

JAPS TAKE ANOTHER FORT

OCCUPY ENTIRE BASE OF RINGLING MOUNTAIN.

Success Attained at Seven-Thirty Wednesday Morning—Reported Death of Russian General Kondrachenko.

TOKIO.—The Japanese occupied the entire fort on Ringling mountain at 7:30 o'clock Wednesday.

TOKIO.—Trustworthy advices from Port Arthur confirm the report that General Kondrachenko has been killed and that General Stoessel has been injured by falling from his horse. General Smiloff is also reported wounded.

The advices further say that the stern of the battleship Sevastopol has sunk in shallow water. Her bow is damaged in two places and the steering room gear is also damaged.

The garrison is reported to be confident in the belief that relief will arrive before March 1. Despite its heavy losses November 25 and subsequently the garrison is said to be cheerful and resolved to continue the struggle as long as a single soldier remains. The army claims to have sufficient provisions to last until February. The navy possesses about one month's stores. The price of food in the beleaguered fortress is high. Beef is a rouble and one half per pound; horse meat, 6 copeks per pound; dog meat, 25 copeks per pound; turkeys 150 roubles a piece, eggs, 160 roubles per hundred. But a few junka bearing supplies reached the garrison the past month.

It is expected that the capture of the heights of Pigeon bay will further curtail the landing of supplies.

It is understood that the Japanese dynamiting and paralleling against the eastern section of the main circle of forts around Port Arthur is progressing favorably. The right wing of the besiegers continues a heavy and effective shelling of the new town preparatory to operations which are nearing completion. It is probable that the attack will be simultaneously directed against the east and west faces of the fortress in an endeavor to divide and weaken the resistance of the defenders.

Railroad Men on the Rack.

CHICAGO—The interstate commerce commission has begun investigation of complaints by a number of grocery dealers that the railroads hauling sugar from Wichita, Kas., to New Orleans are planning to advance rates January 1. Some testimony was taken regarding alleged discrimination in coal rates of the Santa Fe railroad favoring the Colorado Fuel and Iron company.

Some of the witnesses refused to tell what they knew, and an attempt will be made by the commissioners to force them to disclose the secrets of the coal trust.

The defendants are the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, Missouri Pacific, Illinois Central, St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern, and the Texas Pacific. The complaint was directed against the rate of the jobbers of Wichita and Missouri river points warring upon one another, as to the territory in which they shall compete came up, was charged that railroads had discriminated in favor of the Colorado Coal and Fuel company. In questioning Mr. Biddle concerning the price charged the Colorado company for their coal, Attorney Friel asked if the tariff named by the railroad company did not include the price of the commodity. Mr. Biddle refused to answer.

Mr. Biddle's counsel said Mr. Biddle refused to answer the questions for "business reasons."

"You did not mention this fact. Did you not attempt to conceal it from the commission, and did you not attempt to conceal all the facts?" asked Mr. Field of Biddle.

"This has all been gone over once before," replied Mr. Biddle.

"I am trying to find out if this witness attempted to deceive the commission or the public," said Mr. Field.

Turning toward Mr. Biddle, Attorney Field asked:

"Did you not write a letter to the California Coal company saying that they could sell their coal to the Colorado Fuel and Iron company, or keep it?"

The witness admitted having written the letter, but did not mean that it should be construed except as a suggestion.

Both sides adjourned and the commissioners put the hearing over until tomorrow.

ABANDON ALL HOPE

SEAMEN ON SEVASTOPOL EXPECT TO DIE FIGHTING.

LETTER IS REVEALED

FALLS INTO HANDS OF JAPANESE NAVAL DEPARTMENT

Writer Says Starvation or Surrender Are Only Alternatives—Admiral Togo Gets Ovation—at Tokio.

TOKIO.—The navy department published a letter written by a man on the battleship Sevastopol, which had fallen into the hands of the Japanese. The writer despairs of the relief of the fortress and tells of the destruction wrought by Japanese shells. He says the Russians are resigned to their fate and are determined to fight to a finish rather than suffer the shame of surrender owing to starvation. Following is the text of the letter:

"The fortress can not resist after December. The progress of the enemy in reducing our principal line of outer defense is not fully known, but it is irresistible.

"We are sadly disappointed over the non arrival of the second Pacific squadron and are daily nearing our miserable end.

"General Stoessel's so-called impregnable line of outer defense is now a myth. With Two Hundred and Three Meter hill lost the fall of Port Arthur can not be avoided. Its capture by the Japanese means the fall of the town, however strong the other defense.

"The new town is at the mercy of the enemy's fire. The old town alone is defended, and here alone may resistance be prolonged.

"Two thirds of the defenders of Two Hundred and Three Meter hill were lost. The Sevastopol, which was exposed to the enemy's fire in the day time, on the night of December 8, without being towed, left the harbor with only 111 instead of her complement of 660 souls. When she went out she had her nets down but was struck twice by the enemy's torpedoes and was beached irreparably damaged. General Stoessel highly praised the officers and crew of the ship.

"Fuel is almost unobtainable, and it is impossible to keep our bodies warm.

"We no longer have a wireless telegraph system and have no means of communicating with the outside world. Our isolation is complete. There is no news and we have had no information for a long time.

"It is impossible to smuggle ammunition. The captain of the King Arthur brought only barley. (The King Arthur, a British steamer was captured December 19, while attempting to leave Port Arthur, by the Japanese Asazasi. She had on board Russian naval officers who were attempting to join the Russian Pacific squadron. She is now at Sasebo undergoing trial.)

"There is a large hole in the hull of the Sevastopol and she is completely disabled. All that remains for those on board her is to do their utmost in repulsing the enemy's attacks. The enemy's boats came close to the Sevastopol and attacked her as if they were going through ordinary maneuvers.

"Should the Sevastopol sink we are to land at a place already decided on. All are however prepared to fight to the very last. On us of the Sevastopol depends the duty of retaining the honor of the navy and avoiding the shame and humiliation of threatened starvation. We would rather die than be thus shamed.

"From December 1 the enemy's 10-inch shells began to fall on the deck of the Sevastopol and some of them pierced through the decks to the bottom of the ship.

"Who is responsible for the fate we face? It is he who did not give instructions for the prevention of a Japanese landing on the Liaoning peninsula.

"Among our officers there are very few who dare to brave death, the majority having no other desire than to save their own lives, but are determined to die fighting."

SEES HIS WIFE IN JAIL

DR. CHADWICK HAS A SORROWFUL HOMECOMING.

Insists She is Not Back as Has Been Painted—Two Long Together in Cell—Hail for the Doctor.

CLEVELAND, O.—Unhindered and unembarrassed by a crowd of the curious, the home coming of Dr. Leroy Chadwick was in direct contrast to the arrival of his wife three weeks ago. The early hour of the arrival and the fact that but few people were about at that hour made the arrival quite like that of an ordinary traveler. No one was at the station to meet him, with the exception of Attorney Kerruish. Even his stepson, Emil, failed to see him until later. Young Hoover had planned to board the train at the Euclid avenue station, but the train had come in to that station and departed before Emil was aware of the act. Sheriff Barry and Dr. Chadwick were quickly driven to the county jail. A bond, provided Saturday by Attorney Dawley was at the jail on the arrival of Dr. Chadwick, and he was soon released.

After the preliminaries in the sheriff's office, Dr. Chadwick was escorted by Sheriff Barry to the fourth floor of the woman's ward, where his wife is held prisoner. The meeting between the two was pathetic in the extreme. Mrs. Chadwick arose when she heard the steps in the corridor and fell in her husband's arms when she recognized him. Both broke down and wept for several minutes while clinging to each other the sheriff attempting meantime to console them. There was nothing artificial about the scene but genuine grief.

The sheriff, hardened by continual contact with people in every form of distress, was deeply affected. Little by little the first shock grew less severe and the two sat down for a talk that continued for an hour and a half. There were pleadings and partial responses when the more serious predicament of husband and wife was at length appreciated.

In the operations of his wife the large independent fortune of Dr. Chadwick's only child had been swept away, sufficient reason, it would seem, for hardness on his part.

Mrs. Chadwick tried to imbue him with the thought of her innocence of any wrong doing. His only response to these pleas was: "I hope so."

The troubles into which both have been plunged thoroughly discussed. The wife told the story, interspersed by violent fits of weeping in which at times Dr. Chadwick joined. There were no apparent evasions, but there was a constant cry "Trust me, trust me," on the part of the woman.

"Don't believe these stories which the newspapers have been printing about me," she said. "They are all lies, every one of them. I have done nothing wrong. Believe me, trust me; everything will come out all right in the end and it will be seen that I have not been guilty of these things the public charges me with. Don't think I deceive you, I will tell you the truth and I tell you that all these reports are lies, lies."

"I can only hope so," was the husband's answer. "I have trusted and it is hard to believe anything; my mind is confused. This has all been such a terrible shock and I don't understand any of it. I want time to think of it. I do not say I won't trust you; only give me time to collect my thoughts. Ever since I heard of this trouble in Paris I have been bothered, and my life has been made almost unbearable. I have been followed and bounded until I can think of nothing else. I am not the judge; I can only hope that everything will come out all right as you say."

After an hour's earnest conversation, conducted for the most part in a scarcely audible whisper, Sheriff Barry was asked by Mrs. Chadwick to send for her attorney J. P. Dawley, who was waiting with Attorney Kerruish in the jail office. Mr. Dawley went to Mrs. Chadwick's cell and held a conference with her and Dr. Chadwick, the result of which was said to be the instructing of the two prisoners by Mr. Dawley of their future public action. During the time of Mr. Dawley's presence with them, both Mr. and Mrs. Chadwick gave way to their feelings, and Mrs. Chadwick wept aloud. Mr. Dawley was with them for an hour. When he and Dr. Chadwick arose to leave the jail Mrs. Chadwick apparently felt, more severely than ever before the desolation of her position.

SEIZE THE PRIZE

RUSSIA RAISES WHITE FLAG AND PORT ARTHUR IS JAPAN'S.

SIEGE WITHOUT PARALLEL

MARKED BY BRAVERY TO POINT OF DESPERATION.

General Stoessel Proposes Surrender Only When Situation Becomes Unbearable—Can Hardly Terminate War.

Port Arthur has surrendered. Exhausted by months of almost constant fighting, decimated by disease and casualties and hopelessly sealed in its rocky fortress, the gallant garrison has yielded to its gallant besiegers and the end is now written of the most dramatic war incident of modern times.

At 9 o'clock last night General Nogi, commanding the Japanese army of investment, received from the Russian general, Stoessel a note saying that he found further resistance useless, and asking for a meeting to arrange terms of capitulation. The note was simple and direct and the Japanese general immediately named commissioners to confer with representative of the Russian commander. They met at noon and arranged the conditions of surrender. The nature of the terms agreed upon is not yet known, but dispatches from Tokio indicate that they will be of the most magnanimous character.

The emperor of Japan himself, through the chief of the imperial staff, has given public expression that "General Stoessel has rendered commendable service to his country in the midst of difficulties," and that it is his wish "that military honors" be shown him.

A dispatch from Tokio quotes military opinions as believing that the entire garrison will be allowed to march out under arms and may be sent to Russia on parole. Late dispatches from Japan have shown that the gallant defense of Stoessel and his men has nowhere been given a finer appreciation than in the land of his foes and it is more than likely that Japan will embrace the opportunity to show her magnanimity and admiration of the gallantry of Port Arthur's defenders by allowing them all the honors which war permits a victorious army to bestow upon the vanquished.

The siege and the defense of Russia's stronghold in the far east have been marked by bravery, gallantry and desperation unequalled in modern wars and hardly excelled in military history. The story of the operations around Port Arthur is one of repeated fighting both by land and sea, of the most desperate and thrilling character. Isolated instances of heroism that would have set the world ringing under less overwhelming circumstances have been dwarfed by the generally magnificent conduct of both forces. By sea there have been torpedo dashes of superb recklessness and big ships have ploughed mine fields with heroic disregard to give battle or in wild efforts to escape. By land the Japanese have hurled themselves against positions declared to be impregnable. They have faced and scaled rocky heights crowded with batteries and crowded with defenders, suffering losses that military experts say would have appalled any European army.

In the doomed fortress its people have lived under a devastating rain of shell and shrapnel. On scanty rations, besieged on every side, knowing that hope of succor or escape as vain, the garrison has fought with a stubbornness that has evoked the admiration of the world. They met the untiring assaults of the Japanese with a grim valor that won even the praise of their foe, and the fighting has been waged with a relentlessness that often refused truces to bury the dead and collect the wounded.

Over corpse-filled trenches men have fought hand-to-hand with cold steel and clubbed guns, and at short range have hurled at each other hand grenades filled with high explosives. The whole story is one of undaunted courage and sublime bravery. What Port Arthur has cost in human life and in money no estimate of even approximate correctness can be made. The losses have been appalling.

NEBRASKA NOTES

Ord is to have a new Methodist church. A site has been purchased for \$2,000.

The Richardson county district court will convene at Falls City on January 30.

Mr. Alexander of Grand Island was arrested on the charge of stealing coal. He was fined \$10 and costs. Barnston farmers have subscribed \$1,700 toward building a new elevator. All organization has been perfected and an effort to raise the sum to \$5,000 will be made.

Thomas Agnew of Lincoln charged with stabbing Al Parker, a street conductor was bound over to the district court Friday by Police Judge Coagrave.

C. M. McNeill local manager of the Home Telephone company at Beatrice has sold 100 instruments and the same number of drops to the new telephone company at Adams.

The Standard Oil company's warehouse at Wymore has been completed. It is a wooden structure situated near the B. & M. yards and is intended for the storage of oil for local use.

A number of the leading financiers and telephone men of Lincoln have been discussing the project of a new independent telephone line, which, if carried to completion, will take in Sioux City, Omaha, Lincoln and Denver.

William Maynard a young farmer, who was married about a month ago, will have a preliminary hearing near Grand Island on the charge of forgery. Maynard says he only indorsed the checks for another party and received no benefit from them.

William Snyder, a butcher employed by S. H. Marty, at Columbus lost two fingers of the right hand by getting them caught in a sausage machine. Two years ago he met with a very similar accident and lost one finger.

The annual exhibit of the South-eastern Nebraska Poultry association opened at Beatrice and will continue throughout the week. Owing to the severe cold weather, but a few entries have been made. The association expects to have exhibits from nearly every town in this section of the state provided the weather remains pleasant.

Five hundred people attended the high school debate in the class room of the high school at Seward. The question was, "Resolved, That Our Government Should Own and Operate the Telegraph Lines and Express Business of Our County." The negative won in the decision.

Since Thomas Davis, colored, has been sentenced to one year in the penitentiary for day light burglary by Judge Kelligar Sheriff Trade of Beatrice has learned that he is a deserter from Troop C, United States cavalry, stationed at Fort Robinson. Davis will be taken to Lincoln to begin serving time.

Albert Wicke of Steele City, Sioux county, plead guilty, in county court at Fairbury to the charge of assault upon Michael Bonahan and was fined \$25 and costs. Bonahan fished out a lot of drift wood from the river and was hauling it away, when Wicke interposed with a claim of ownership, upon Bonahan's refusal to give possession of the wood he was the recipient of a severe beating.

After several continuances the case of Campbell Bros. and others against Swift and Company and maintaining a nuisance was heard in county court at Fairbury, the defendants making no defense on the hearing and the proceedings were certified to the district court as required by the statutes. The action was brought to abate a nuisance claimed to be created by the chicken packing house of the defendants.

Beatrice locality experienced the coldest weather of the season, the mercury registering as low as 7 degrees below zero. Considerable snow fell and drifted badly, as it was accompanied by a forty-mile wind from the northwest. Traffic of all kinds was badly hampered by the storm, which was very severe on stock.

Livingston chapter No. 10, Royal Arch Masons of Beatrice, installed the following officers Thursday night: H. L. Spellman, high priest; Samuel Eccles, king; O. P. Liston, secretary; G. L. Cole, treasurer; C. A. Spellman, captain of the host; S. F. Nicholas, principal sojourner; N. M. Ryan, Royal Arch captain; J. Ed Fisher, third vale; G. H. Bailey, second vale; N. F. Howell