

## JAPANESE LOSSES HIGH

PLACED AT A HUNDRED THOUSAND BY THE RUSSIANS.

General Fukushima Visits Hsingmintun and Makes Arrangements for Japanese Garrison.

GUNSHU PASS, 108 miles north of Tie Pass, Manchuria.—The Japanese losses are estimated at the Russian headquarters to be 100,000. Some of the troops employed to cover the retreat from Mukden were badly demoralized losing their way in the hills eastward and only now rejoining their own divisions.

So certain was General Kuropatkin of being able to hold Mukden that maps of the country northward were distributed. Kuropatkin, however, resolved to accept battle against his better judgment, owing to the impatience of St. Petersburg for victory, and he was confirmed in this decision by a false calculation of Field Marshal Oyama's strength.

One of the main factors of the success of the Japanese were their violation of Chinese neutrality in the use of the Sianmintun road.

KAOPONTZE, via Tien sin.—A Norwegian trader, accompanied the Russian retreat to Tie Pass and with a single companion crossed over to Fakoman, following the water course to avoid the Russian patrols from Hsinghutsu.

The Russians left Mukden with five columns of infantry, in the center of which were two lines of commissariat with artillery flanking the body and cavalry acting as screens further afield. The demoralized troops discarded their boots and equipments and abandoned their transport cars, left guns and carriages using horses to save as many as possible.

The last day at Tie Pass the Cossacks looted the booths of traders sold champagne at a rouble a bottle and smashed and burned everything unsalable. They caught a Japanese spy who upon resisting was killed. The guilty Cossacks were shot a quarter of an hour later.

Lieutenant General Mischenko, with six thousand Ural Cossacks some European cavalry and two batteries of artillery is now operating on the Russian extreme left.

Major General Fukushima has visited Hsingmintun and perfected arrangements for the installation of a Japanese garrison there, and it is probable that in the future that town will be considered with the war zone and all persons arriving will be required to have a pass.

### An Experiment in Forestry.

WASHINGTON.—An interesting example of the profitableness of conservative forest management in this country is furnished by Dr. S. B. Caldwell of Paducah Ky. who has dealt in timberlands in the southwestern part of the state for fifty eight years. "In 1847" says Dr. Caldwell "I sold timber from a tract of land at \$1 an acre the purchaser having the privilege of removing what he wanted and leaving what he did not want. He took the choice trees but left considerable amount standing. In 1870 I sold the timber from the same tract and got for it \$3 a tree. The purchaser removed an average of three trees per acre. In 1884 I sold the timber from the same tract for the third time and got for it as much as received at the second sale."

Dr. Caldwell's experience in the woods taught him long ago the wisdom of conservative forest management. Thirty years ago when he came into possession of a tract of about 700 acres near Paducah he sold a quantity of the timber for wagon stock. At that time forestry in this country was virtually unknown. Dr. Caldwell however was sufficiently foresighted to allow no trees to be cut except those which he selected. He went about in the woods and picked out trees whose tops on general appearance showed they had passed their period of greatest vigor and trees which interfered with promising young growth. This forest has been culled a number of times in the past thirty years but so wisely has the cutting been done that the land will average from 10,000 to 15,000 board feet per acre. This was an experiment in forestry which has amply justified itself, and shows how a shrewd far-sighted man may, even without technical advice, secure good returns from his wood-land without impairing its productive value and while putting himself in position to profit by the steady rise which is taking place in timber values.

## REPLIES TO CRITIC

CANAL COMMISSION TAKES UP STATEMENTS IN DETAIL.

Commission Denies Responsibility for Yellow Fever on Isthmus and Avers That No Duty Is Evaded.

WASHINGTON.—The Panama canal commission has prepared and filed with the secretary of war a reply to criticisms made on its conduct of affairs on the isthmus of Panama by Dr. O. L. Reed, in a letter to the secretary dated March 20. The charges are considered in detail. Taking up Dr. Reed's criticism of the organization of the health department it says Dr. Reed's assertion that much of the report on a plan of organization, formulated over the respectful protest of the medical men, is without any foundation whatever. Modification of the suggestions submitted by the medical staff were made from day to day until a plan acceptable to both the commission and the medical staff was worked out which must stand on its merits. The reply says the organization of this department was very satisfactory to the sanitary officer and his associates.

The commissioners flatly contradict Dr. Reed's statement that authority to purchase an X-ray outfit in Washington was denied. This statement, they say, "is evidently either woeful ignorance or a wilful misstatement of facts."

The salaries of officials on the Panama canal commission are quoted to refute the charge that the commission wants cheap doctors there. In this connection they quote Dr. Reed's statement that only \$50 per month is paid for internes and say: "The fact is that graduates from medical colleges without experience are useful as internes in the hospital organization on the isthmus as they are in hospital organizations in the United States. In the United States they serve a year without pay. It was thought proper to allow them transportation to the isthmus from the United States ports and to allow them \$50 per month during their year of service and to return them free of expense to the United States at the end of the year or in case of disability due to sickness. Should it be found that an interne resists to remain in the service the assignment to further duties carries with pay of \$125 per month."

In refutation of the charge made Dr. Reed that the commission is responsible for the presence of yellow fever on the isthmus, a letter from the commission of February 1 to chief sanitary officer Gorgas is quoted. In that letter the opinion is expressed that the appearance of the fever is not traceable to delays in the importation of medical supplies. It is asserted that "The commission at all times has met every request for disinfectant material." In support this statement figures are given showing the amount shipped to the isthmus. Much attention is given to other efforts of that city and it is claimed "the commission has acted up to the entire limit of its authority."

On the point of admission to the government hospitals the commission quoted the law bearing on the government of the canal and says: "The medical staff should have power to order into hospitals all persons suspected of being ill with infectious diseases and this has been given. The commission foresaw that restrictions would be necessary to prevent competition by the hospitals with physicians in private practice and acted accordingly."

Explaining the system of purchasing supplies, the members of the commission say: "It has been the plan of the commission to have the needs of its several departments foreseen for half a year or full year periods in order that purchases would be in sufficient quantities to avoid as far as possible chasing officer ample time to prepare papers to call for proposal with reasonable time allowance to permit intending bidders in all parts of the country to prepare their proposal and to permit of the delivery of the article required."

The general question of sanitation is taken up and the reply says: "The commission understands the immense importance of the sanitation of the isthmus as a factor in the building of the canal. It is certain that the chiefs of the sanitary department are aware of the grave responsibility resting upon them."

## MOVE FOR PEACE

THE Czar FEELS PRESSURE FROM HIS OWN ADVISERS.

### WHAT JAPAN MAY GET

DISCUSSION OF TERMS THAT WOULD BE ENTERTAINED.

One Minister Speaking to the Associated Press Outlines What Might Be Acceptable to Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG.—While Emperor Nicholas whose word is final, still declines to abandon the prosecution of the war and the government maintains its ability to continue the conflict, the Associated press is in a position to state that powerful influence, including several of the emperor's own ministers, are urging that the time has come to indicate to Japan. Russia's desire for peace on a reasonable basis. Should Japan impose too onerous conditions, Russia's position would be strengthened abroad by the alienation of sympathy from Japan and the situation at home improved when the nation is made to understand that the emperor's pacific proposals have been met with impossible terms.

One of the emperor's ministers in a conversation with the Associated press said: "While we have suffered bitter defeat on land and sea, we can, however still continue the war. But both countries have suffered great losses in blood and treasure and would only profit the rivals of both were we to fight on until one or the other is exhausted. Russia has had a hard task fighting the war against adversaries, six thousand miles from home and I contend she can make a dignified peace without glory, but with honor. As the victor on land and sea Japan can afford to remember, as Bismarck did at the conclusion of the Austria-Prussian war, that two countries who must live the long future as neighbors may need each other's friendship. Japan may consider the time propitious and appreciate the situation in European Russia to try and crush us."

Suppose, for the sake of argument, she succeeded in final forcing a humiliating peace, it could not be more than an armed truce. Russia is too big and powerful to retire permanently from the field. The clouds at home will eventually roll away. With the army and navy reorganized, in five, ten or fifteen years there will come inevitably our revenge. No permanent peace is possible now or later until Japan is reasonable."

To the suggestion of a possible alliance between Russian and Japan the minister said: "A reasonable peace must first be established." "What," was asked "would be reasonable?" "Broadly speaking Russia's renunciation of her Manchurian policy should satisfy Japan's claims. She could have her protectorate over Korea, such privileges on the Kwantung peninsula and at Port Arthur as the powers would not oppose, and the Chinese Eastern railway could be placed under international control, Russia maintain her rights to a line through northern Manchuria to Yoku."

"What would be Russia's attitude on the subject of indemnity?" "Russia has never paid indemnity and history practically affords no precedent for indemnity where territory is not occupied to secure payment, and Japan holds not a foot of Russian territory. Japan could take the proceeds of the sale of property and rights of the Chinese Eastern railway, which was built with Russian money."

The minister said the difficulties of continuing the war were fully appreciated, both from a military and financial standpoint but neither is insurmountable. He denied emphatically that the negotiations for a French loan were not adjourned because Russia would not make peace. The success of the internal loan, first announced by the Associated press, the minister said, is assured. As for the question of a new army, much depends upon the exact situation when General Linevitch gets the army out of the danger.

## NO CHANCE TO WIN

MURKIN ARMY COMPARED TO A BLUNDERING YOKEL.

### KIRELOFF SEVERE CRITIC

SAYS KUROPATKIN IS NOT THE MAN TO BLAME.

Whole System Of Military Policy Managed—Babbling Of Staff Officers Taken Advantage Of by Japanese.

ST. PETERSBURG.—M. Kireloff, one of the Associated press' Russian correspondents, who was wounded at Liao Yang, continuing his description begun of the causes of the Russian defeats, has drawn a powerful picture of the complete, criminal lack of knowledge on the part of the Russians of the country and the enemy's movements and of the utterly imprudent gossip and babbling which acquaints the Japanese with every movement and plan before they are inaugurated.

He compares the Russian army to a powerful yokel, moving forward blindfolded, wildly brandishing his arms and shouting aloud what he will do to the enemy when he catches him. He cannot see his path nor his enemy. Here he stumbles up a hill. There he falls into a valley. The keen-eyed enemy easily avoids his waving arms and mighty flaps and pours in a succession of blows which sends the Russian yokel reeling backward to his bitter astonishment.

M. Kireloff adds that the blame for the successive defeats is not Kuropatkin's. It is simply due to the fact that the machine is out of order. A good workman was given bad helpers and miserable tools. The elements of misfortune were in the army itself. Behold the result. The mishaps at first were attributed to the defensive position of Kuropatkin, and it was said that when the Russians assumed the initiative all would be well. This was not realized because every movement was preordained to failure by the premature publication or dilatory execution of the plans. The merest strapping sub-lieutenant chatters recklessly and informedly of dispositions and movements which should be known only to a few chiefs. The dispositions and plans of the battle of the Shakhe river, for example, were openly discussed several days in advance in the railroad restaurant at Mukden in the hearing of many Chinese, civilians and camp followers.

The general staff gives information to whomsoever asks for it. "Babbling is the bane of our military bureaucracy," says M. Kireloff, "and the sooner it is corrected the better."

While thus opening the Japanese eyes the Russians close theirs. Even the colonels and commanders of divisions enter into the battle ignorant of the very maneuvers they are expected to execute. For instance, General Orloff, September, 2, was entrusted with the movement in which the battle of Liao Yang hinged, and he blindly led 15,000 men into action ignorant of why, therefore or whither. Naturally there was disaster instead of the destruction of General Kuroki's forces and a victory.

"The general staff is inattentive to the all important duty of mapping. Even now the Russians have unsatisfactory maps, and units in the hilly country are unable to keep in touch with each other. The Russian intelligence department is defective. It knows nothing of the Japanese numbers, positions or movements, not only in the unsettled mountainous regions, but even on the populated plains of Manchuria. Instead of easily securing the sympathy of the Chinese, the Russians alienated them and they now side with the Japanese. The Russians drove away the Chinese hands who are now the eyes of the Japanese army and who destroy bridges and communications as well.

"Kuropatkin is also hampered by fantastic reports from nervous generals, particularly those of Reudenkrampf, who sends poems instead of reports."

## NEBRASKA NOTES

Mrs. M. Ayers widow of a planter living near Humboldt suffered a paralytic stroke but will recover.

The County Teachers' association of Holdrege has passed resolutions endorsing house rolls 49 and 170.

The organization of the Kearney Telephone company has been completed and officers have been elected.

A new lodge of the tribe of Star Her has been organized in Kearney. The membership starts with 200.

Patrick Keller, formerly of Tecumseh died at Garden City, Kan. at the age of 76. The funeral was held at Tecumseh.

Gangs of laborers are camped on the river bottom near Groves where they soon will begin work on the Omaha, Lincoln and Beatrice suburban road.

The Goehner Elevator company has been incorporated at Goehner, Seward county. One hundred of the county's most substantial farmers are the incorporators.

The Blue Valley Milling company of Holmsville has been reorganized with a capital stock of \$25,000. Extensive improvements are to be made in the future among them a new concrete dam.

Charles Sutton Wood of Table Rock won the silver medal in the oratorical contest here Wednesday night. There were ten contestants seven from Pawnee City and three from Table Rock.

In the attempt to separate two dogs that were fighting Mrs. Hedger of Tamora was badly chewed by the angry animals. She was taken to Dr. Williams of Tamora to have many wounds dressed.

William Smith died at his home in Auburn after a very short illness. He was 31 years of age. Besides a wife and one child he leaves an aged mother, a sister and one brother to mourn his sudden death.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary Battenman, wife of County Judge Battenman, of Columbus, was held at the Catholic church. Mrs. Battenman died at the family home after a lingering and painful illness.

The Bankers union has organized a lodge at Table Rock, with the following officers: William Bankson, president; P. W. Quackenbush, vice president; Isaac Bain, banker; J. H. Talbot, secretary; Nicholas Muller, chaplain; Mrs. M. E. Talbot overseer; Peter Muller, guardian.

John Pexton of Neligh who expects soon to leave for Oregon has secured a number of carrier pigeons which he intends to take with him. They are very interesting creatures. Experiments with them in carrying messages from Neligh to Norfolk have proven very successful.

P. H. Udike president of Harvard Union State bank of Harvard departed for Omaha with his family, where they will make their home. Mr. Udike will continue his banking business at Harvard where he will spend as large a portion of his time as his business may require.

Fire broke out recently at the residence of Joseph Tommond in the southeast part of West Point and consumed the building and contents. The family barely escaped, having to leave the building in their night clothing. Loss, about \$1,000, only partially covered by insurance. Origin of the fire is unknown.

The Northwestern hotel and building of Leigh was sold to Gustave and Louis Hahn a couple of retired farmers. They will remove the building and replace it with a double brick to be used for a hotel and store building. A. M. Russel who has been the landlord for the last four years will retire.

Hunters around Seward are securing plenty of ducks now. The small lakes and the creeks afford the ducks shelter from the stormy weather.

At the home of R. B. Weller in Nebraska City a range exploded and wrecked the kitchen. Fortunately the girl who lighted the fire, went out in the yard and thus escaped being killed. The range and the kitchen were a total wreck. The water pipes had frozen during the night and caused the trouble.

The Kearney High school girls basket ball team matched up before the similar team of the North Platte High school. A large number of spectators were present and the game was brisk throughout. Both teams showed good training and splendid plays were made, but the Kearney girls were a little too much for the North Platte team and consequently carried off the game with a score of 19 to 10.