4 P.M. EDITION

London Advertiser

Read Small Ads. ON PAGE 8.

40TH YEAR. NO. 17132 THE ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1904. PRICE TWO CENTS.

MAN BLAMED FOR PORT ARTHUR DEFEAT WAS SHOT DEAD BY VICEROY ALEXIEFF

Dramatic Incident Follows Disaster to the Russian Navy---A Royal Proclamation Issued Promising Terrible Chastisement For the Japanese---Mikado's Government Will Respect Sovereignty of China and Korea.

Russian Death Roll of the Chemulpo Fight Nearly Five Hundred—Prisoners Will Be On Parole at Saigon and Hong-Kong--Still Another Naval Battle Reported at Port Arthur.

New York, Feb. 18. — A St. Petersburg correspondent, according to a cablegram to the World from London, says: "I learn from official sources the news of a dramatic sequel to the Russian disaster at Port Arthur on Feb. 9. After the attack by the Japanese, Viceroy Alexieff summoned before him the Rusisan officers whose negligence was the main cause of the defeat.

"After cross-examining them as to their conduct, Alexieff was convinced that a lieutenant among them was most culpably guilty.

"It is declared that Alexieff drew a revolver and shot the young officer dead before his comrades.

"The lieutenant had taken a party of officers ashore on a torpedo boat, whereas he should have been on guard outside the harbor."

ALAS, THE POOR JAP.

A Russian Proclamation Promises a Terrible Chastisement.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18. — An official proclamation explaining the unpreparedness of Russia for war, and the necessity for the exercise of patience by her people, has been issued here. It is as follows:

"Eight days have now elapsed since all Russia was shaken with profound indignation against an enemy who suddenly broke off negotiations, and by a treacherous attack endeavored to obtain an easy success in a war long desired. The Russian nation, with natural impatience, desires prompt vengeance, and awaits feverishly news from the far east.

"The unity and strength of the Russian people leave no room for doubt that Japan will receive the chastisement she deserves for her treachery and provocation to war, at a time when our beloved sovereign desired to maintain peace among the nations. The conditions under which hostilities are being carried on compel us to wait with patience news of the success of our troops, which cannot occur before decisive actions are fought by the Russian army. The distance of the territory and the desire of the Emperor to maintain peace, were the causes of the impossibility of more complete and earlier preparations for war. Much time is now necessary in order to strike at Japan blows worthy of the dignity and might of Russia, and, while sparing as much as possible the shedding of blood of her children, to inflict just chastisement upon the nation which has provoked the struggle. Russia must await the event in patience, being sure that our army will avenge an hundredfold that provocation.

"Operations on land must not be expected for some time yet, and we cannot obtain early news from the theater of war. The useless shedding of blood is unworthy the greatness and power of Russia.

"Our country displays such unity and desire for self-sacrifice on behalf of the national cause that all true news from the scene of hostilities will be immediately given to the entire nation."

HERE'S ANOTHER FIGHT.

Japan Naval Officers Hear of a Third One Off Port Arthur.

Sasebo, Japan, Feb. 17. — The opinion of Japanese naval officers here is that a third fight has occurred off Port Arthur, some four Russian war vessels having been reported as leaving that place.

The French steamer Pascal, which left Chemulpo yesterday, is bound for Saigon, the capital of French Cochin China, having on board the Russian minister to Korea, and suite, besides six hundred Russian men-of-warsmen. France will guarantee their parole. The British vessels which have Russian refugees on board will take them to Hong Kong. The Russians are relieving all persons of their nationality from Korean ports. There are 24 Russians wounded in the hospital at Chemulpo, nearly all of them being fatally injured.

REVOLUTIONARIES ACTIVE.

New York, Feb. 18. — A cable from London to the Times says: Pandemonium has reigned for several days at Rostoff. The revolutionary party is vigorously at work. The state of affairs in the Caucasus is also unsatisfactory. The Government is apprehensive of an extension of the disorders. The governors of the provinces have secured special instructions as to how to deal with the dangerous contingencies which are foreseen.

CHEMULPO'S DEATH ROLL.

Seoul, Feb. 18. — Three thousand Russian troops are reported to be encamped on the Yalu River, opposite Wiju.

AT THE YALU.

Berlin, Feb. 18. — A dispatch to the Cologne Gazette from Chemulpo reasserts that 17 officers and 439 men of the Russian warships Variag and Korietz were either killed or drowned whoa those vessels were destroyed.

DOESN'T WANT CHINA.

Japan Will Stand for Sovereignty of China and Korea.

New York, Feb. 18. — M. Kurino, the retiring Japanese minister to Russia, according to a special to the Times, from Berlin, said that Japan, having gone to war with Russia for the defense of the sovereignty of the Korean and Chinese Empires, would religiously respect that sovereignty, if she were victorious. He added: "We pledge ourselves to the maintenance of the open door wherever the fortunes of war clothe us with ascendancy in the far east. I find commercial Germany exploiting the bugbear that if we humble Russia we shall proceed to slam the open door in the face of Europe and America and hoist the banner of Asia for the Asiatics. Japan has no such intentions.

"It is fundamentally opposed to our national ambition to rank as a world power, in the general sense of the term. The idea that Japan plans the organization of the yellow race for the purpose of crushing the white power in Asia is a ridiculous fantasy. Whoever permits himself to be frightened by the 'yellow peril' is ignorant of the gulf separating the Japanese and the Chinese peoples.

"China, indeed, regards the Japanese as traditional enemies, and the attitude of China at this hour most disturbs Japan. I fear China will find it difficult to maintain international order in the neighborhood of the fighting zone."

M. Kurino added that Japanese finances were never in a better condition than now, and that unless the war lasted a long time Japan would not need to seek a foreign loan.

JAPANESE SPIES.

Tien Tsin, Feb. 17. — The Russians explain that the wholesale arrests of Japanese at Harbin and elsewhere was due to the discovery that Japan had upward of one hundred spies, of whom sixty belonged to the Japanese staff.

BRITISH SHIP MISSING.

It is feared the British steamer Hsi-Ping, bound from Chin Wang Tao, for Shanghai, with passengers and bullion, has been captured. She is five days overdue, and was last seen in Port Arthur roads.

WILL BRITAIN BUY THEM?

Government Believed To Be After More Chilean Warships.

New York, Feb. 18. — A correspondent of the Herald telegraphs from Valparaiso, Chile: La Union, a clerical paper confirms rumors by saying negotiations are being carried on for the sale of more warships to England, adding that all is now a question of agreeing to the price.

The minister of foreign affairs denied the rumor, and one of the highest chiefs in the navy neither confirmed or denied it. The interview gave the impression that negotiations are proceeding with a foreign power.

DONATES HALF A MILLION.

A Russian Philanthropist's Contribution to Red Cross Work.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18. — No official announcement of the disaster off Chemulpo, Korea, has yet been made here, although the papers are printing stories of the loss of the Variag and Korietz.

The St. Petersburg Gazette asks: "What are we going to do with the millions subscribed for the navy?" and continues: "We cannot patch up a useless garment. Let us start afresh."

Count Orloff Davkdoff, the philantrophist, and close friend of the late Czar Alexander III., has given $500,000 to the Red Cross Society—$100,000 for the immediate use of the society, $200,000 for a hospital for wounded sailors and soldiers, and $200,000 for a school for orphans of the war.

The Korean minister announces that although 36,000 Korean troops are stationed at Seoul his Government preferred not to take up arms against Japan, because Korea is neutral and felt sure Russia would soon drive out the Japanese.

JAPAN'S ARMIES ON THE MOVE

Operations On a Gigantic Scale Have Commenced.

TRANSPORTS LEAVE NAGASAKI

It Is Supposed for Some Point on the Liao Tung Peninsula—Sunday's Naval Fight.

London, Feb. 18.—Japan is most successfully keeping her plans secret. Not a single item of news which could be of possible service to the enemy has been permitted to leak out. The belief prevailing in London based on hints in dispatches from correspondents, is that her main objective will be found to be the Liao Tung Peninsula, but that nothing of a military nature will be attempted until Russia's naval squadrons are effectually disposed of.

Dispatches published in London newspapers this morning continue to give alleged descriptions of the embarking of Japanese troops. Instead of this embarkation occurring secretly from Ujina, as was the case during the Chino-Japanese war, the transports, according to dispatches, are openly embarking troops from Nagasaki, Moji, Kobe and elsewhere. A cablegram to the Daily Telegram, from Nagasaki, says transports are clearing every night from these ports for Korea and ten large steamers were embarking troops at Nagasaki last Monday. All arms of service were represented, but the cavalry horses were such sorry and scrubby ponies that they hardly seemed worth transporting. In conclusion, this correspondent says the harbor of Nagasaki has been mined. Cabling from Shanghai, Feb. 17, a correspondent of the Daily Telegraph declares that a combined movement betweeen a Japanese fleet and a large landing force from Nagasaki is now proceeeding.

The reports that the Japanese captured the East Asiatic Company's steamer Manchuria, as well as the Siberian Railway's steamer Manchuria, are confirmed.

SUNDAYS FIGHT.

The Che Foo correspondent of Paris edition of the New York Herald, in a dispatch in which he reports the arrival of junks bearing Japanese wounded from the Port Arthur engagement of Feb. 14, considers this to show that something more than a torpedo attack took place there. The Tokio correspondent of the Standard reports that two battleships were destroyed in this attack, while the correspondent at Tien Tsin of the Standard says, under date of Feb. 12, that a private dispatch from Port Arthur brings the statement that the Russian squadron has again put to sea.

A dispatch from Tokio says: The Emperor, the supreme council of war, the privy council, and a majority of the cabinet will probably depart of Feb. 20 for Kyoto, where it is planned temporarily to establish imperial head-quarters. The date, however, has not yet been definitely decided upon. Later, it is expected, the Emperor and councillors will go to Hiroshima, where the Emperor will personally watch the embarkation of troops.

A Che Foo dispatch says the Port Arthur-Che Foo cable was cut yesterday (Wednesday).

A RUSSIAN MANFESTO.

In a dispatch from Harbin, Manchuria, a correspondent of the Paris Matin, says the Manchurian newspapers publish a manifesto by the Czar, countersigned by the high mandarins, which recalls the benefits China has derived from the friendship of Russia. Three thousand troops, the correspondent continues, are crossing Lake Baikal every day. "The report that the Russian officers were ashore when Port Arthur was attacked on Feb. 8, is absolutely false," this correspondent claims. "They were all at their posts, for it was intended to have the squadron sail the following morning for destination, publicly unknown."

A telegram has been received from Irkutsk, Siberia, dated Feb. 17, saying that the first detachment of Russian troops have started from there for Port Arthur.

St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 17. — Upon the heels of the announcement from St. Petersburg that Russia will abandon her proposed exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, Mr. Hajimeota, assistant commissioner-general from Japan, has announced that every foot of exhibit space that is given up by Russia will be applied for by Japan. The Japanese commissioner states that the commission has ample exhibit material either here or on its way from Japan with which to fill the additional space. In fact, one of the difficulties that confronted the commission from the first was the question of not how large they could make their exhibit, but how best to confine it within the space allotted.

WAR NOTES.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18. — The general staff announced today that the war office is willing to accept volunteers for service in the Far East. They must be under 40 years of age and have had military training. These volunteers will be enrolled in the reserve battalions under Viceroy Alexieff.

Tien Tsin Feb. 18. — The departure of the Chinese imperial troops from Pao Ting Fu to Kin Chau (previously fixed for today), to guard the frontier has been postponed until Feb. 21. The reasons for the postponement are not known.

London, Feb. 18. — Great Britain's formal assent to Secretary Hay's note on China has not yet been given, as various details, notably the status of New Chweng, require further elaboration. At the same time the foreign office says the answer already given is tantamount to an acceptance of the broad principles of the note.

Nagasaki, Feb. 18. — Five Russian passengers, detained on board the steamer Argun, and one on the steamer Ekaterinoslav, were released at Sasebo today and allowed to proceed to their destination.

Berlin, Feb. 18. — Emperor William has notified the Czar and the Mikado that the German hospitals at Kiao Chou and Yokohama are available for the care of men wounded during the war.

San Francisco, Feb. 18. — William McC. Osborne, collector of customs at Fusan, Korea, is here on a vacation trip. Speaking of Japan and her ability to maintain a long war, Mr. Osborne says she has laid in large quantities of supplies for her army, has plenty of coal, ample construction and repair facilities for the needs of her formidable navy, and in other respects is on a war footing never before attained by any other nation in such a short space of time.

MISSIONARIES ARE WITH JAPS

Russian Victory Would Mean Their Expulsion by Greek Church.

New York, Feb. 18.—"All the Protestant missionaries in the east are on the Japanese side," said the Rev. D. S. Spencer, who has just returned to New York from Japan. He has spent 28 years in the country in missionary work.

"Victory for Russia would virtually close Manchuria and Korea to Protestantism. The orthodox Greek Church would rule. The Japanese, on the other hand, welcome our missionaries. Absolute freedom of religion prevails wherever Japanese rule extends. Our missionaries are not in personal danger in any event.

"Japan is in deadly earnest. The war is to them a struggle for existence, and for that reason I sympathize with that nation."

THE WAR SITUATION.

Whatever their plans may be both Russia and Japan are successfully keeping them secret. From many sources more or less reliable come reported movements of the Mikado's armies and it is evident that gigantic operations of some kind have commenced. Wiju, at the mouth of the Yalu River, has been garrisoned by the Japanese, while a fleet of transports is said to be headed in that direction. Still another army division has embarked at Tokio and may attempt a landing on the Liao Tung Peninsula. Manchuria could be assailed from this point, and a flank attack made on the Russians, who are on the north bank of the Yalu. This army would also be within easy striking distance of Port Arthur. Later dispatches confirm report of a fight at Port Arthur on Saturday. This raid resulted in the destruction of two more Russian battleships. It is the Japanese policy to keep raiding into the harbor, causing ceaseless worry and damages to the well-nigh helpless Russians. A large detachment of Russian troops has left Irktusk for the reinforcement of Port Arthur, while large bodies of troops are being rushed from Russia. While the little Japs fight Russia keeps on issuing manifestoes and proclamations, the last one of which promises terrible chatisement for the Japanese. Russia's death roll of the Chemulpo fight is now placed at 437 men and 17 officers. From St. Petersburg comes a story saying that Alexieff with his own hand killed the officer held responsible for first defeat at Port Arthur. M. Kurino for Japan says China and Korea's sovereignty will be respected. A revolution is threatened in the Russian Caucasus. Britain has not yet replied to the United States note as she wishes to have a clear understanding as to New Chwang, which is held by Russia. Russian prisoners taken at Chemulpo will be placed on parole at Saigon and Hong Kong.

FOUR OYSTERMEN DROWNED.

Laurel, Del., Feb. 18. — Four oystermen of the schooner Bessie Jones were drowned off Nanticoke Point yesterday by the swamping of their boat. The men were: Capt. Hezekiah Jones, his 19-year-son Willard, and two dredgers, whose names could not be learned.

WEATHER BULLETIN

TOMORROW—MILDER.

London, Thursday, Feb. 18.

Sun rises..7:13 a.m. Moon rises..8:5 a.m.
Sun sets...5:59 p.m. Moon sets...8:11 p.m.

Toronto, Feb. 17—8 p.m.

Very cold weather continues in Ontario and Western Quebec, with no very favorable indications of much change. In Manitoba it has been somewhat more moderate, but a return to colder weather is now probable. High winds have prevailed from Eastern Ontario to the gulf.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 16 below—12 below; Victoria, 36—44; Kamloops, 12—38; Calgary, 8 below—16; Qu'Appelle, 2 below—10; Winnipeg, 4—12; Port Arthur, 22 below—6; Parry Sound, 20 below—4; Toronto, 7 below—6; Ottawa, 12 below—4; Montreal, 6 below—2; Quebec, 4 below—10; Halifax, 14—24.

FORECASTS.

Thursday, Feb. 18—8 a.m.

Today—Easterly winds; slowly rising temperature; light snow tonight.

Friday—Cloudy and milder.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather.
Calgary	16	8	Cloudy
Winnipeg	6	—6	Clear
Parry Sound	—18	—24	Fair
Toronto	0	—6	Cloudy
Ottawa	—6	—10	Fair
Montreal	—4	—6	Clear
Quebec	0	—2	Clear
Father Point	10	8	Clear

WEATHER NOTES.

The weather continues very cold throughout Ontario and Quebec and over the larger portion of the Northwest Territories, but there are now indications that a marked rise which has occurred in Southern Alberta will become general in the west. There are now good prospects for a change to more moderate weather.

Local temperatures: Wednesday—Highest, 5° above; lowest, 8° below.

THE TAX ON GRAIN

Austen Chamberlain Says It Will Not Be Imposed This Year.

London, Feb. 18. — Replying in the House of Commons today, the Chancellor of Exchequer, Austen Chamberlain, said the Government had no intention at present of reimposing the tax on grain, which was abolished last year.

PAINTS BIG FIRE

Works on Hotel Roof While Baltimore Is Burning.

Baltimore, Feb. 18. — Theobold Chartran, the distinguished French painter, who has just completed a portrait of Cardinal Gibbons, painted a night picture of the big fire from the roof of his hotel. He secured a lurid and graphic picture of the fire at its worst. The territory covered is from Liberty and Baltimore streets to the Maryland Institute, a distance of one mile. The picture is four feet six inches in length by three feet six inches in height.

A BALKAN WAR IS INEVITABLE

Turkey Will Take Advantage of Russia's Position.

AND MARCH INTO BULGARIA

In Note to the Powers the Porte Points Out the Failure of the Reform Plans.

New York, Feb. 18. — War in the Balkans is predicted in a telegram to the Times from Washington. It says: "Taking advantage of Russia's preoccupation in the far east, Turkey is preparing for war with Bulgaria. It is learned that a march into Bulgarian territory is likely to be made very soon. In preparation for this event, Turkey has addressed a note to each of the powers, signatory to the treaty of Berlin, in which she gives the reason for her attitude. The note says: "The principality of Bulgaria does not change its attitude of active though concealed hostility, in spite of the efforts of the Porte in carrying through the stipulated reforms."

Entirely trustworthy investigations reveal, the note says, that Bulgaria is building fortifications, drilling troops and in every manner is preparing for war.

Besides these legitimate war preparations, it is learned that Turkey believes Bulgaria to be guilty of an unlawful and criminal traffic with dynamite, which it being furnished publicly to the rebels The revolutionary committees, it is stated, act undisturbed in all the important Bulgarian cities, under the eyes of the Government and with its encouragement.

The humiliations imposed upon Turkey under the name of reforms, have proved worthless.

CANADIAN SHIP LOST

A Schooner From St. Johns' Nfld., Wrecked Off the Azores.

London, Feb. 18. — The British schooner Robert, (Captain Roud, from St. Johns, Nfld., Jan. 17, for Gibraltar, has been wrecked at Flores, Azore Islands.

BLOODSHED IN ITALY

Great Disorder Prevails During the Carnival Festivities.

Rome, Feb. 18. — The carnival festivities have resulted in disorder and bloodshed in Southern Italy and Sicily. Troops and police were obliged to intervene and a score or more persons have been wounded. At Trania a number of socialists in masquerade costumes started the trouble by insulting state institutions, and in the fighting which followed several officers and soldiers were wounded. A large number of arrests were made. At Piazza Armeria, in Sicily, the masquerading brought about a conflict between the members of two political parties, and an attack was made on the city hall. The disorder became so great that troops were called out and fired on the people to disperse them. Fourteen of the rioters were wounded.

TORONTO'S ELECTION SCANDAL HOW BALLOTS WERE FIXED

Sam Thompson Still Out of Town, But Poll Clerk Durance Tells How Crooked Work Was Done.

WITNESS BRINGS BEATTIE NESBITT INTO THE STORY

Toronto, Feb. 18.—J. J. Durance, poll clerk in Sam Thompson's booth at the municipal election, told his story in the witness box in the municipal election case yesterday morning. Thompson is still out of town. Durance told how the crooked work was done. He said that after the poll closed, and after the others had gone, leaving himself, Thompson and the constable alone, and after a statement of the vote had been issued, Thompson had told the constable to go away while witness, who never acted as poll clerk before, was counting unused ballots.

Thompson said, "Here, write down these names." Witness asked, "What for?" and Thompson replied, "Oh, this has to be done every year." Thomoson then took the voters' list and read out a list of twenty or twenty-five names, which Durance entered in the poll book as having voted with marks opposite the names, showing the particular ballots taken. Witness knew it was a fraud. This is the poll in which the twenty-five ballots were cast, all in one handwriting for Controller Richardson, with a few votes for Loudon, and twenty-five ballots for aldermen were marked for S. Alfred Jones and S. W. Burns.

Durance said he did not see Thompson put in the fraudulent ballots for controllers, but that after writing in names Thompson tore off 25 ballots for board of education and marked on them, "Dec." for declined. He did not know at the time that it was wrong, but had learned so since, and was sorry for it. He had told his story to W. D. McPherson after he was subpoenaed to the police court. The night of the election on the way home with Sam Thompson, the latter had invited him to go to Ald. S. Alfred Jones' house, where the latter was having a meeting of his friends, but Durance had declined.

The next night, Durance said James Thompson called him out and said he had a friend over at the park he wanted to see. They met Sam, who took him to a house on Grosvenor street, which he found was the residence of Dr. Beattie Nesbitt.

"We were ushered upstairs," said Durance, "and I was introduced to Dr. Nesbitt. Sam Thompson told the doctor it was not his habit to confide in any one, but he would confide in him. Just before it was explained by Thompson that I was poll clerk with him, the doctor said: 'Oh! yes,' or something like that, you know. Thompson went on to tell him I was in trouble, but I cannot say that he was told just exactly what had been done. Dr. Nesbitt said I should have counsel before I said anything to anyone. I was asked to step out, and Thompson was closeted with the doctor for some time. However, afterward Sam and George said they were going for Mr. DuVernet."

It is understood Controller Richardson is now most anxious to get in the box.

TODAY'S EVIDENCE.

Toronto, Feb. 18.—All witnesses have been examined from the civic investigation before Judge Winchester. Two of Sam Thompson's brothers, George, a postoffice employe, and David, street railway employe, failed to answer when called this morning to give evidence as to the whereabouts of the missing D. R. O. W. D. MacPherson went in the box and explained his connection with the Durance case. Robt. Martin, university beadle, he explained was one of his clients, and a friend of Durance's father. When Durance got into trouble Martin brought him to MacPherson and asked MacPherson to act for him. It was only at Martin's urgent request that he consented. Durance did not tell him the truth then, and he did not know the story when appearing for Durance in the police court.

It was some time later when Durance came to him and told the story he had told yesterday in the witness box. MacPherson had said it was a serious matter and he must think it over. Shortly after that MacPherson got a letter from Mr. Eastmure, Durance's employer, releasing him from his retainer. Both the judge and Mr. Riddell thought MacPherson was in no way to be blame for his conduct. Joseph Hazelton, a druggist, then told of going about with Ald. Ramsden the night before the election among the Italians of the central district in St. John's Ward. They drove to one house, where they met Controller Richardson and Deputy-Returning Officer George Maguire, who had charge of poll No. 3, Third Ward, where 15 were personated.

Proceeding to other houses in the district Hazelton explained that they met W. B. Rogers canvassing for Geo. McMurrick, an aldermanic candidate. Hazelton said he himself was canvassing for Loudon, and not being a willing witness the judge warned him. At this, H. H. Dewart, K. C., counsel for Loudon, objected to the judge browbeating witness. George Thompson, brother of Sam, was recalled, but did not yet know where his brother is.

DR. JIM SUMMONED

Leader of the Famous Raid to Form a New Cabinet.

Cape Town, Feb. 18. — Sir John Gordon Sprigg, the Premier of Cape Colony, who was defeated in the parliamentary election recently held in East London (which he had represented for nearly 20 years), has resigned the premiership. Dr. Jameson, of raid fame, the leader of the Progressives, who defeated the Afrikander Bund party in the election, has been summoned to form a new cabinet.

SUFFERING FROM COLD

Windsor's Poor Has Trouble in Securing a Sufficiency of Fuel.

Windsor, Ont., Feb. 18.—Patrick Cusick was found on McDougall street helplessly drunk with both arms and hands seriously frozen. He was taken to the police station.

The long spell of severe weather has brought a great deal of suffering to the poorer classes. The principal hardship is experienced from the value of fuel. Wood is selling at from $10 to $11 a cord, and being the principal fuel of the poorer classes, the city wood yards are taxed to their utmost to supply the demands.

ARE STILL TIED UP

Intense Cold and Snow Once More Put Branches Out of Business.

Toronto, Feb. 18. — The intense cold, together with snow in many parts of the country, tied up the railroad service worse than ever yesterday. The situation in which the railroad officials now find themselves is most discouraging, and although they are putting up a dogged fight, straining every nerve to keep the trains running, the elements have gained the upper hand on most of the branch lines, and the service on the main lines is suffering severely.

The C. P. R. train from Montreal, due in Toronto at 7:30 Tuesday night, had not arrived at noon yesterday. Latest reports were that the train was stuck in a snowbank at Myrtle, and that several snowplows and a large gang of shovelers were at work trying to clear away the track. No train came in from either Owen Sound or Teeswater Tuesday, and no trains left for either place Tuesday night. The line to Owen Sound, however, was got clear of snow Tuesday evening, and yesterday morning's train came in only twenty minutes late. The rotary snowplow was busy opening up the Teeswater branch yesterday, but trains both ways were canceled. Grand Trunk branches north of Guelph from Allendale to Collingwood, and from Peterboro north to Cannington, were all reported closed.

A remarkable feature of the winter, so far as the railroads are concerned, however, has been the absence of any serious accidents. This is only accounted for by the untiring vigilance of the operating officials who have worked day and night, and to the heroic efforts of the engineers and trainmen, who have had to battle directly with the winter conditions.

The C. P. R. from Detroit was so late Tuesday that a special had to be made up for Ottawa and Montreal.

MAN BLOWN TO PIECES

Attempt to Thaw Out Dynamite Ends Disastrously.

Port Arthur, Feb. 18.—George Karis, Polander, a cook in the Pigeon River lumber camps since last December, met with a terrible death in camp No. 7 on Monday morning. The loggers wanted dynamite, so Karis offered to dry some. As the men were leaving the shanty, they saw him placing eighteen stick of dynamite around the stove. They warned him to be careful, but he explained that he knew what he was doing. The choppers had only gone a short distance from the shanty when they heard a terrible explosion, and, running back to the scene, found the shanty a total wreck. Spots of blood spattered the remnants of the building, while the body was blown into fragments.

FEMALE SHERLOCK HOLMES

Runs Down Husband's Murderer After Police Had Failed.

New York, Feb. 18.—After an unremitting search of nearly seven weeks, during which she has walked day and night on the Bowery, spent hours in unsavory resorts, and exhausted every resource of a skilled detective, Mrs. Katie Duffy, of Brooklyn, early today caused the arrest of the man who is accused of being her husband's murderer.

Richard Duffy, her husband, was fatally stabbed on the night of Jan. 1 in front of a Bowery resort, and before his death said that the wounds had been inflicted by Charles Devuno. The police used every effort to capture Devuno, but in spite of a full description given by Duffy, were unable to do so. His wife, however, undiscouraged, kept up the search without remission. She patroled the Bowery, visited haunts Devuno was wont to frequent, shadowed his friends, and even watched railroad stations and steamship piers in her attempt to find him. Last night she saw the man enter a hotel on the Bowery, and notified the police, who arrested Devuno after a struggle. Devuno, who, with Duffy, is said to have been prominent in the "gang" life on the lower side, was arraigned today on a charge of homicide.

THE DEADLY TRANSFER SLIP.

New York, Feb. 18. — Lockjaw caused by a cut on the hand from a transfer slip has caused the death of George Powers, a street car conductor here. The cut was sustained two weeks ago while Powers was tearing the slip from his book for a passenger. The board of health has issued a mandate forbidding conductors to moisten their fingers with saliva in order to separate the transfers before dealing them out to passengers. Fears of disseminating germs caused the board's action.