

PROGRESS OF THE EASTERN CAMPAIGN

Mukden, the ancient royal city of the Manchus, is the focal point for the world-wide attention centered in the Russo-Japanese war. In successive stages the field of operations has swept across Manchuria. Liaoyang recently was the stage for great events. The battle fought there, even though but fragmentary facts are known, is conceded a place among the world's great military struggles. Kuropatkin, in a masterly retreat, forced upon him by the strategy of the enemy, covered forty miles of sodden roads, saving his army and artillery from total disaster and reached Mukden. Will he make a stand here, or will his weary army take up the march again to a position farther north? This is the question of the hour. A few miles north is Tie Pass, a position adapted by nature for defensive operations. This, say rumors, is in reality to be the scene of the next great battle. In fact, a desperate battle has already been reported here, but this is now denied.

Mukden, which in times of peace has at least 200,000 inhabitants, is situated in the center of an immense alluvial plain, about three miles from the Hunho, a tributary of the Liao river. It is about forty miles north of Port Arthur, forty-two miles north of Liaoyang and 350 miles south of Harbin. General Kuropatkin discovered, early in March, that Harbin was too far north to serve as a military base for the campaign in Southern Manchuria, and he selected Mukden for his headquarters, because it is favorably situated on the railway and on the Pekin road.

The city of Mukden has an outer wall of mud, and a lofty quadrangular inner wall three miles in circuit, built of brick, flanked by lofty towers and pierced by eight gates protected by lofty brick bastions. This wall, on which three carriages could drive abreast, protects the commercial and official part of the city, and is densely crowded. Mukden, besides being the great grain emporium of Manchuria, is the center of the Chinese fur trade, and attracts buyers from all parts of the world. It is the ancient royal city of the Manchus, and the former burial place of the rulers of China. About the city and about the tombs centers the veneration of China's millions.

Aside from this, Kuropatkin may not only avoid battle at Mukden, but may be compelled to abandon all hope of further resistance until after the winter months. His army, repeatedly defeated, is badly demoralized, say rumors. Its morale cannot but have been affected, and though its valor has been unmistakably proven, the task of again facing the fanatical desperation of the Japanese might prove too severe a strain. Two months of autumn remain for fighting. Nevertheless, it is more than probable that the battle of Liaoyang marks the last important struggle of the present year. The rains now prevent operations. The plan of the Japanese will not develop until transportation becomes possible over the roads. A determined advance on the part of the enemy will in all probability be followed by a prompt northward movement on the part of Kuropatkin.

In that event, the winter will find this situation: The main Russian army will be centered at Harbin, with the rear guard at Tie Pass. The main Japanese army will be quartered in and about Liaoyang, with its advance guard at Mukden. Rumors have come



FIELD MARSHAL OYAMA, THE HERO OF LIAOYANG.

usually develop. Meantime, ancient Mukden rivets attention. It is impossible to ascertain what has happened during the last week between Liaoyang and Mukden, except in the broadest outlines, and even as to these there is uncertainty. We know that Kuropatkin has been



THE SITUATION AT PORT ARTHUR.

withdrawing his army northward, but how far he has taken it we cannot tell. We know that Kuroki has been in touch with his rear guard to the east at least part of the time.

We have had it officially stated several times that the entire Russian army was in Mukden or north of there, and concurrently we have had

seven and twenty miles to the east and west of Mukden.

The other day there appeared three circumstantial accounts of the battle of Liaoyang, telegraphed in by correspondents who had been present. Two of these correspondents were with Oku's, or the left, army, while one was with Kuroki's, or the right, army. All three of them agree that the battle was fought with desperate bravery on both sides. The Russians exhibited a new ability to hold the Japanese. Oku, on the left, assaulted again and again—on one occasion thrice during twenty-four hours. He lost regiments at a time, yet he kept on.

In the opinion of the Chicago Tribune, if the Japs had tried to take Liaoyang exclusively by direct assault they would have failed. But the flanking movement of Kuroki, who threatened to get behind the Russians, compelled them to evacuate the town. The critics who have eyes only for Oku's army, and see it battered and bruised in its direct assaults, must not forget that Kuroki could not attempt his flanking movement from the east unless Oku should press the south in sufficient numbers to keep a large number of Russians employed there, and so prevent them from being sent to interfere with Kuroki's flank march. But the Japanese did not surround and capture the Russian army. That is a thing not often done.

Kuroki, marching from his bridges across the Taitze, had twice as far to go to reach the railroad above Liaoyang as Kuropatkin, who was in Liaoyang and on the railroad. In addition, Kuropatkin has steam to increase his mobility, while Kuroki must plow his men and transports over wretched, muddy footpaths. Small forces in good positions could delay Kuroki; there were no forces on the railroad to check Kuropatkin.

In every war of history a victory such as Oyama won has been called "sweeping." He forced the Russians out of a strongly fortified place, chased them to Mukden, forty miles northward, and it is reported that they are still going, and propose to make for Tieling, forty miles north of Mukden. This retreat is directly away from Port Arthur.

The Port Arthur situation remains obscure. There has been some heavy fighting. The Japs gained a few advantages, though probably at a heavy cost. The Russians are now forced to distill sea water because the Japanese have cut off the last remaining fresh water spring of the Russians, which was at Fort Elise. Elise and the adjoining forts are not occupied by either side, since these positions are dominated by batteries of both sides.

War News in Brief.

Russian officials state that the loss to Kuropatkin's army at Liaoyang was less than 17,000 men, 4,500 being killed.

The Japanese are said to be levying taxes in Manchuria and to have taken entire control of finances and customs in captured territory.

Much bushwhacking is going on upon the road south of Mukden, and many Russian soldiers have been killed from the fields of Chinese corn.

Oyama reports that a large Russian force faces him south of Mukden and that the Russians are fortifying both banks of the Liao river at Tie Pass.

Chinese bandits again are active, frequently attacking the Russian railroad line north of Mukden. Bushwhacking causes constant losses to the Russians.

Information coming from an authoritative source in St. Petersburg is that the Russians will winter at Harbin, but the fact that there probably will be two months of good weather for military operations before extreme cold weather sets in leaves room for a revision of this purpose in the light of events that may transpire.

SPEAKS ON THE ISSUES

ROOSEVELT'S FORMAL LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE.

President in a Twelve Thousand Word Document Defends His Administration of the Affairs of the Nation—Declares Protection Necessary.

President Roosevelt's formal letter accepting the presidential nomination of the Republican party has been given out. It is 12,200 words long.

President Roosevelt defends the last seven years of Republican control. He declares that the Democrats attack Republican policies and acts of the last seven years by misrepresenting what has been done. He then proceeds to review those acts in detail, and scatters through his 12,000-word letter scores of interrogation points, asking the Democrats what they are going to do different, or what different they would attempt if charged with power. As to Panama, he says he would be derelict in his duty if he used a false construction of the constitution as a "shield for weakness and timidity, or as an excuse for governmental impotence."

The letter charges the Democrats with insincerity in and conflict of criticisms in matters such as the settlement of the coal strike and the prosecution of the merger suit that shows no chance for coherent action or constructive legislation if they are given power. As to the money question he declares the only real way to keep the question from becoming unsettled is to keep the Republican party in power.

In defense of the protective tariff policy the President says that some Democrats seem anxious to prove that it is safe to give them partial power, as they could do no mischief then. In connection with the tariff he discusses the trusts, and says the evils connected with them can be reached only by rational effort, along the lines taken by Congress and the executive during the last three years. The tariff is made the leading feature of the letter.

It is set forth that the present executive thinks the present regular army is no larger than the country requires, and as to the Philippines he says that to retrace our steps would be to give "proof of an infirm and unstable national purpose."

Points from the Letter.

Following are leading paragraphs from the President's letter:

It is difficult to find out from the utterances of our opponents what are the real issues upon which they propose to wage this campaign. It is not unfair to say that, having abandoned most of the principles upon which they have insisted during the last eight years, they now seem at a loss both as to what it is that they really believe and as to how finally they should assert their belief in anything. In fact, it is doubtful if they venture resolutely to press a single issue; as soon as they raise one they shrink from it and seek to explain it away. Such an attitude is the probably inevitable result of the effort to improve convictions; for when this improvised it is natural that they should be held in a tentative manner.

There is not a policy, foreign or domestic, which we are now carrying out which it would not be disastrous to reverse or abandon.

We base our appeal upon what we have done and are doing, upon our record of administration and legislation during the last seven years, in which we have had complete control of the government.

If continued in power we shall continue our foreign policy and our handling of the country, exactly the same lines in the future as in the past.

The fundamental fact is that in a popular government such as ours no policy is irrevocably settled by law unless the people keep in control of the government men who believe in that policy as a matter of deep-rooted conviction.

On some of the vital questions that have confronted the American people in the last decade our opponents take the position that silence is the best possible way to convey their views.

To say that action against trusts and monopolies should be limited to the application of the common law is equivalent to saying that the national government should take no action whatever to regulate them. Undoubtedly it would be possible at the present time to prevent any of the trusts from remaining prosperous by the simple expedient of making such a sweeping change in the tariff as to paralyze the increase of the country. The trusts would cease to prosper, but the smaller competitors would be ruined and the wage-workers would starve, while it would not pay the farmer to haul his produce to market.

The expenditures of the nation have been managed in a spirit of economy as far as possible from waste as from niggardliness, and in the future every effort will be continued to secure an economy as strict as is consistent with efficiency.

So far from having "sapped the foundation" of free popular government at home by the course taken in the Philippines, we have been spreading its knowledge and teaching its practice among the peoples to whom it had never before been more than an empty name.

At no time in the history of this or any other country has there been an era so productive of material benefit alike to workmen and employer as during the seven years that have just passed.

THE TRENT CANAL

Shortens Distance Between Canada's Wheat Fields and Liverpool.

The Trent Valley canal in Canada is nearing completion. It will unite Georgian Bay with Lake Ontario, via Lake Simcoe, the Kawartha lakes and the Ontario and Trent rivers. The canal proper will be only twenty miles in length and will cost \$10,000,000. This uninterrupted water course from Lake Superior to England will make the distance between Canada's western wheat fields and Liverpool 700 miles less than the present course via the great lakes and the Erie canal. The boats will have a capacity of 800 tons while those on the Erie average about 240 tons. These advantages would speedily take away much of the Erie's business. But the voters of New York State, to forestall this competition, have emphatically decided to expend \$100,000,000 in enlarging the Erie so that it can accommodate barges of 1,000 tons capacity.

From Far and Near.

Senor Eusebio Santos, a Spaniard living in Brooklyn, thrives on a diet of grass.

John F. Finerty of Chicago was elected president of the United Irish League at New York.

A parcels post convention has been concluded between the United States and Norway, to take effect Oct. 1 next.

The large packing plant of Street & Corcoran at Buffalo, N. Y., was destroyed by fire, the loss being estimated at \$125,000.

CHICAGO TRAIN HELD UP.

Bandits' Blow Safe on the Rock Island Near Letts, Iowa.

Five bandits robbed the Chicago-Kansas City limited train on the Rock Island Road shortly after midnight Tuesday morning at a place known as Whisky Hollow, about six miles out of Muscatine, and near Fruitland, Iowa. The train, known as No. 11, is a through train to Texas, and the robbery was committed at the end of a sharp curve, and exactly where a similar hold-up was plotted two years ago by the Chicago car barn bandits.

The statements of express officials are that the bandits obtained no money, though the safe was blown open and the contents were taken. It is asserted that the safe contained merchandise of some value and company papers in transit, etc., but no cash.

As the train rounded a curve the engineer saw a red lantern on the track, and immediately stopped. The train, the express car and the baggage car were boarded by the robbers, apparently five in number. A fusillade was fired along the sides of the train to prevent interference by passengers. The messenger of the express car was compelled to open the door. The car safe was dynamited and the contents taken, after which the engine crew was compelled to return to the passenger coaches, the engine was cut off and the robbers ran it west through Letts to within two miles of Columbus Junction, where it was left standing on the track.

MAY STAY SIX WEEKS.

Russian Transport Lena Given Time to Make Repairs.

The Russian transport Lena has been allowed six weeks to make necessary repairs to her boilers, and at the end of that time she must depart from the port of San Francisco unless, in the opinion of the fleet engineer of the Pacific squadron, stationed at San Francisco, her repairs absolutely require more time than has been allowed to put her into a seaworthy condition. This decision, though subject to revision, disposes of the case for the present, although the Japanese consul general at San Francisco is not satisfied with it, insisting that the Lena should leave port immediately, on the ground that she is at San Francisco to spy on transpacific ships.

Within the bay and close to shore numerous Japanese residents watch the vessel through field glasses. Aside from the diplomatic situation is the danger, it is said, of a second Maine disaster. Reports are heard of threats that a well-manned boat may put out under cover of darkness, with explosives enough to sink the cruiser and kill her men—500 in all. A counter-plot of being made by a force of marines under Midshipman Davis for quantities of arms or ammunition which might be smuggled to the Lena from secret agents of the Czar. Not a pound of coal will be allowed her until the government acts on the case.

Lieutenant Commander W. C. Herbert, engineer in charge of the Pacific squadron, found that the Lena's boilers are in bad condition, after an inspection. They had been overtaxed in the long and hurried trip across the Pacific, although even this trip is as yet unexplained.

MAINE GIVES 31,000.

Republicans Say Plurality Is Larger Than Expected.

After one of the most exciting campaigns for nearly a quarter of a century the Republicans of Maine have elected their candidate for Governor, William T. Cobb of Rockland, by a plurality over his Democratic opponent, Cyrus W. Davis of Waterville, estimated at 31,000. The vote was the largest ever polled. The returns show a Republican gain over 1900 of 15 per cent and a Democratic gain of 31 per cent, on which basis the Republican plurality for Governor is estimated at about 31,000. In 1900 it was 34,132. The Republicans carried every county with the exception of two. They elected the four members of Congress—Allen, Littlefield, Burleigh and Powers. Burleigh ran ahead of his vote of two years ago and Powers 2,300 behind.

In Androscoggin county, the home county of Senator Frye, the Democrats succeeded in winning for the first time in many years, electing all the county officers. The present sheriff, the Rev. C. S. Cummings, a Methodist preacher, who was elected sheriff on the Republican ticket, and who since his election has rigidly enforced the prohibitory liquor law, was defeated with the rest. In Portland the present Democratic sheriff was re-elected, receiving a larger plurality than two years ago.

Republican pluralities in the Maine September elections in the most recent presidential years are as follows:

1904	31,000	1892	12,503
1900	34,132	1888	18,033
1896	48,248	1884	19,815

WHEAT AGAIN CLIMBS.

Rise in Price Causes Excitement on Chicago Board of Trade.

Excitement such as has not been witnessed on the Chicago Board of Trade in years developed Tuesday when May wheat touched \$1.18 and the heavy holders refused to sell even at that figure. The wheat pit was a pandemonium, crazy brokers and their clerks fighting with the desperation and abandon of a street mob, as the price went up from the opening of \$1.15. It was the wildest day the board has seen, not only during the bull movement, which has been on for weeks, but since the days of the Letter "corner."

The excitement spread to the galleries and men and women stood excitedly watching the juggling of fortunes in the pit below them. Millions upon millions of bushels were sold, but the selling was done by holders who wanted to take profits, and the wheat was snapped up by shorts anxious to cover.

Killing frosts reported from the Northwest in districts where the wheat is still uncut were principally responsible for the upward rush in prices, although foreign markets were also up on the opening.

THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



One Hundred Years Ago.

A complete change took place in the government of the Batavian republic. The cotton crop of Georgia was ruined by caterpillars.

The American squadron captured near Tripoli two vessels laden with wheat for that city.

The Governor of New Brunswick was forced to order out the troops to quell a riot among oyster strikers at Amboyl.

Seventy-five Years Ago.

The Spanish army, under General Barrados, surrendered to the Mexicans under Santa Anna at Tampico.

An exciting debate took place in the French Chamber of Deputies on the subject of the slave trade.

The anniversary of Perry's victory on Lake Erie was celebrated by a public ball and parade at Newport, R. I.

The peace of Adrianople was declared. Turkey agreed to recognize the independence of Greece and relinquish to Russia the northeast coast land of the Black Sea.

Fifty Years Ago.

The People's Provident Assurance Society of England was established.

The allied French and English forces were suffering much from disease and insufficient accommodations.

"Sevastopol," Count Tolstol's first book, was issued.

Fifteen hundred deaths occurred of cholera in London.

Commodore Perry sailed from Hong-kong for the United States.

English and French forces were landed in the Crimea.

Forty Years Ago.

In accepting the Democratic nomination for the Presidency of the United States General George B. McClellan said a "peace platform" of the party that "the re-establishment of the union in all its integrity was an indispensable factor of settlement."

General Sherman ordered all civilians to leave Atlanta and offered them transportation.

General Grant, from Virginia, and General Sherman, from Atlanta, wrote open letters urging the North to fill the quota of volunteers called for.

Secretary Stanton announced that a draft would be put into effect in all States and districts in which the quota had not been filled.

Thirty Years Ago.

Colorado for the first time went Democratic, the territory sending a delegate to that party to Congress.

A call was issued for a convention of the Republicans of the reconstructed States to be held at Chattanooga, Tenn.

Twenty persons were killed and fifty injured in a wreck on the Great Eastern Railway, near Norwich, England.

Twenty persons were killed and half a hundred wounded in a fight between the New Orleans police and a mob that was clamoring for the abdication of Governor Kellogg.

Francois Pierre Guillaume Guizot, eminent French statesman and writer, died in Paris.

Seventy-four cotton mills in England were closed by a strike of 13,000 employes.

Twenty Years Ago.

Parisians were excitedly demanding that the government declare war on China.

The resignation of the Marquis of Ripon as Viceroy of India and the promotion of the Earl of Dufferin to the post were announced by the British government.

A number of lives were lost and much property was destroyed by floods on the Chippewa and tributary rivers in Wisconsin.

The Illinois State fair closed at Chicago with a deficit of \$10,000 for the week.

Antagonism between clericals and liberals in Belgium threatened to result in civil war.

Tammany Hall, in an exciting meeting, endorsed the nomination of Grover Cleveland, Democratic candidate for President.

Ten Years Ago.

The Republicans carried the Maine State election by a plurality of 38,000.

A fatal wreck on the Chicago and Northwestern line near Barrington, Ill., was caused by a cyclone blowing freight cars into the main line, over which a passenger train was passing.

At a fruit celebration at Grand Junction, Colo., the 8,000 participants were declared to have eaten fifteen tons of fruit.

COURSE WHICH THE RUSSIAN BALTIC FLEET WILL TAKE.



The course that the Russian Baltic fleet, which has started for the far East, will probably take is indicated in the map. The length of the journey is more than half the distance around the world, for 12,270 nautical miles or 14,110 statute miles separate Port Arthur and Constantinople by the shortest sea route. At an average steaming rate of ten knots, not including many stoppages for coaling, it would take fifty-one days for the fleet to get within sight of the beleaguered fortress. Between Gibraltar and Port Arthur there are at least twenty ports at which, in time of peace, the ships could coal, but the ports being in neutral hands this is forbidden in present circumstances. Any adverse weather will cause great delay, for the larger ships must hold back for the small craft, of which there are many in the new fleet.

from Tokio of a winter campaign. Those familiar with the rigors of the Manchurian winters doubt that such course could be seriously considered. Japan could well afford to grant a period of rest to an army which has accomplished fairly marvelous things in seven months of fighting.

All is speculation, however, and no definite word may be uttered until the armies again move and their plans ac-

scraps of information to indicate that the movement was not yet completed. Rumors even of pitched battles fought by the Russian rear guard are still coming. We may disregard as manifestly erroneous all stories from hysterical correspondents and army officers in Mukden of fighting close in to that city, and we can similarly disregard the report that Kuroki's and Oku's forces are respectively twenty-