

BIG SEA BATTLE

SENSATIONAL REPORT IN CIRCULATION AT LONDON.

SHIPS FIGHT IN THE OPEN

RUSSIA'S VLADIVOSTOK SQUADRON ENGAGED.

No Official Report Received at Tokio, But Attack Admitted to Have Been Planned—Japan Seeks a Loan

LONDON.—The daily telegraph this morning publishes a dispatch from Tokio, dated March 7, and saying:

"It is reported that the Japanese fleet engaged the Russian Vladivostok squadron at sea yesterday. The result of the engagement is not announced, but it is believed that the Russian ships were destroyed or captured.

TOKIO, Tuesday.—The report of the naval attack upon Vladivostok is not confirmed officially, although the naval department admits that an attack was planned. A report is expected from the fleet commander before long.

VLADIVOSTOK.—Despite the appearance of the Japanese fleet off the harbor yesterday, and the bombardment of Sunday, the inhabitants of Vladivostok are in good spirits. Crowds promenade the streets as usual, including many women. A performance at the theater is pronounced for tonight.

Many suspected Japanese have been arrested, but when examined they were proved to be Chinamen or Koreans.

Commanders of merchant vessels and pilots who have a thorough knowledge of the coast and of navigation have been enrolled as ensigns in the navy.

Snow has been falling for the last two days.

A San Domingo Battle.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico.—A semi-official letter received here from San Pedro de Macoris, Santo Domingo, dated February 29, gives details of the bombardment of San Pedro de Macoris February 27 by the Dominican warships Presidente and Estrella. The captain of the presidente, a Spaniard, and sixty men on board her were killed, only six of the crew escaping without injuries. In all seventy-four men were killed and twenty-five were wounded on the two ships. The insurgents lost thirty-six men killed or wounded. The President was driven away at daybreak February 28, the insurgents having brought up a field piece during the night and unexpectedly opened fire on her.

Several defeats of the troops of President Morales, with heavy losses have been reported lately.

General Jose Amador, who captured at San Antonio de Guerra quantities of provisions and clothing and \$2,000 in cash, is now a prisoner at San Pedro de Macoris.

Lynch Ohio Negro.

SPRINGFIELD, O.—Richard Dixon, a negro desperado, who shot and fatally wounded Policeman Charles Collis Sunday morning, paid an awful penalty for his crime tonight. A mob battered in the doors of the jail at a late hour, dragged the negro to the yard, where he was shot to death, then carried the body to one of the principal streets of the city, hoisted it to the cross arm of a telephone pole and for half an hour fired revolver bullets into it. At 8:30 Sheriff Floyd Routzaban appeared on the jail steps and pleaded with the mob to disperse, but he could be heard with difficulty. His appeal was ineffectual and he was compelled to go within.

Fire At State Normal.

PERU, NEB.—Fire discovered in the third story of the normal school building here caused damage to the amount of \$1600, before it was got under control. The flames were discovered at 11 o'clock this morning. The west hall of Philo hall and the attic were burning. The fire department from the city aided the normal fire fighters and after an hour's hard work the fire was under control. The cause of the fire is unknown. It is thought the damage will not exceed \$1,000.

WIFE OF A POLYGAMIST CHURCH ABOVE ALL

SHEDS FURTHER LIGHT ON THE MORMON HIERARCHY.

President Joseph Smith Admits Being Father of Forty-two Children, and Declares He Is Proud of Every One

WASHINGTON.—After having, Joseph F. Smith, president of the Mormon church, on the stand for nearly five hours today before the senate committee on privileges and elections, which is investigating the right of Reed Smoot to sit as a senator, both the prosecution and the defense announced that they were through with him and another witness was called. This was Mrs. Clara Mabel Kennedy, who told some secrets of the Mormon church, which, if not broken down will prove as important as the statements of President Smith that he and other officials have been persistently cohabitating with plural wives in violation of the law. Mrs. Kennedy said she was married by Brigham Young, an apostle of the church, to James Francis Johnson, a polygamist, since the manifesto of 1880, and that she has had two children by that husband. The marriage was performed in Mexico, according to the witnesses, at the home of a high official of the church.

With President Joseph F. Smith of the Mormon church, again on the stand for the defense the second week of the investigation of the Smoot case opened today before the senate committee on privileges and elections.

Senator Dubois put into the record the census figures for Utah, taken in 1890, to show that instead of only 3 or 4 per cent in polygamy, as Mr. Smith had said, in reality there were about 23 1/2 per cent of the Mormon population of an age enabling them to be polygamists who were in that state in 1890. Senator Dubois gave it as his opinion that there has been no material reduction in the number of polygamists since 1890.

Mr. Worthington conducted an examination of Mr. Smith to ascertain the process undergone in cases of excommunication.

The witness explained the manner in which the church is divided into wards and stakes, and the machinery of the organization through which charges against any person have to be brought and passed upon. He said the apostles have nothing to do with the judicial affairs of the church. They preach the gospel and send missionaries to other fields. The president, the apostles and high counsellors, forming what is known as "the fifteen" meet once a week for prayer and consultation on matters generally relating to the church.

The futile effort by President Brigham Young in 1875 to have Bishop Jacob W. Weyler removed from the leadership of a ward was related by Mr. Smith to show that the presidency does not exercise power over the wishes of the people, and that the members of the church by the freedom of their vote in reality form the power of the government. Several other like advances were related for the same general purpose.

Mr. Worthington read the revelation by Joseph Smith Jr., January 19, 1841, nominating Brigham Young as president, and all the members of the high council and the apostles. In this revelation was a command to accept them in general conference.

Mr. Smith declared that even in the original revelation naming a successor to the first president it was in the power of the members to accept or reject.

Wreck At Mullen.

MULLEN, NEB.—The Burlington eastbound flyer was wrecked here at 1:40 this morning, and brakeman Charles Shaw killed. The only passenger hurt was James McIntyre, a traveling man from Denver, who had his left thigh bruised, all the other passengers and the crew escaping, miraculously, without injury, receiving heavy jolts.

The train was passing through here at a rapid rate when the light tender flew the track, breaking loose from both the engine ahead and the baggage car behind, and shooting off into the sand to the right a distance of a hundred yards.

The engine ran ahead over two hundred yards before it could be stopped. The baggage, the mail and the express cars, together with the smoker, two chair cars, the diner and the tourist sleeper were derailed and knocked from their trucks. The first three cars crashed into the platform and the front of the depot, completely demolishing it.

MORMONS DISCIPLINED WHO DISOBEY ITS WILL

RECALL THATCHER CASE

FORMER FEDERAL ATTORNEY TESTIFIES FROM MEMORY.

Witness Used in Effort to Prove That Senator Reed Smoot Is Held in Same Bounds by Apostles.

WASHINGTON.—One of the most interesting and important features of the investigation of the Smoot case before the senate committee on privileges and elections was brought out today in the testimony of E. B. Critchlow, formerly an assistant United States attorney in Utah, who told the story of the Moses Thatcher episode. According to his version which was borne out by official records, Apostle Thatcher persisted in continuing as a candidate for the United States senate against the wishes of a quorum of the apostle and on that account was held to be "not in harmony with his quorum." The history of the campaign he made against the wishes of his fellow Mormons, of his defeat and his subsequent trial before the committee of church officials was given in detail and then Thatcher's submission to the will of the church was read and put in the record of the Smoot investigation.

This recantation showed that Thatcher, totally broken in spirit and bowing in absolute to the mandate of the church in that the consent of an officer's quorum must be obtained in order that he may continue in good standing. The purpose of the testimony was to show that it was necessary, according to the rules of church, for Reed Smoot to have obtained the consent of the church before he could have become a candidate for the senate.

In addition to the Thatcher episode Mr. Critchlow gave the history of the prosecutions in Utah on charges of polygamous cohabitation since the passage of the Edmunds law and the legislation in the territory and state which effects Mormonism or polygamy. His story was concise and interesting and he was interrupted, but little.

Andrew Jensen, the assistant historian of the church, gave testimony showing the supremacy of the president of the church. He related the methods of the church, its control by presidents of stakes and bishops.

The president of the church, said the witness, appointed the president of the stakes, some fifty-three in number and these latter appointed the bishops, several hundred in number. The bishops could not act until their appointment was approved by the president of the church.

Troops Quell Mob.

SPRINGFIELD, O.—Riotous conditions this evening were regarded by the police as more threatening than any time since the negro Dixon was lynched Monday night. Ten companies of the Omaha National Guard are on picket duty and several more companies are expected. All saloons have been closed all afternoon and many other lines of business have almost ceased. Fully 25,000 persons thronged the streets to-day, visiting the county jail, telegraph pole at Main street and Fountain Avenue, where Dixon was strung up and the burned out districts of the levee. At noon Mayor Bowls ordered posted and printed in the newspapers a proclamation requesting everybody to remain off the streets after midnight, except in cases of urgent business, and to refrain from congregating in the streets in public places. Any one found loitering in public places in violation of this request will be promptly prosecuted. The mob has at no time shown any disposition to burn property other than that on the levee.

War Developments.

London has advices of land engagements in northern Korea in which the Japanese were victorious. Grand Duchess Olga, a sister of the czar, is going to Manchuria to act a superintendent of the Red Cross. Japanese forces have unexpectedly appeared near Antung, in Manchuria. Of the thirteen warships in Port Arthur harbor all but five are reported disabled.

PUTS CITY IN PERIL

WHITE MOB APPLIES TORCH TO THE NEGRO QUARTER.

Levee Sections Partly Burned, and Blacks Threaten Vengeance—Governor Responds to Appeal for Troops.

SPRINGFIELD, O.—Intense excitement prevails here at an early hour this morning which not even the presence of seven companies of the national guard can allay. The excitement is shared by all the business men and property owners of the city, who fear that some of the negroes will attempt to avenge the burning of the levee district, begun by whites tonight, by firing the down town business houses or their homes in the residence district. Not a fourth of the business district of the city is under patrol by either militia or police, and it looks as if close guard would have to be kept to prevent further incendiarism. It is thought, however, that the troops now on hand will be able to save the western levee district in West Washington street, which the leaders openly declared they would set fire to as soon as their work in the eastern half of the street was completed. There is little or no disorder, the mob of 2,000 men standing quietly watching the spread of the flames in the neighborhood of Spring and Gallagher streets, and apparently ready to help if it should show signs of spreading beyond the confines they originally set for it.

When the leaders of the mob passed down East High street early last evening to begin the work of burning the levee resorts, Father John Cogan, assistant pastor of St. Raphael's church, got down on his knees on the sidewalk and implored them to desist in their work as they might start a fire that they would never be able to control. The incendiaries paused only a moment, a few of them cursed him and then went quickly on to begin their task.

Threats throughout the day and evening to burn the levee, the negro district of the city, confirmed Mayor Bowls in his belief that more trouble might be expected tonight. In consequence he asked Governor Herrick for troops and five companies have been ordered here to reinforce the two local companies.

Early in the evening small groups of whites were noticed gathered in the vicinity of the levee district and all day the police were called out to augment the night force.

Apparently the negroes all over the city are becoming intimidated, and their boasts made in the earlier part of the evening are no longer heard.

The company of militia from Xenia, arrived at 1:30 this (Wednesday) morning and were immediately sent towards the levee by a circuitous route. The companies of local militia are guarding the armory where ammunition is stored. They are commanded by Major Kirkpatrick. The feeling of unrest is accentuated by the uncertainty of what the mob is going to do or where the trouble may next begin. Last night there was one mob and their purpose was to lynch the negro. Tonight there are reported to be two mobs, under cover, one of whites and one of blacks and there is a feeling that race war of serious proportions is imminent.

Many Wink At Law

WASHINGTON.—Several officers of the Mormon church today testified before the senate committee on privileges and elections that they had plural wives and had continued to practice polygamous cohabitation since the manifesto of 1890. Just before the adjournment for the day the committee held an executive session to have read the unprintable testimony in the Teasdale divorce case. The prosecution said it had no more witnesses ready to put on the stand on account of the failure of several summoned officers of the Mormon church to appear.

Lorin Harmer formerly a bishop of the Mormon church today gave the first testimony in favor of the defense that has been offered thus far in the eight days of the hearings. He said he was convicted of the crime of adultery and that he believed Reed Smoot was responsible for his arrest. The charge against Harmer was unlawful cohabitation that was not his wife and not a prosecution on account of cohabitation with his plural wives.

NEBRASKA NOTES

Judge Paul Jessen opened the March term of court at Plattsmouth. The Oxnard Hotel at Norfolk has been sold to B. F. Shoff by L. A. Bartholomew.

The Dole Floral company has been incorporated at Beatrice with a capital of \$25,000.

Mr. James Stander of Amesville is a delegate to World's Sunday School convention at Jerusalem.

For stealing a meerschaum pipe at Beatrice, Claude Carpenter has been sent to jail for thirty days.

J. H. Sparks of St. Joseph has been awarded the contract for building the bridges in Gage county.

Walker Smith has been appointed postmaster at Elwood, Gosper county vice Alfred M. White resigned.

W. F. Ellis, a lineman for the Nebraska Telephone company, was badly injured by a fall at Norfolk Wednesday.

John Clark of Sioux City is being held in jail at Norfolk on a statutory charge, brought by Francis E. Richardson.

J. F. Swartz, for twelve years a resident of Beatrice, died at his home of pneumonia. He was 70 years of age.

Sovereign Lecturer G. E. Schick of the Woodman of the World inspired at an open meeting last night at Pender.

T. C. Bullis, charged with bank robbery at Lyons, was yesterday taken to that place from Lincoln for a preliminary hearing.

Bessie Webb, of Plattsmouth, lost her suit against the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad for \$500 damages for the death of her husband.

D. L. Schenfeldt of Petersburg has sold his large stock of hardware to John Erpelding. Mr. Schenfeldt will locate in one of the southern states.

Gray Yates of Omaha pleaded guilty in the district court at Plattsmouth to petit larceny and was sentenced to ten days in the county jail by Judge Jessen.

David Quackenbush died at his home near Beatrice. He came to Beatrice in 1866 and was 66 years of age. He leaves a wife and six children.

A rural route will be established at Columbus April 1, with one carrier, embracing an area of thirty-two square miles and containing a population of 4000.

One of the large refrigerator ice houses of the Burlington at McCook was destroyed by fire last night. Loss \$5,500. More than 2,000 tons of ice were in the building.

The Rev. C. R. Hamlin, pastor of the Plymouth Congregational church of Lincoln, has resigned, to take effect June 12. He has not determined on his plans for the future.

Richard Daniels was yesterday discharged from district court at Blair, after pleading guilty to assault and battery. While awaiting trial he was stricken with paralysis.

Real estate is active here this spring, and is bringing good prices. The Hotel Riley block at Plattsmouth was transferred by Fire & Meyers of Newport to J. May Dolg of Kansas City for the sum of \$65,000.

While engaged in a quarrel at Waterloo, William McClintock drew a revolver and attempted to shoot David Sibert. The bullet went wild. McClintock was sent to Omaha for arraignment.

Miss Katherine M. Shepherd of Lincoln has brought suit against the Lincoln Traction company for \$20,000 personal damages, alleged to have been received by being thrown from a street car over a year ago.

A sheep shearing plant is in operation at Fremont. The power is furnished by a gasoline engine. Operators who can handle the machine get \$3 a day and can shear a sheep in three minutes.

At a leap year party, at Norfolk, sixteen maids escorted sixteen young men to the scene of festivities and took them home again. The prize was a cake with the names of the sixteen young women and a free marriage license.

The famous Miles' case from Falls City has again reached the supreme court, on an appeal by Samuel Miles, one of the heirs-at-law, who was defeated in the district court. The appeal is based on the refusal of the lower court to admit newly discovered evidence.