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RUSH FOR GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC STOCK

The Issue Over-Subscribed Ten Times--General Manager Morse Makes Important Statement Concerning Plans.

(From Friday's Daily.)

Frank W. Morse, general manager of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway, has received an announcement from London which is of the most interesting character to the Canadian public, and at the same time is most gratifying to the officials of the trans-continental line.

Last evening Mr. Morse was asked by a Times reporter if there were any items of interest in connection with the Grand Trunk Pacific. Mr. Morse replied:

"I have just been advised by Chas. M. Hays, president of the company, that he had received a cable from London, saying the Grand Trunk Pacific prospectus, issued in London, this morning, received up to 1 o'clock--the time of closing--subscriptions for ten times the amount of offerings to the public.

"This means," he added, "that our financial arrangements for the line up to the mountain section are complete, and that we will be able to rush our work as rapidly as our engineering corps, now in the field, can give us our location, or in other words, that our work will not, in any way, be retarded or delayed, for want of funds.

"I am only sorry that the people of

British Columbia have not signified a desire to co-operate with us to the extent of giving assistance, in the way of land grants, that would justify at this time our taking up the subject of early construction at this end.

"I think it is generally known that in order to build the road in the most economical manner, and do justice to our shareholders, by obtaining a railroad at minimum cost, it will be to our advantage to work from the East to the West. Of course, in doing this, the expenditure in British Columbia compared with that that would be made if we built from the West to the East, would be materially reduced. It is, however, for the people of British Columbia to say whether or not they can afford to make it possible for us to depart from the methods we are now following in reference to the construction of the new trans-continental line."

Mr. Morse was asked if the report to the effect that Peter Larsen, the great railway contractor of Helena, had been awarded a contract for building any section of the western part of the line. He replied that no contract had yet been let for the western part, and none would likely be awarded until he returned to the East.



GEO. HILEY, M. P.

As Sketched at His Desk in the Commons by a Montreal Star Artist.

FOR SERVICE TO FRENCH PORTS

CONTRACT WITH THE ALLAN LINE SIGNED

Will Remain in Force for Three Years--Presentation to Hon. R. W. Scott.

Ottawa, Feb. 24.—The Dominion government and the Allan line have signed a contract for three years for a line between Canada and France. For eighteen trips Canada is to pay \$100,000, and for twenty-four, \$133,333. The contract begins with the opening of navigation, and ends with the opening of navigation in 1909. The vessels may call at British ports, but the first call must be in France, and the last before leaving for Canada also in France.

Presentation to Minister.

Today is the 80th anniversary of the birth of Hon. R. W. Scott, secretary of state and leader of the Senate. The Liberal senators took advantage of the occasion and presented Hon. Mr. Scott with a piece of silver, on which was a suitable inscription. The presentation took place in the Speaker's chamber a few minutes before the Senate met.

ACTIVITY ALONG THE SHAKHE RIVER

COLLISION BETWEEN SCOUTING PARTIES

Russian Heavy Guns Shelling Japanese Positions--Rumors That Important Events Are in Progress.

Tokio, Feb. 24.—Manchurian reports to the army department say that the shelling of points in the vicinity of the Shakhe river and collision between scouting parties of both armies continued on February 23rd and 24th.

Commencing at 1 o'clock on February 23rd a Russian battery of heavy guns, posted west of Litajentun, began shelling Lapatni and its vicinity.

RUSSIAN CAPITAL HAS NO LATE NEWS.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 24.—The second day passed without dispatches having been given out from General Kouropatkin, which is interpreted to support the rumors that great events are in progress in Manchuria. The war office, however, maintains that there is no important news, and that there have been no developments since the last dispatches made public, in which the commander-in-chief reported all quiet, with the exception of minor operations toward the eastward.

The Associated Press dispatch from Mukden yesterday made no mention of a battle and retirement of the Russians.

BRIDGE DESTROYED BY RUSSIAN RAIDERS.

Mukden, Feb. 24.—A daring Russian raiding party, under the command of Col. Slessmidt, completely destroyed with explosives the bridge south of Hai Cheng, about ten miles east of Newchwang, on February 23rd, blowing up 70 feet of it.

JAPS FORCED TO ABANDON ADVANCE.

Tsinketchin, Manchuria, Feb. 23.—The Japanese continue to press the Russian advanced divisions on the left flank. On February 21st, with a strength of not less than eight battalions, they attacked the outposts. The Russians made a vigorous counter-attack and occupied the village of Dapidu, forcing the Japanese to temporarily abandon their advance.

DIET INVESTIGATING ALLEGED FRAUDS.

Tokio, Feb. 24.—The Diet has been investigating alleged frauds in connection with contracts signed last May for the construction of barracks to be used as a depot for the seventh division at Hokkaido, the northernmost island of Japan. In an address to the throne, Chief Quartermaster Tomatsu takes the responsibility, although his predecessors awarded them privately and without tenders.

The Russian prisoners in Japan number 44,400, of whom 810 are officers.

RUSSIAN OUTPOSTS FORCED TO WITHDRAW.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 24.—A telegram from Huan Mountain, Manchuria, dated today, says:

"The Russian reconnaissance in force in the Tsinketchin district compelled the Japanese to bring nine battalions and twelve guns into action. The gradual advance of the Japanese in that district continues, causing our outposts to withdraw, fighting to their main positions.

"On February 22nd we had two officers and sixty-two men wounded.

"All is quiet elsewhere at the front with the exception of the usual exchange of shots."

JAPANESE BOATS BOUND FOR VLADIVOSTOCK.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 24.—Gen. Kouropatkin in a dispatch dated February 23rd, sends a report that twenty Japanese torpedo boats and a large warship are on their way to Vladivostock.

RIVAL ARMIES AGAIN ENGAGED.

Tsinketchin, Feb. 23, via Mukden, Feb. 24.—There was fighting along the whole line in this district today. The Japanese continue a persistent advance, driving in the Russian vanguard, and came in touch with Russian fortified positions.

A stubborn combat is expected tomorrow, the Japanese apparently intending to drive the Russians out and capture their redoubts.

The Japanese are circling eastward.

RUSSIANS FORCED FROM THEIR BASE.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—A dispatch from Sachitun, dated February 24, says:

"The Japanese, in superior numbers, forced the Russians at Tsinketchin to abandon their base, at Bressanoff. The

battle has been desperate on both sides. The result is not yet known."

MAKING FLANKING MOVES FROM MOUNTAINS.

Shenking, Manchuria (via Mukden), Feb. 24.—It is reported here that the Japanese are closing in on the Russian east flank. As a result of this movement, it is possible that there will be either a general engagement or at least counter movement by the Russians along some part of the line, especially if, as is thought, the Japanese have returned to their original tactics of making flanking movements from the mountains. The early advent of spring now makes possible operations in and from the mountainous districts.

For the past three weeks the Russians have suffered no material disturbance with the exception of comparatively unimportant damage to the railroad and to a bridge near Tanchchips, as the result of Japanese raids, which, it is alleged, by Chinese hands.

Since the receipt of news of an unidentified force of unknown numbers behind the Russian right wing, the Russians have taken measures for the purpose of minimizing the opportunities for brigands in the belief that Chinese bands are to some extent being organized and directed by the Japanese cavalry.

Reports of activity at Vladivostok in anticipation of an attack on the place by the Japanese are confirmed, but the town continues in its accustomed gaiety. The business continues in a normal state notwithstanding the strong patrol of the Japanese of the straits between the island of Sakhalien and the coast has completely interrupted the movements of shipping. Supplies are reported plentiful, though prices are high. The naval attaches of foreign governments, are leaving Vladivostok by request of the Russian authorities and the number of refugees at Mukden has been greatly reduced because of the transfer of them to the government reservation at Kaungchwa.

REPORTED CROSSING THE LIAO RIVER.

Newchwang, Feb. 24, via Tien Tsun, Feb. 25.—About 300 Russians were again reported at a small village north of Niuchiang on the night of February 23rd crossing the Liao river.

This morning forenoon raiding here were warned not to venture on the north bank of the Liao, owing to the activity of scouting parties on both sides.

Russian agents clothed as Chinese are everywhere.

SIEGE GUNS ENGAGED AT CENTRE OF LINE.

Mukden, Feb. 25.—An action in the centre of the front, 3,200 shells were fired throughout the day.

GERMAN STEAMER HAS BEEN CAPTURED.

Tokio, Feb. 25.—The German steamer Severus, bound for Vladivostok with a cargo of Cardiff coal, was seized yesterday.

RUSSIAN SQUADRON HAS PASSED DOVER.

Dover, Eng., Feb. 25.—The third Russian Pacific Squadron, commanded by Rear-Admiral Neogotoff, passed here this morning, heading westward.

COLLISIONS BETWEEN SCOUTS CONTINUE.

Tokio, Feb. 25.—The Russians shelled Litajentun and Chenchiepoo yesterday. On the same day they burned and abandoned Chin Sunpo, near Waitao mountain.

Collisions between scouts and reconnoitering parties continue.

PORTLAND FAIR.

(Associated Press.)

Portland, Ore., Feb. 24.—An effort is being made by the Canadian Society, representing the Canadian residents of the Pacific Northwest, to induce the Canadian government to exhibit at the Lewis and Clark centennial. Numerous messages have been sent to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Premier, and other high officials at Ottawa, urging them to use their influence.

DEAD FROM INJURIES.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Feb. 24.—Frank Frommert, one of the electricians who was burned in the fire at the Niagara Falls Power Company's plant yesterday, died early today. Roy Robinson is still alive, and hope is entertained for his recovery. John Frommert will recover. The damage has been repaired, and all the generators are again in operation.

MAY MORTGAGE PROPERTIES.

Tokio, Feb. 25.—The diet to-day passed a law authorizing private railways to mortgage their properties abroad.

EARLES BILL SEEMS DOOMED TO DEFEAT

SENATE COMMITTEE HAS MADE REPORT

The Majority Recommends the Indefinite Postponement of the Close Seasons Measure.

(Special to the Times.)

Olympia, Wn., Feb. 24.—To-day a majority of the committee on fisheries of the Senate recommended the indefinite postponement of the Earles bill, closing the sockeye fishing seasons in 1906 and 1907.

A minority report favored the passage of the bill.

The bill will be placed on the general file with both recommendations. It will probably meet defeat.

THE STRIKE IS STILL SPREADING

MORE RAILWAY MEN HAVE LEFT EMPLOYMENT

Policeman Killed by a Student at Warsaw--Ironworks Employees Are Also Idle.

Warsaw, Feb. 24.—The police of this city threaten to strike for higher pay. They constitute an independent force, paid by the city, and at present receive \$8 per month and their uniforms. The police subsist chiefly on money obtained from other sources. They will present formal demands for an increase of pay to the chief of police to-morrow.

The operating departments of the Warsaw divisions of the St. Petersburg railway have struck, but the train service is maintained with the aid of the army railway corps.

The strike of the Vienna and Vistula railways continues.

The military occupy the gas works, the employees of which threaten to strike tonight.

A policeman was shot and killed by a student in a disturbance at the Vienna railroad station today. The police attempted to disperse great crowds, which gathered there, and arrested a student. A mob tried to rescue him, and a policeman drew his sword, when upon a student killed him, and disappeared in the crowd.

Cossacks and infantry are guarding the telegraph lines of the Warsaw-St. Petersburg railway, fearing that the strikers will cut off communication between the two cities.

The mails from Warsaw to Lodz, a distance of 80 miles, are being delivered in carts.

Troops Guard Railway.

Moscow, Feb. 24.—The employees of the Moscow-Kazan railroad struck today. They had not received the management's reply to their petition. The men have decided not to interfere with military trains. Other trains will not be allowed to leave. Troops are guarding the railway station.

Ironworkers Idle.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 24.—The strike has broken out afresh at the Putloff Iron Works. All the men walked out today. The minority at first objected to a renewal of the strike, whereupon a conflict occurred between the two factions, which required a strong force of police to quell. Troops have again been requisitioned to patrol the Putloff strike zone.

COURT-MARTIAL ORDERED.

Seven Officers and Men to Be Tried in Connection With Firing at Palace.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 24.—The Grand Duke Vladimir, commander of the military district of St. Petersburg, has ordered the trial by court-martial of Capt. Davidoff, of the seventeenth battery of the First Regiment of Horse Artillery of the Guards, and three other officers, and three men of the first battery of the Guards' Artillery Brigade, in connection with the firing in the direction of Emperor Nicholas of a charge of case shot at the ceremony of blessing the Neva, January 19th.

The Grand Duchess Elizabeth has been appointed commander of the Fifth Cien. Grenadiers in succession to the late Grand Duke Sergius.



THE CZAR OF ALL THE RUSSIAS.

—Punch.

KILLED WHILE FIGHTING FLAMES

FIREMAN CRUSHED BY A FALLING ROOF

Body of Aged Woman Found in Woodshed With Wound in Head - Painter's Death.

Coaticoke, Que., Feb. 24.—The Coaticoke opera house was destroyed by fire this morning. In fighting the fire, Fireman John Corless was killed by a falling roof. Fireman John Chesley had his leg broken in two places.

Fatal Fall.

Hamilton, Feb. 24.—Henry Ross, a painter, fell from a scaffold at the West-linghouse Company's premises yesterday and received injuries which caused death shortly afterwards.

Outrage at Stratford.

Stratford, Ont., Feb. 24.—Edith Sarvis, a popular young lady, while on her way to her grandmother's yesterday, had carbolic acid thrown at her by someone unknown. The bulk of the liquid fell on her neck and side of her face. The police are investigating. It is supposed to be a case of mistaken identity.

Recovering.

Toronto, Feb. 24.—E. F. Clarke, M.P.

is now considered out of danger unless unforeseen complications set in. Ex-Mayor O. A. Howland is suffering from pneumonia. Chancellor Boyd, who was also suffering from pneumonia, is recovering.

Found Dead.

Brantford, Feb. 24.—Mrs. Doyle, widow, 84 years of age, was found dead in a woodshed in the rear of her home in Burford township yesterday with her skull crushed. The wound appears to have been inflicted with an axe. Whether the blow was accidentally sustained by the victim herself while endeavoring to wield the axe or delivered by other hands, is not yet known.

Challenge Accepted.

Winnipeg, Feb. 24.—The challenge of the Rat Portage hockey team has been accepted by the Stanley cup trustees.

Snow Disappears.

Winnipeg, Feb. 24.—The weather on the southern Alberta ranges is delightful. All snow has gone.

Slowly Sinking.

Winnipeg, Feb. 24.—Father Richot, of the diocese of St. Boniface, is slowly sinking.

FOUGHT WITH PISTOLS.

Boston, Feb. 24.—A pistol duel last night between two Italians, Sabaro Nappo, 20 years of age, and Gavara Capucci, 48 years of age, resulted in the death of Nappo. The police are searching for Capucci, who escaped. The fight, the police say, was the result of a quarrel over money matters.

FIREMAN'S DEATH.

Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 24.—One fireman was killed, five were injured, and property valued at \$40,000 was destroyed by fire today in the playing mill of the International Woodwork Company.

DR. PRICE'S Cream Baking Powder

Made from Grapes

45 Cents a pound can

25 Cents a half-pound can

At all grocers

For fifty years Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder has been the standard. It is the greatest aid to perfect household cookery.

With least labor and trouble it makes all hot-breads, biscuit and cake of finest flavor; light, appetizing and wholesome.