And Gen. Labuzin's division, which held the heights of Tomou mountain. They were attacked last night, and the position twice changed hands, but morning found it still in the possession of the Russians.

Thus far Gen. Rennenkampf has successfully barred the way of Gen. Kuroki's column.

THE CAPTURE OF A GERMAN STEAMER.

Tokio, March 3.—The commander of the Japanese warship which seized the German steamer Severus reports as follows:

"On the morning of February 23rd, while at sea off Hokkaido, we pursued the German steamer Severus, bound for Vladivostok with coal. Ice prevented the warship from approaching the Severus and held both ships, which were enveloped and disabled by ice, and drifted seaward all that night. The next morning we captured her."

The unknown steamer recently reported to be held in the ice between the islands of Kunashiri and Hokkaido is drifting about. The Japanese guardships are unable to approach her.

ANOTHER REPORT REGARDING THE TACOMA.

Tokio, March 3.—It is reported that the American steamer Tacoma, bound from Seattle to Vladivostok, with 2,000 tons of salt beef on board, was caught in the ice north of Hokkaido about February 15th, and is still held there.

It is added that the crew abandoned the Tacoma, but returned to her. These reports cannot be confirmed on account of the danger to naval ships, which were avoiding the ice fields.

Berlin, March 4.—A dispatch to the Tageblatt from St. Petersburg says: "General Kouropatkin, in a telegram which arrived here at 7 o'clock last night, said 200,000 Japanese had broken through the Russian left wing and that it was cut off from the remainder of the army."

"At 10 o'clock came another dispatch from General Kouropatkin which reads: 'The Japanese are marching on Mukden. My position is extremely dangerous.'"

In government circles here to-day there is a conviction that General Kouropatkin has been fully beaten, that part of his army has been dispersed, and the railroad north of Mukden will probably be cut.

LOSSES ESTIMATED AT SEVENTY THOUSAND.

St. Petersburg, March 4, 5 p.m.—The battle going on at the front has assumed enormous proportions.

Already one of the Associated Press

WITHDRAWING THE ARMY TO THE PASS.

St. Petersburg, March 3, 5.30 p.m.—According to the latest information from the front, the battle is now general and of the most desperate character. The losses have been exceptionally heavy on both sides during the preliminary fighting.

Although it is not officially admitted, it is regarded as certain that General Kouropatkin is directing all his efforts to the withdrawal of his armies to the pass. It is now practically a rear-guard action, but the task of extricating himself is proving very difficult. The Japanese have not only driven in his left but a column is already reported to have crossed the Hun river east of Fushun.

At the same time the Japanese are pressing the Russian centre under the cover of the fire of their siege guns and General Kouropatkin is gradually retiring before the Japanese advance.

The efforts of the Japanese to envelop the Russian right wing have been unsuccessful, but it has been forced back almost on a line with Mukden.

Two Russian divisions were dispatched to head off the wide flanking column advancing from the Liao river towards Simintsin, about 30 miles west of Mukden, but according to the latest reports they were too late, the Japanese having entered the town yesterday.

ARTILLERY DUEL SOUTH OF MUKDEN.

Mukden, March 3.—A ceaseless artillery fire is heard ten miles southward.

The roaring of the guns is becoming more distinct every hour.

The Russian losses during the last five days have been heavy.

The wounded are streaming through Mukden northwards, the hospital train service being infinitely better than at the time of the battle of the Shakhe river.

Great confusion prevails in this city, every means of transportation out of Mukden being used.

Night attacks are again the feature of the Japanese tactics.

During last night almost a corps of infantry was hurled against Gen. Biderling's right flank, and for hours the men fought in the darkness, the Japanese using hand grenades with terrible effect. The butchery on both sides was frightful.

Gen. Rennenkampf's troops acquitted themselves brilliantly, contesting the passes southeast for three days.

They fought continuously, the Japanese pressing them on all sides with heavy odds in favor of the Japanese.

On Thursday night the corps lost about 1,800 men, of which number 14 were officers. Over 1,000 wounded men have already arrived here.

The brunt of the fighting fell on Gen. Daniloff's division and Gen. Labuzin's division, which held the heights of Tomou mountain. They were attacked last night, and the position twice changed hands, but morning found it still in the possession of the Russians.

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Two Russian divisions were dispatched to head off the wide flanking column advancing from the Liao river towards Simintsin, about 30 miles west of Mukden, but according to the latest reports they were too late, the Japanese having entered the town yesterday.

Russian correspondents wires that the Russian losses amount to 30,000 men and those of the Japanese at 40,000.

It is added that the attempt to draw a line around General Kouropatkin has not yet succeeded, but it is said that the Japanese from Simintsin are attempting by forced marches to cut the Russian line of communications.

General Kuroki, according to the latest reports, is moving north, but the Russian centre is yielding slowly before the Japanese onslaughts.

On Thursday Field Marshal Oyama shifted the weight to his left, seeking to envelop the Russian right flank, about southwest of Mukden. In the bloody hand-to-hand fighting which followed, and continued for hours, the losses on both sides were enormous.

But the most serious news is a report that the Russian fighting column at Simintsin, about 30 miles west of Mukden, has divided, part of it moving straight east to roll up the Russian right wing, while the other is making forced marches north with the evident purpose of cutting the Russian line of communication with Tie pass and closing the line of retreat.

Should the movement prove successful, the Russian army might be surrounded.

KOUROPATKIN SENDS REPORT OF RETREAT.

St. Petersburg, March 4.—General Kouropatkin reports that the Russians have been compelled to evacuate the position at Gaots pass.

JAPANESE ARE ADVANCING NORTHWARD.

Tokio, March 4, 4.10 p.m.—An official dispatch received yesterday from the headquarters of the Japanese armies in Manchuria says:

"Many counter-attacks in the direction of Hsiching have been repulsed by the Japanese. In the direction of Bentianshan the Japanese pressed the army to his main force and now are engaged with him."

"The Japanese have captured Sunmaupotze and the heights north of the headquarters of the Japanese army in Manchuria, and have since been engaging the enemy's infantry."

"About a battalion of Russians attempted to penetrate Schwangfang from the direction of Penchiapao but were repulsed."

"Paying no attention to the enemy's defences west of the railroad the Japanese are pressing northeast."

"Part of the Japanese force disclosed the enemy front of our troops in Manchuria, the Japanese at the latter place capturing a quantity of provisions."

DRAWING IN THE TROOPS ON RIGHT.

Tokio, March 4, 11 a.m.—Aside from some brief official announcements, the army department remains uninformed of the trend of events in Manchuria. It is evident that there is considerable activity along the entire front, which is roughly estimated to be ninety miles long, but it is doubtful if any general action has yet been commenced.

At Imperial headquarters nothing can be learned of the time and nature of the general movement at the front. The Russians seem to be concentrating troops on their centre and left, while contracting their line on the extreme right. The batteries of both armies continue to exchange a heavy fire.

The British steamer Easy Abbey from Cardiff for Vladivostok was seized by the Japanese guardships on February 27th.

COPPER MONEY DISCARDED.

Copper money in France is being gradually replaced this year by aluminum bronze pennies of a pale yellow color.

THE CZAR'S APPEAL TO HIS PEOPLE

CALLS ON THEM TO RALLY ROUND THE THRONE

The Empire Must Be Defended From Internal Enemies—The Proposed Mixed Commission.

St. Petersburg, March 3.—The text of the Imperial manifesto published by the Official Messenger to-day calling on the country to rally round the throne in defence of the empire from its internal enemies is as follows:

"An inscrutable Providence has been pleased to visit our fatherland with heavy trials, a bloody war in the Far East, involving the honor of Russia and the command of the waters of the Pacific ocean, so urgently necessary to the consolidation of the peaceful prosperity, not only of our own but of other Christian nations throughout the ages, has imposed a great strain on the strength of the Russian people and has swallowed up many dear victims near to our heart. While the glorious sons of Russia are fighting with self-sacrificing bravery, risking their lives for their faith, for their Emperor and for their country, disturbances have broken out in our own land, to the joy of our enemies and our own deep sorrow."

"Blinded by the evil-minded leaders, revolutionists make insolent attacks on the Holy Orthodox church and the lawfully established pillars of the Russian state, thinking that by severing the natural connection with the past they will destroy the existing order of state and set up in its place a new administration on a foundation unstable to our fatherland. The outrage on the Grand Duke Sergius, who ardently loved the first capital of the empire and met his end amidst the sacred Kremlin, deeply shocked the national feeling of every one to whom the honor of the Russian name and renown and his home are dear."

"We humbly bear the trials sent us by Providence and derive strength and consolation from our trust in the God, which God has always shown to the Russian power and from the immortal devotion which we know our loyal people entertain for the throne. With the help of the prayers of the Holy Orthodox church and under the banner of the autocratic might of Emperors, Russia has already frequently passed through wars and disturbances, always issuing from her troubles and difficulties with fresh and unending strength."

"Nevertheless the recent internal disorders and the instability of thought which have favored the spread of revolt and disturbances make it our duty to remind all those in the government institutions of their services and to call upon them to display increased solicitude in the safeguard of the law, order and security in firm consciousness of their moral responsibility as servants of the throne and of the fatherland. It is our duty to think necessarily of the welfare of the people and firmly trusting that God, after He has tried our patience, will give victory to our arms, we appeal to the right-minded people of all classes to join each in his calling and his place in single-minded co-operation by word and deed in the great and sacred task of overcoming the stubborn foreign foe, and eradicating the revolt at home, and in wise efforts to check the internal confusion. We wish to remind everyone in this connection that only if there is tranquillity of mind throughout the whole population it is possible to realize our aims for a renewal of the life of our people, strengthening the prosperity of state and perfection of its administration."

"Let all those rally around the throne, true to Russia's past, honestly and conscientiously having a care in accord with ourselves for every affair of state."

"May God send down on the clergy holiness, on those in authority justice and truth, on the people peace, on the laws power, and on the faithful strength, to the consolidation of the autocracy and the welfare of our dear subjects."

(Signed) "NICHOLAS."

Liberals Disappointed.

St. Petersburg, March 3.—Emperor Nicholas's manifesto entirely reiterating Russia's aspirations in the Far East and appealing to the loyalty of the people to turn away from sedition and support the government in order that the projected reforms may be carried out has proved profoundly disappointing to the Liberals.

The latter believed that it will not only aggravate the existing critical situation, but is likely to precipitate a veritable crisis if this is the Emperor's final response to the practically unanimous demand of the intelligent class for a voice in the government.

People Will Participate.

St. Petersburg, March 3.—Emperor Nicholas this afternoon signed a rescript promising the people a voice in the preparation of the laws.

Will Listen to Suggestions.

St. Petersburg, March 3.—An Imperial decree commands that: "In order that it

may be possible for all our loyal subjects to be heard directly by the Emperor," the council presided over by the Emperor shall examine and consider in his name all the views and wishes that may be received from private persons and institutions in regard to perfecting the administration of the state and the improvement of the welfare of the people.

Proposals Rejected.

St. Petersburg, March 3.—1.25 p.m.—As expected, the answer to most of the political conditions imposed by the Emperor who met yesterday at the People's palace as essential preliminary to elect and their number to serve on the mixed commission of employers and employees, was a decided negative, and unless the workmen reconsider their attitude the proposed joint investigation of the grievances of the employees and remedial measures is doomed.

Senator Schildtvisky, who was to preside over the commission, in his reply to-day, which was printed and placarded on the doors of the various meeting places and public places, drew a sharp distinction between economic and purely political conditions. He met the men half way in regard to the former order, and gave a pledge that representatives would be immune from arrest or molestation on account of speeches or demands, so long as they confined themselves to industrial conditions.

As for the demands, he said: "They go far beyond the competency of the commission in the task committed to it by His Majesty, and require no answer on my part."

The workmen who found the doors of the general meeting place closed to them were invited to meet this afternoon by sections, according to the nature of the industry in which they are engaged, for the election of members to serve on the commission as originally contemplated. The neighborhood was full of police, large numbers of whom were hidden in courts, doorways, alleys and buildings in the vicinity. The workmen stood about the doors, discussing the situation quietly among themselves. They finally decided to hold sectional meetings this afternoon to decide on the measures to be adopted before proclaiming a general strike, and thus dispersed.

Arrests at Warsaw.

Warsaw, March 3.—1.50 p. m.—The police made numerous arrests in the course of the night, including Stanislaus Lubicki, editor of the Kurier Codzienny. He is not believed to be connected with the agitation movement, but it is thought his arrest was ordered for its moral effect, Lubicki being one of the best known persons in Warsaw. The police and military patrols have been largely increased, and are now stopping and searching persons in the streets for revolutionists.

St. Petersburg, March 3.—In the Alexandra Palace at Tzarsoke-Selo surrounded by the ministry and a few members of the court, with the Emperor by his side, Emperor Nicholas to-day affixed his signature to a rescript containing His Majesty's decree to give elected representatives of the people an opportunity to express their views in the preparation of the laws of the empire.

This is the autocracy's final response to the agitation in favor of participation by the people in government, which has brought Russia in the last few months almost to the brink of revolution. Its import must not be misunderstood. For the present, at least, it involves no change in the regime of autocracy and it seems neither a constitution nor a national assembly; at the same time, it recognizes the principle of the people's right to be heard regarding laws under which they must live. Whatever the result may be, the document is sure to mark an epoch in Russian history, as important, if not more important than the signing of the emancipation manifesto, the twenty-four anniversary of which was intended to signalize.

The signing of the document came at the end of a dramatic scene, the climax of which was an impassioned speech by Emperor Nicholas to his ministers, in which he declared that he sought only the welfare of his subjects.

"I am willing," the Emperor said, "to shed my blood for the good of the people."

The text of the rescript follows: "True to the ancient custom of the Russian people of the expression of its feelings to the throne, in days of joy or sorrow, or to the fatherland, the nobility, Zemstvo assemblies, commercial associations and peasant communities have offered from all parts of Russia congratulations on the birth of the heir to the throne with the expressions of their willingness to sacrifice their fortunes for the successful termination of the war and to devote all their strength to the establishment of order in the state. In my own name and in that of Her Majesty I order you to convey to them our hearty feeling, in which in the present grave time is all the more pleasing as an expression of their willingness on my call to co-operate in the successful execution of the reforms announced by the wishes of my heart."

"My desire to obtain the fulfillment of my intentions for the welfare of my people by means of the co-operation of the government and continuing the work of my crowned ancestors to retain the prestige of Russia and maintain order, and I resolved heretofore, with the help of God, to convene the workmen, men, possessing the confidence of the people and elected by them, to participate in the elaboration and consideration of legislative measures."

"Taking into consideration the peculiar circumstances of the fatherland, the

multiplicity of its races, and, in certain parts of the country, the weak development of citizenship, Russian rulers in their wisdom instituted, in accordance with their mature requirements, but only in logical sequence at the same time, considering the continuation of firm historical ties with the past as pledge for the durability and stability of the present.

"In undertaking these reforms, I am convinced that local needs and exigencies of life well weighed and sincere speech of those elected will insure fruitfulness to legislation for the real benefit of the people. At the same time, I force all the complexity and difficulty presented in the elaboration of this reform, while preserving absolutely the immutability of the fundamental laws of the empire."

"I have confidence in your long administrative experience and value your tranquil assurance in approbation of a special conference to meet under your presidency to consider means to accomplish this, my will."

"May God bless this good beginning. May God help you successfully to secure the welfare of the people confided to me by God."

(Signed) "NICHOLAS."

THE LATE MRS. STANFORD.

During Her Lifetime She Devoted Most of Her Property to University.

San Francisco, March 2.—The news received from Honolulu that strychnine had been discovered in the bicarbonate soda bottle from which Mrs. Jane Stanford took a dose shortly before her death, has convinced most of her friends here that she was the victim of poison, though the apparent absence of a plausible motive for such a crime baffles her acquaintances as well as the detectives.

Mrs. Stanford did not leave so large a fortune as was supposed, for during her lifetime she devoted the property she inherited from her husband to the regents of Stanford University to be held in trust for the institution until her death. The last transfer of important money she had about three years ago, when she made over her magnificent residence on California street, and at the same time she practically gave to the regents of the university a trusteeship to her jewelry, which she provided should be disposed of for the benefit of Leland Stanford Junior University after her death.

Of those who it is presumed by friends are likely to receive a part of the estate left by Mrs. Stanford, it is generally believed that Mrs. Jennie Lathrop and her sister and brother Merione, and Leland Stanford Lathrop, the children of Charles Lathrop, will fare the best, for they were more frequently in her company than others, and deeply interested Mrs. Stanford. Besides these relations Mrs. Stanford is survived by a brother, Ariel Lathrop, of Albany, N. Y., two nieces, one in New York and the other in Brooklyn, the daughters of a late brother, Daniel S. Lathrop, and two nieces in Stritoga. That they have all been provided for is generally understood, for Mrs. Stanford had frequently written to friends that while she did not see much of her relatives in the East, she had not forgotten them, and would remember them in her will.

Mountford Wilson, Mrs. Stanford's attorney, and her brother, Charles Lathrop, have stated that Mrs. Stanford made a will a few months ago, but that until later they would not make its contents known to the world.

DESPERATE NERVE.

There is no doubt that a bunch of thieves are operating in this city. Within the past week quite a number of burglaries have occurred, although fortunately no large hauls have been made. But for consummate nerve the operation of a trio at the Victoria hotel this morning easily takes front place. It appears that the night clerk was in another part of the building, and John Wolfenden, one of the proprietors, was in the bar. Consequently, for the time being, there was nobody in the office. Taking advantage of this, three men who had been standing on the other side of the street, watching for their chance, doubtless, hurried across, entered the office, detached the drawer from behind, and started off with it. Just then, however, Mr. Wolfenden looked into the office from the bar, and seeing the men with the drawer, rushed at them. They hurried the whole thing at him and escaped. The proprietor's appearance was certainly just in the nick of time or the hotel would have been minus about two hundred and fifty dollars. Later, Sergt. Warner nabbed one man, whom the police think is worth investigating, and they have him at the lock-up on the charge of vagrancy. His name is Bert Allen alias Smith. He was remanded until to-morrow morning.

On Wednesday night somebody got into the tea store of Hallam & Wyndham on Government street, and forcing open the till, stole nine dollars. Entrance was gained through the back door.

POSTAL COMPLICATION.

Four countries—Bavaria, Austria, Wurtemberg and Switzerland—border on the Lake of Constance. Passengers on the boats have heretofore had much trouble in finding out what stamps to use on their letters. It has been decided that letters mailed on the boats may bear the stamps of any one of the four countries named as well as German imperial stamps.

Ltd. of res. B. G. KIDDIE Manager. BOWES' Toilet on Bowes, near Yates St. Canada NONE. Importers. Estate of JANE Late of Victoria, dated Feb. 28th on February 8th. Court to Arthur and William Fred. B. C. The executors against the said send full itemized list of the first day of deceased for the date of the estate, having time of which they notice. To the deceased are out of their indebted said executors. C. 10th February, 1905. For the Executors. Live Stock As- hish Columbia. of the Dairyman's tion of British Col- Agricultural De- ment Building, at rday, March 2nd, business and elec- present year. Professor Rudick, tawa, and T. A. F. Inspector of Dairy- papers on different. that thirty days application to of Lands and City following described erick Arm: No. 1, near the shore, of 30 chains south of n, thence east 90 to point of com- mencing the bound- ary of number ay, thence east 80, thence west 80 0 chains. No. 2, W. corner of the 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, H. O. STEVENS. FOR SALE—\$125. been used by a ightly well made. to any part of C. Hicks & Lovick ment street, Van- over to us for catalogue. de large or small and otherwise. gent." Times Office. Address Old-