

CZAR HOLDS OUT GIVEN A FREE HAND CALL FOR PEACE FIGHT IS OVER TO KILL THE KING

NOT YET CONVINCED THAT PEACE IS NECESSARY.

United States Embassy at St. Petersburg Center of Interest—Japanese Minister Visits White House.

ST. PETERSBURG.—In the course of an interesting conversation between the Associated press and one of the emperor's most influential ministers the minister declared emphatically that the emperor had not yet changed his position with regard to the prosecution of the war on account of the destruction of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet.

"Everything depends on the will of my imperial master," the minister said.

The situation is being thoroughly discussed from all stand points but the emperor has as yet not given the slightest indication that he believes that Russia must yield.

The minister in speaking of the possible initiation of peace negotiations expressed the personal view that no power occupied so good a position as the United States through which negotiations could be made.

Dealing with the question of submitting the decision of peace or war to a national assembly, he declared that the idea was utterly impracticable and unentertainable. Neither a national assembly, which would require weeks, if not months, to convene nor a zemsky zabor could intelligently pass on the question or would in a position to negotiate terms and to him the whole idea was absurd.

The minister stated emphatically to the Associated press that the assembly contemplated by the emperor's rescript would soon take definite form. The Bouligan commission, he said, had completed its labors and the result was now before the committee of ministers and practically would be taken up for consideration this week. In his opinion as soon as the announcement is made and the people realize the sincerity of the government's intention, the internal situation will be greatly ameliorated.

The American embassy has been the center of interest on account of President Roosevelt's tender of good offices in the direction of peace. Ambassador Meyer was besieged by members of the diplomatic corps who desired light on the president's plan and intentions, and the chances of its acceptance was a topic of general interest in St. Petersburg, the public having been made acquainted with President Roosevelt's talk with Count Cassini through the afternoon papers.

Foreign Minister Lamsdorff did not lay the matter before the emperor, but probably will visit Tsarskoe Selo soon for this purpose.

Officials of the foreign office, though expressing gratitude for the peace tender of the United States, adopted a non-committal tone regarding the prospects of action on it, saying the decision rested solely with the emperor who, up to the present, is firm for war.

On all sides it is realized that the question of indemnity will be the greatest stumbling block in the way of all efforts of the peace party. The war faction urges that if Russia is obliged to pay an enormous indemnity she might as well spend the same amount in continuing the war a year or so longer, and trust to financial pressure to do its work on Japan. They say that Russia's situation could not be made much worse.

In Manchuria the reinforcement of Lieutenant General Linevitch has been going on without pause. A traveler returning from Harbin reports passing train after train filled entirely with troops and apparently no reservists. It was reported that widespread mobilization was contemplated in order to give General Linevitch the necessary numerical superiority over the Japanese.

The strike situation in St. Petersburg is again attracting attention. Twelve thousand men have struck. A number of minor demonstrations have been broken up and some are announced.

President of the Ministers Witte in complaining bitterly of his treatment at the hands of the administration, said that though the emperor had refused his resignation on the plea that he had need of him, no business of the slightest importance has been placed before him for three weeks and he was apparently a member of the ministry in name only.

SWAY OF JAPAN IN ASIATIC WATERS UNLIMITED.

Has Made Russia Helpless

VLADIVOSTOK ABOUT ALL THAT IS LEFT TO HER.

Interest at Tokio Now Centered in Coming Land Battle—Explanation Offered for Signal Naval Victory.

TOKIO.—With the destruction of Russia's naval power interest is returning to military operations on land. Togo's victory tremendously alters the military situation and removes all limits of offensive operations against Russia's maritime provinces. It is now possible to effectively close Vladivostok, seize Sakhalin, the mouth of the Amur river, Kamchatka and any point between the Tuman river and the Arctic circle that the Japanese may desire.

A foreign observer, discussing the question with the correspondent of the Associated press, said:

"Togo's victory may drive Russia away from the Pacific coast of Asia. Japan now has a free hand in Russia's maritime provinces and her offensive capability is limited. Nothing bars the way, except the Russian force at Vladivostok, whose speedy isolation is expected. The Amur river is open to Japan and Russia's defensive capability is now entirely limited to the capacity of the Chinese-Siberian railway."

The cardinal cause of Rojestvensky's defeat have been the subject of general discussion here. One Japanese expert gives the following analysis:

"First—An imperfect reconnaissance and incomplete, faulty and misleading intelligence.

"Second—An imperfect battle formation, which indicated that Rojestvensky did not expect to meet Togo off Tsushima.

"Third—The weather, the direction of the wind and the sunlight were unfavorable to the Russians, Togo having the sun behind him and firing with the wind, while the Russian had the sunlight in their eyes and fired against the wind.

"Fourth—The Russians wasted their ammunition and eventually ran short. It is believed that the surrender of Nebogatoff was because his ammunition has been exhausted.

"Fifth—The marked inferiority of the Russians' gunnery."

Some experts criticize Rojestvensky for essaying too the Tsushima channel. Others uphold him, saying that his only chance lay in going through that channel. The impression prevails that Rojestvensky was totally unaware of the presence of Togo's entire fleet off Tsushima.

Many believe that it was necessary for Togo to take a station at a pivotal point from which it would be possible to intercept the Russians entering either Tsushima, Tsugaru or Soya channels. Calculations placed this pivotal point on the west coast, near the western entrance of Tsugaru channel. Togo's real whereabouts was known to many Japanese, but the secret was successfully guarded; an example of the willingness and ability of the Japanese to preserve military secrets.

Leaving aside the questions of preparedness and superior conditions, the superiority of the Japanese personnel fresh from fifteen months' successful campaigning under all possible conditions, must be taken into consideration. Many ascribe the victory as entirely superior marksmanship of the Japanese. Togo, realizing it would be necessary to fight in the open sea, gave his crews long training in firing during rough weather, with a heavy wind blowing and the ships rolling. When the hostile fleets met the superiority of the Japanese became evident. The sinking of battleships and armored cruisers by shell fire testifies to the deadly accuracy of the Japanese guns and destroys the theory that it is impossible to sink ships by shell fire.

The attitude of Japanese naval men towards victory is curious. Togo's message to the emperor saying that the victory was the result of the emperor's superhuman influences strikes the key note of the navy's attitude. The officers openly say that the marvelous result obtained was impossible by mere human achievement alone.

FIVE THOUSAND RUSSIANS JOIN IN DEMONSTRATION.

Little War Of Their Own

FRIGHTEN THE OFFICERS, BUT ARE LATER ON SQUELCHED.

Government Not to Be Swayed by Reason Of Stormy Demands, and Prepares to Continue the War.

WASHINGTON.—The following cablegram was received at the navy department from Admiral Train dated at Manila, and was sent immediately to the president:

"Admiral Enquist states that the Aurora and the Oleg are both seriously damaged and are not seaworthy. The Jemtechug is in bad condition. He makes the request to line up with provisions and coal. Will require fourteen days to repair their damages. A board has been ordered to examine and report their condition. One hundred and thirty men are wounded. Permission has been granted fifty to be landed."

Secretary Taft has received the following cablegram from Governor Wright, dated at Manila:

"Three Russian warships, the Aurora, Jemtechug and Oleg, under command of Admiral Enquist, anchored in Manila bay. One hundred and forty-three wounded. Admiral in command Asiatic fleet made an inspection and states that they are without coal and supplies and unable to proceed."

MANILA.—Admiral Train has appointed the following board to investigate the condition of the Russian warships which have arrived here and said to be in unseaworthy condition: Commander Calkins, Lieutenant Commander McElroy and the Ohio's carpenter, Harding.

The board will begin its investigations immediately. Rear Admiral Train has offered the Russian ships the necessary coal in lieu of fourteen days' stay here, but there is a question whether the Russians will be able to carry such quantity of coal on account of their damaged hulls.

The deaths aboard the Russian ships now bring the total of killed up to forty-one and there are five additional cases in the hospital. American navy surgeons are assisting the Russian surgeons in their work of caring for the wounded. Rear Admiral Enquist now claims that he lost his flag to the Aurora and left the fight. He said he did not know that the fight was continued. He declared that the Japanese attack was so sudden and ferocious that his section was completely overwhelmed.

The ships of his section, while attempting to reach Vladivostok were at the same time looking for a fight with the Japanese, and when they encountered their opponents fought gallantly. The Russian ships steamed into Manila at a speed of fifteen knots. The Russians are now taking on food supplies.

The naval board which has examined into the condition of the Russian warships reports that the Oleg will require sixty days, the Aurora thirty days and the Jemtechug seven days to effect repairs. Admiral Enquist has requested permission to repair here, saying that he would be unable to sail except on a smooth sea on account of his vessels needing patching near the water line. The Japanese consul at Manila called on Governor Wright to make inquiries regarding the disposition of the Russian vessels.

Prince Potemkin is among the wounded Russians in the hospital. Rear Admiral Enquist states that the greater damage done to his ships was when the Japanese were firing at five mile range.

SHANGHAI.—A Russian torpedo boat which was towed in here reports that she had been drifting for six days with 180 men on board and water sufficient for only one day left and very little food. The vessel was damaged forward. Her crew has been transferred to the Russian transport interned at Woosung.

NAGASAKI.—It is stated on good authority that all the Russians naval prisoners in Japan will be sent home.

FEW RUSSIAN SHIPS FOR THE VICTORS TO PURSUE.

Mostly Sunk Or Captured

ADMIRAL TOGO SENDS FURTHER OFFICIAL REPORT.

Active Pursuit Of Remaining Russian Craft Abandoned, but Number Sunk Not Heretofore Enumerated.

TOKIO.—Admiral Togo has wired Admiral Yamamoto, minister of the navy, as follows:

"The main force of the Russian second and third fleets is nearly annihilated. Please feel assured of it."

WASHINGTON.—The Official Japanese report on the latest details of the great naval battle in the Korean straits is made in a cablegram received by the Japanese legation here from the foreign office at Tokio, conveying Admiral Togo's dispatches. The report says that Admiral Rojestvensky and another admiral and staff officers were taken prisoners on the sinking of Rojestvensky's flagship, the Kuznetsov, south of Ureung Islands, off the Korean coast. The total number of vessels lost to the Russians, according to Admiral Togo, now reaches twenty-two, and he adds that although the full particulars are not yet in, none of the Japanese ships was seriously injured and the loss to the first division of the Japanese fleet was over 400. The report says that armored cruisers Dmitri Donskoi ran aground on Ureung Island; that the battleship Oslabia (already admitted by the Russian admiralty) and the Navarin were sunk; that the battleship Sissol Veliki went to the bottom; that coast defense ship Admiral Oushakoff was sunk after a vigorous pursuit, her crew being rescued, and gives other details as to vessels sunk or disabled.

The Japanese admiral, Mitsu, was slightly wounded. The protected cruiser Almaz which has already arrived at Vladivostok, is referred to in the report as "suspected to have sunk". The report says:

"Fifth report from Togo received. 'The main force of our combined fleet, upon accepting surrender of the remaining Russian main force near Liancourt Rocks as already reported, stopped pursuit, and while engaged in the disposition of surrendered ships found in a southwestern direction the Admiral Oushakoff, a coast defense ship. Thereupon Iwate and Yakumo were immediately dispatched in pursuit and invited her to surrender, but she refused, and was sunk. Her crew of over 300 men were rescued."

"Cruiser Dimitri Donskoi was also found in the northwestern direction and was immediately overtaken and fired on vigorously by our fourth division and second destroyer flotilla. 'She was later attacked by the second destroyer flotilla, and was found aground on the southern shore of Ureung Island, off the Korean coast."

Our destroyer Sazanami captured in the south of Ureung Island the Russian destroyer Biedovy, wherein were found Admiral Rojestvensky and another admiral both severely wounded, together with eighty Russians, including staff officers from the flagship Prince Suvaroff, which was sunk. They were all taken prisoners."

"Our cruiser Chitose, while cruising to the northward found and sunk another Russian destroyer. Our cruiser Nakital and destroyer Murakamo attacked also a Russian destroyer, which finally went aground."

According to various reports hitherto received and statements of prisoners the result of the battle is as follows: Prince Suvaroff, Alexander III, Bordin, Dimitri, Donskoi, Admiral Nachimoff, Monomach, Jemtechug, Admiral Ashakoff, one converted cruiser and two destroyers sunk.

"Nicholas I, Orel, Admiral Apraxine, Admiral Sentavin and destroyer Biedovy captured."

According to the prisoners the Oslabia sunk and the Navarin also was sunk.

A PARIS ASSASSIN TRIED TO MURDER TWO RULERS.

Paris Police Made a Number Of Arrests But Bomb Thrower May Have Succeeded in Getting Away.

PARIS.—As the king of Spain, accompanied by President Loubet, drove away from a gala performance of the opera after midnight an anarchist threw a bomb in the direction of the royal carriage. The projectile struck a soldier belonging to the cuirassier escort on the shoulder and then fell to the ground and exploded without injuring his majesty or the president, who continued their drive to the Palais D'Orsay. Several soldiers of the escort were thrown from their horses and injured. Whilst fragments of the bomb struck a number of persons in the crowd.

King Alfonso and President Loubet had been cheered along the entire route to the opera by enthusiastic crowds, the young monarch having completely gained the hearts of Parisians since his arrival here.

The gala performance comprised "Samson and Delilah" and "Mata-delta."

When King Alfonso and President Loubet entered the building surrounded by a brilliant staff and followed by nearly the entire diplomatic corps and superior officials, the house, which was composed of the elite of French society rose and cheered while the orchestra played the Spanish and French national anthems.

The performance went without a hitch. Another ovation came at the close of the performance.

The king and president were escorted to their carriage and took seats side by side in the vehicle which started off, surrounded by several squadrons of cuirassiers towards the Avenue de L'Opera.

The space around the opera house was cleared for two hundred yards but the avenue was packed with a dense throng.

The procession arrived at the end of the Avenue D'Opera and crossed the Place Theater Francaise, where were assembled at least 1,500 persons in the Rue de Rohan, a short street forming practically a continuation of the Avenue de L'Opera right opposite the gateway of the Louvre leading to the Place Saroussel. There, just a few yards before reaching the Rue Rivoli a man sprang forward with his arm raised in the air, and before the cordon of police could prevent him, without uttering a word, threw a projectile in the direction of the royal carriage. The police immediately rushed toward him. At that moment a deafening explosion occurred. Cries from the crowd were heard, and then followed a scene of intense excitement. The crowd began surging to and fro. Soldiers were seen to fall, but as the flash from the bomb died out it was observed that the king and the president had not been struck and their carriage proceeded on its way. The bomb had been thrown with too great force and passed over the royal carriage and struck the shoulder of a cuirassier and fell to the ground, where it exploded, fragments of it striking the horses of the soldiers, causing them to bolt and throw their riders. Captain Schneider who was riding at the right side of the carriage and Captain Garnier, who was on the left, were both thrown.

Fragments of the bomb also struck five persons a sergeant, two policemen, a woman, who was seriously injured, and a child who was struck in the eye. One horse of the escort was killed outright and six others lay about maimed and bleeding.

The force of the explosion was terrific and caused a derangement of the electric lights, adding darkness to the scene of confusion. Women and children screamed and a panic was for a time threatened in the vast throng until the police succeeded in restoring order.

In the meantime the remainder of the escort to the royal carriage had closed round the vehicle which disappeared under the archway of the Louvre.

After they returned to the Palace D'Orsay, President Loubet remained for a considerable time with King Alfonso who requested that he be informed of the circumstances surrounding the event. He desired to know whether anybody had been wounded, and he expressed his intention of not retiring until completely reassured on this point.