

RUSSIA'S SAD WEEK.

HOODOO OF BAD LUCK STILL PURSUES CZAR'S FORCES.

Disaster to Petropavlovsk Caused by a Jap Countermine—Togo Lured Admiral Makaroff from Shelter by Tempting Bait—Russians in a Panic.

The hoodoo of bad luck still pursues the Russians in their naval operations in the East. Last week was a calamitous one for them. The Port Arthur fleet, which at the beginning of the war consisted of seven battleships and about the same number of cruisers, has been reduced to two unmanageable battleships and two or three cruisers. The persistent hammering of the Japanese has so weakened it that its only hope of safety is to remain in the harbor, protected by the guns of the forts, and await the arrival of the Baltic fleet. That fleet, on which the hopes of the Russians are centered, ought to be leaving soon for the Orient. The chimerical project of sending it by way of the Arctic ocean has not been entertained. The vessels will pursue the customary route.

When the Petropavlovsk was sunk by a Japanese countermine the Russians lost the best battleship left to them after the disabling of the Retvian and Crayevitch. They lost over 700 men, and among them one who counted for more than all the others—Admiral Makaroff. Had he escaped he could not, even through a brave and skillful seaman, have done anything with a crippled fleet.

On Friday Admiral Togo again bombarded Port Arthur, but with purpose unknown. Probably the immensely strong fortifications have not been damaged by his fire. On this occasion the Russian fleet did not venture out into the roadstead, as it usually does. After the sinking of the Petropavlovsk and a torpedo boat, and the injury received by the Pobeda Wednesday, no more chances will be taken. It is reported that Admiral Togo is still bent on blocking the entrance to the harbor by sinking mer-

JAPS LURE TO DEATH.

Latest Disaster to Russian Warships Is Fully Explained.

The Japanese are elated over the successes they have won at Port Arthur. They are also proud of the achievements of Vice Admiral Togo, particularly of his newest strategy of counter-mining the enemy's harbor and decoying him across this field of mines to an equally dangerous flank attack.

The success of the system of placing deadly counter-mines is due largely to a series of careful observations made by the Japanese during their previous attacks on Port Arthur. The Japanese saw the Russian fleet leave the harbor and return to it several times, and they discovered that the Russian warships followed an identical course every time they came out or went in, evidently for the purpose of avoiding their own mines.

The Japanese took bearings on this course. When the destroyer divisions of the Japanese torpedo flotilla laid the counter-mines during the night of April 12-13 they placed them along this course. The laying of these counter-mines was exceedingly perilous, because, if any Japanese boat with mines on board had been struck by a lucky Russian shot she would have been annihilated.

The weather of the night of April 12-13 favored the work. There was a heavy rain, the night was dark and cloudy and the Russian searchlights playing over the channel failed to reveal the presence of the Japanese destroyers.

Rear Admiral Dewa was in command of the Japanese squadron which decoyed the Russian ships over the field of mines. His squadron consisted of the cruisers Chitose, Yoshino, Kasagi and Takasago, all unarmored vessels, which presented a tempting bait for the heavier Russian ships.

Vice Admiral Togo directed the flank attack. He had the battleships Hatsuse, Mikasa, Asahi, Shikishima, Yamashiro and Fuji. He waited thirty miles out at sea until Rear Admiral Dewa signaled him by wireless telegraph to come in. His vessels then dashed at full speed toward the entrance of the harbor. All the battleships under Vice Admiral Togo are capable of a speed of eighteen knots and they quickly covered the distance.

CONGRESS

INSTRUCT FOR PARKER.

New York State Democrats Give Him Full Delegation.

Judge Alton B. Parker is the choice of the New York State Democrats for the presidential nomination. The State convention instructed its seventy-eight delegates to vote for him at St. Louis. David B. Hill's program went through without a hitch. Tammany got one of the four delegates and one of the alternates.

Both sides, the Hill dominant faction and the Tammany minority, spoke for harmony in the ranks in the State. Bourke Cockran, for the opposition, in his speech denouncing the nomination for Parker, urged that a Northern man be chosen for President and a Southern man for Vice President.

Judge Alton Brooks Parker, whom the delegates in New York State convention were instructed to support for the Democratic nomination against nomination, has long been pre-eminent on the bench of the Empire State. He is a native of Cortland, N. Y., and was born in 1852. His early education was acquired in the public schools, the Cortland Academy, and the Cortland Normal School.

REVEL IN BLOODSHED.

Murder Mania Spreading Among the Negroes of Mississippi.

The most serious phase of the race problem that has presented itself in Mississippi is the alarming spread of the murder mania among the negroes. In the first three months of the present year there were no less than 150 murders in Mississippi, 90 per cent of which were committed by negroes, and the victims were members of the white race. Within a radius of thirty miles along the Yazoo Delta Railroad last week ten negroes were killed. The crimes in every instance originated from crap games or church festivals. These two forms of amusement seem to be running neck and neck for the honor of being the inspiring cause of murder.

TEACH THE BIBLE, SAYS SHAW.

Secretary Says Congressmen Should Be in Sunday School.

Secretary Shaw at the new Foundry Methodist Episcopal Church in Washington Sunday made a plea for Bible teaching, and declared business men and members of Congress should be workers in Sunday schools, which are now the only places where the Bible is really taught. He also asserted that the Sunday school should not be an adjunct to the church, but a part of it. He said: "We make a mistake in thinking the Sunday school is intended for children and women; it is a place for men, too. Let me say the best Sunday schools I know are managed by men. Get men to teach the boys. I would prefer this to having girls and women do the teaching. I don't mean beings who dress like men, but those who are recognized in the community as men, the business men and members of Congress. I have known many a boy who got sick because he wanted to be like a man. Boys like to do what men do."

RELIGIOUS FANATICS.

Dwellers on a Maine Island Who Want to Kill Their Children.

Fanaticism is running riot on Beals island, near Jonesport, Me. The members of the Holy Ghost and U. S. Society, among them revivals were recently conducted, believing that they have been commanded by God to make human sacrifices and that they have the power of restoring life are making preparations to slaughter children. One woman who tried to kill her children, after announcing a revival that God had ordered her to make the sacrifice, has been adjudged insane and committed to the Eastern Maine insane hospital at Bangor. During the revival she called out that the voice of God had told her that a certain dog must be killed. The animal was quickly found and brought into the meeting house, and there slain. No sooner was this done than she again arose and said that she had received another divine command that a cat in the village should be put to death. The execution was carried out exactly as in the case of the dog.

A Town Without Officers.

Spokoege, a town in the western part of the Creek nation, is the only town that has no town officers. The people there say they have no need of officers, and do not want any. They pay no taxes, and whenever they want any public improvement they call a meeting of citizens and raise the money. A deputy United States marshal is located there, and is all that is needed to keep the peace. There is not a gambler or gambling house in the town, and the people will not permit them. They needed a school house, so the people got together and built a good two-story building for that purpose.

Life Cheap in Chicago.

London has three times the population of Chicago, yet in 1902 the former had twenty murders to Chicago's 136. Of the London murderers 16 were arrested. Four of them committed suicide; nine were sentenced to death and executed without delay, and three were found insane. Not a case remained pending in the courts at the end of the year. In Chicago only one murderer was hanged, of the 95 arrested. Of these 54 were convicted, 6 of them given life imprisonment and the rest given short terms in prison. A remarkable thing is that 41 murderers escaped leaving not a trace of their identity.

CONGRESS

THE PANAMA CANAL.

The Senate devoted almost the entire day Thursday to the bill for the government of the Panama canal zone. Mr. Morgan's resolution calling for the Attorney General to examine the contract for the purchase of the canal was referred. In executive session the nomination of W. D. Cram to be collector of customs at Charleston, S. C., came up, and went over out of consideration for Mr. Tillman, who was unable to speak on it. The House passed the bill adopted authorizing the lowering of government dams in the Illinois river. The Senate accepted the invitation to attend the opening of the world's fair and provided for representation. The House passed the Philippine bill by a vote of 139 to 123. W. A. Rorer of Michigan voting with the Democrats. In the debate Mr. Williams of Illinois predicted great scandals in the administration of the measure. A resolution to permit Col. T. W. Symons of the engineer corps of the army to serve as consulting engineer on internal improvement in the State of New York was passed after bitter opposition by several members.

The closing hour of the session of the Senate Friday was enlivened by a speech by Mr. Bailey on the subject of civil service. In plain terms he declared himself in favor of the civil service law, and avowed himself a spoilsman. Mr. Hale spoke in accord with much that Mr. Bailey said, but added that Congress could not be induced to change the law even though convinced that it should be changed. The Panama canal bill occupied the remainder of the day and was passed without division. It was amended so that all salaries or other compensation fixed by the commission shall be subject to the approval of the President. The postoffice appropriation bill was referred to a conference committee. The House passed the bill ordering the lowering of the Chicago river tunnels. Consideration of the general deficiency bill was resumed and the President's recent pension order was attacked by Mr. Underwood (Ala.).

The entire day in the Senate Saturday was given to the consideration of a bill for the modification of the agreement with the Indians of the Devil's Lake reservation in North Dakota for the sale of their lands. Messrs. Dubois and Teller opposed the bill because it did not provide for the acquisition of the lands in the reservation under the homestead law, and the destruction of the reservation. A partial report from the conference on the naval appropriation bill was received and further conference ordered. The routine work on the general deficiency bill was nearly completed in the House. Preceding this the District of Columbia bill was passed, and several minor matters. The feature of the session was a speech of criticism on "Theodore Roosevelt, the Republican Presidential Candidate," by Mr. Patterson (Tenn.). A bill was passed to validate certain homestead entries and extend the time to make final proofs thereon.

The Senate Monday continued consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill, but did not conclude it. Several bills were passed. Mr. Dulliver introduced a resolution directing the Secretary of Commerce and Labor to make a report showing comparisons of the independent incorporation since 1900 with the so-called trusts and combines. The House passed the last of the supply bills of the government, the general deficiency appropriation measure, after a stormy session, which lasted until after 8 o'clock. The contest was a party one over the deficiency appropriation for pensions, which the Democrats ineffectively tried to amend by incorporating as a law the recent executive age disability pension order. They finally secured a roll call, after the Speaker had declined to recognize Mr. Moon, who had introduced the measure, but when the vote had been taken all further opposition ceased and the bill was passed. Mr. Hitt's Chinese exclusion bill was accepted without objection. The conference report on the army appropriation bill was agreed to.

KOREAN PALACE BURNED.

Imperial Family Flee from Fire of Incendiary Origin.

The imperial palace at Seoul, Korea, was destroyed by fire the other night. Yi-Hi-Yong, the Emperor; Empress Oon-Yi-Hi and the imperial household escaped to the American legation. The fire was of incendiary origin. The British legation was saved by hard work on the part of the Japanese, French and Italian soldiers. These forced an entrance to the palace inclosure and tore down the small buildings in juxtaposition to the palace. The palace cost about \$250,000 when built. No estimate is given as to the value of the contents. Several of the officials are free in their assertions that the fire was the work of persons recently returned to Seoul after banishment. These persons, forming a guild, were banished by royal edict a month and more ago, but recently returned and have since been suspected of intrigue with pro-Russian influences. However, the suspicions directed toward the members of the guild come from those officials pronounced in their pro-Japanese sympathies.

WAR NEWS IN BRIEF.

Frequent skirmishes are reported between Sakin and Wiji.

More Russian cavalry has been dispatched to the far East. It is believed in Tokio that fighting has commenced on the Yalu river. According to statements made by Koreans, the Russians are utilizing trained dogs to act as messengers and order bearers.

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

The internal revenue tax of 5 cents a pound on leaf tobacco is eliminated by the terms of a bill on which favorable action was taken by the internal revenue sub-committee of the House on ways and means.

A pathetic message came over the cable to the State Department from United States Consul Fee at Bombay, India, as follows: "Daughter, aged 12; plague; wife attacked." Mr. Fee is a native of Ohio and was appointed in 1893. Henry Dodge of New York is vice consul at Bombay.

By a party vote the House committee on ways and means voted down motions made respectively by Representative Williams (Miss.) and Representative Clark (Mo.) to favorably report bills placing salt, coal, hides, wool pulp, agricultural implements and other articles on the free list.

Mr. Hemenway informed the House that the estimate of \$90,000 for White House repairs was sent to Congress without President Roosevelt's knowledge, and the President had stated \$35,000 was sufficient. Mr. Hemenway also stated that the President did not ask for a \$90,000 stable, as had been reported.

of the PRESS

These are the days when all the little rivulets obtain recognition.—Pittsburg Press.

The grand jury is forging to the front as the nation's paramount institution.—Milwaukee Daily News.

Flour is going so high that paste diamonds may soon be worth more than the real.—Cincinnati Times-Star.

There is one ambition left to the millionaire, and that is to be able to triv his clothes with radium.—Columbus Dispatch.

It seems now that Congress and the postal department both live in glass houses and both throw stones.—Atlanta Journal.

The purification of St. Louis politics is not only an ill-desired dream, but a horribly frightful nightmare.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

J. D. Rockefeller says that golf has made him feel twenty years younger. Promising for Chicago University.—St. Louis Republic.

It is now generally believed that next to Ohio, Satsuma, Japan, is the greatest breeder of great men on earth.—Cincinnati Times-Star.

Proof readers with a working knowledge of the Russian language should command high salaries from now on.—Boston Transcript.

A Baltimore young man claims to be able to talk 65,040 words an hour. His political debut cannot be long postponed.—Washington Post.

The Democracy is taking so much time in developing a candidate that he ought to be a fine specimen when he materializes.—Washington Star.

The New England undertaker who addresses himself as a "mortician" is trying to put the English language underground, too.—Philadelphia Ledger.

European affairs continue to sneer at the Monroe doctrine, and European governments continue to treat it with the utmost respect.—Kansas City Journal.

The rise in the price of camphor balls is regrettable, of course, but the high ball remains serenely perched on the usual price.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

A Harvard professor declares that football is breaking up study. Heretofore it has been content to break up and mutilate students.—Washington Post.

The man in Cleveland, Ohio, who has been eating match heads would be in a sad fix if they should obey the tendency of the times, and strike.—St. Louis World.

What next after a great financier proceeds in court against his wife's brother for alienating his wife's affections? This ought to approximate the limit.—Boston Herald.

Secretary Taft says it will be many years before the Filipinos will be fit for self-government. Sometimes we might envy the Filipinos.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Bunau-Varilla says the building of the canal will take seven years; but Uncle Sam and Jean Crapaud are somewhat different when it comes to doing business.—Washington Times.

The "Niederwesterrichische Gewerbeverein" of Austria is coming to the world's fair. The information bureau will have a special clerk during the visit.—St. Louis Republic.

Ahn! now we know why Uncle Andy Carnegie has been so eager to give away his money. It has been discovered that all money has bacillus staphylococcus on it.—Augusta Chronicle.

Korea has recognized Panama, but it is greatly feared that Panama will be unable to recognize Korea after the war, powers retire from her territory.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Swiss gentleman says that he has an electrical instrument that could kill off an army at one shock. The man must be an opponent of the pension system.—Topeka State Journal.

The reduction of half a cent a gallon in the price of refined oils must be a great blow to the hopes of President Harper to make it ready a "great university"—Indianapolis News.

It is stated that prominent women in New York have formed a guild for solving the servant girl problem. But the servant girl is not a problem, she is a riddle.—Philadelphia Evening Item.

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