

GREAT JOY AT TOKIO

HOPE OF EARLY FALL OF PORT ARTHUR REVIVED.

Enthusiasm Do Not Accept Statements—Admit Loss of Hill Would Be Serious Blow, but Doubt Its Capture By the Enemy.

TOKIO.—General Noglo's telegram announcing the storming and capture of 203-Meter hill was received with cheers by the Japanese people. It revives the hope of an early capture of Port Arthur proper. The people have never despaired of the success of the besiegers, but the fortitude of the defenders and the prolongation of the siege, which exceeds by months the most liberal preliminary estimate of the time required to accomplish the reduction of this stronghold, has been a source of deep regret, combined with the loss of life and disappointments over the fact that the siege has occupied such a large force of men, decreasing Field Marshal Oyama's strength at a time when he needed every available man.

The date was set under the conscription act when recruits could join the army. Cheered by the news from General Nogi, thousands of recruits throughout the empire marched to barracks and donned uniforms for the first time. Following an honored custom, the relatives of the recruits, carrying flags and banners, escorted the new soldiers to their barracks. In Tokio there has been scores of little processions escorting detachments of popular conscripts. The number of men who have joined the colors under the conscription act has not been made public.

Reports from the Japanese army besieging Port Arthur say that Lieutenant General Thuchiya is among the wounded and that General Nakamura, the leader of the specially trained body of swordsmen which charged the Russian forts November 26, is injured in both legs.

ST. PETERSBURG.—The war office here is not yet prepared to accept the report that the Japanese before Port Arthur have taken 203-Meter hill, but if it is officially confirmed the war office admits that it will be a desperate blow to the gallant defenders of the fortress.

The position commands the harbor, and if the Japanese can mount siege guns on its summit they can force out the Russian squadron or destroy it at its anchorage. Those familiar with the supporting plans of the forts think it is by no means certain that even though the Russians are forced to retire from 203-Meter hill the Japanese can place in position heavy guns against the fire which the other forts can bring to bear on it. Still the war office officials reluctantly agree that such a breach in the chain renders the position extremely critical, and though the garrison might be able to hold out in the Golden Hill, Tigers Tail and Laotie forts for some time it may mark the beginning of the end.

Forged By the Wholesale

PORTLAND, Ore.—In the land fraud trials today expert penman pointed out to the judge and jury details and peculiarities in the handwriting contained in various papers connected with the alleged fraudulent land deals which the prosecutors of McKinley, Ware, Puter and others declare go to show that they had conspired together to defraud the government.

Arrested For Desertion

CHICAGO.—On charges that he deserted his wife and little son in Chicago three years ago, David Mackenzie of Boise, Idaho, a wealthy mine operator, has been arrested in Chicago by order of Judge Dunne. Mackenzie declared to the deputy sheriff that he is in Chicago attending court proceedings, and through previous operation of the courts has been placed beyond the reach of the writ of exeat issued by the deputy to keep Mackenzie in sight until there can be an adjustment of his claim to exemption from the new arrest.

Movement of the Batteries

SAN FRANCISCO.—The Fifth battery of field artillery, now stationed at the Presidio in this city, which was scheduled to sail for the Philippines on the transport leaving February 1, has had its orders changed and will sail on the Thomas on January 1. The twenty-sixth field battery from Vancouver Barracks, Wash., and the twenty-eighth, from Fort Leavenworth, Kan., will sail with the Fifth on the Thomas.

HOOT THE PREMIER

MINISTER TISZA GIVEN A HOSTILE RECEPTION.

ENEMY THROW STONES

SAYS THE NATION WILL DECIDE BETWEEN THEM.

Supporters Finally Rally and Abused Minister Makes Firey Speech—People Unable to Further Tolerate Technical Obstructions.

BUDA PEST.—Premier Tisza met with a hostile reception on the part of the large number of supporters of the opposition while attending a meeting of liberal electors at Gyoez, Hungary. The sympathizers with the minister's opponents thronged about his carriage, jeered, hooted and threw some stones at him. They were eventually dispersed by the police and several were arrested. Count Tisza's supporters then rallied round him and the premier received an ovation. In the course of a speech he declared he was unable to longer tolerate the technical obstruction which for years had clogged the wheels of parliament. Conciliation had failed and it was necessary, therefore, to adopt other measures. "The nation," concluded the premier, "will decide between us and will crush any one attempting to deprive it of conditions indispensable to its progress and development."

Hopes for Improvement.

MANILA.—Major General H. C. Corbin, military commander of the Philippines, has appointed a board of three officers to take into consideration details for the administration of the staff departments and their several divisions, and also to commend the number of officers necessary to efficiently perform the administrative duties. This board will consider plans for the betterment of the service, seeking a means whereby increased efficiency may be attained with a possible reduction of expenses.

The board will give special consideration to the reduction of the number of depots and garrisons, as well as to the amount of water and land transportation required. Major General Corbin is in favor of giving the transportation business only to steamship and railroad companies capable of handling a large volume. It is his purpose to confer with steamship companies in the United States with a view to inducing them to establish a line of up to date inter-island steamers, to which the army business would be given.

The Closed Shop Illegal.

NEW YORK.—That the "closed shop" is illegal was decided by the justices to the appellate division of the supreme court sitting in Brooklyn. A contract entered into between the firm of Morris Cohn & Sons, and the protective coat tailor's and presser's local No. 55 of the union garment workers of America, whereby the firm was prohibited from employing labor not belonging to the local and also from employing even a member of the union unless such member held a card signed by the business agent of the local, was declared by the court to be contrary to public policy. Presiding Justice Hirschburg wrote the court's opinion. Justice Bartlett dissented.

Says Wife Talks Too Much.

CHICAGO.—An injunction to prevent his wife from talking was asked in the circuit court by Thomas P. Wood, carpenter. In defending his own name from alleged scandal Wood declares he is also acting for the good of a Mrs. Margaret Watson. He fears, he says, that his wife will tell things about him to the member of secret societies to which they belong. He also seeks to stop more utterances of his wife in Newtonville, O., and Muncie, Ind. In his "over-heated imagination," Wood declares his wife has conjured certain visionary and absurd scandals.

Not Guilty of the Crime

PEORIA, Ill.—It took the jury in the case of Benjamin and Carter Jacobs, charged with setting fire to their clothing store in this city December 5, ten minutes to arrive at a verdict of not guilty. The men have been on trial three times, twice for arson and once together with their father John Jacobs of St. Louis, for conspiracy to defraud the insurance companies.

HAVE CHANCE TO STRIKE

KUROPATKIN MAY SOON ASSUME THE OFFENSIVE.

Has the Larger Force—Japanese Army Weakened by Withdrawals—Many Troops Supposed to Have Been Sent to Aid.

ST. PETERSBURG.—According to information which has reached the war office here, Field Marshal Oyama's strength is much smaller than heretofore believed, tending to confirm the theory that a large force has been withdrawn to assist in storming Port Arthur. This information is to the effect that not much more than 150,000 men are now confronting General Kuropatkin, but the Japanese lines are heavily fortified in order to check any aggressive movement which Kuropatkin might undertake long enough to enable the Japanese to hurry up reinforcements by rail from the peninsula. The present activity of the Japanese along the front, these reports indicate, is only feigning to convince Kuropatkin that the offensive is imminent. Should this important intelligence be absolutely confirmed it is possible that the Russian commander-in-chief may himself attempt to strike a quick blow. Kuropatkin is now supposed to have nearly 300,000 men.

The following dispatch has been received from General Kuropatkin, dated November 25:

"The engagement near Tsinkhetchen, near Da Pass, was resumed but soon ceased. We have collected and buried the Japanese dead. By noon we had found 230 bodies, all belonging to the Seventh reserve regiment of the Ninth reserve brigade. We took a large quantity of rifles, ammunition and entrenching tools."

The student bodies of St. Petersburg have adopted resolutions to support Interior Minister Sviatopolk-Mirsky. It now transpires that the student's demonstration was planned in approval of the minister's policy. Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky will have a special audience with Emperor Nicholas. It is said in court circles, where the opposition to the interior minister's policy is the greatest, that when the minister reminded the emperor that he had taken office under certain conditions and that he was ready to resign if his policy did not receive his majesty's approval, the emperor gave the minister the most complete assurances of his confidence and endorsement of his policy.

Laborers Caught by Cave-in.

ST. LOUIS.—Eight of twenty laborers employed in the digging of a trench for the laying of water mains in Southwest St. Louis were buried by a cave-in and it is believed all have perished. The men were working close together when, without warning, tons of clay fell on top of them. A bursting water pipe caused the cave-in. Those who escaped at once went to work with the help of others, and after twenty minutes dug out three of their companions, who were dead. The men were Italians.

Fire engine company No. 35 and police with ambulances hurried to the scene and every effort was made to rescue the remaining victims of the cave-in, who were in the employ of John S. McMahon, a contractor. The trench in which the men were at work was ten feet deep.

Further digging revealed the fact that only three men were buried by the cave-in. The other men supposed to have suffered death turned up later, safe and sound.

Street Car Jumps Track.

ST. LOUIS.—One man was killed outright and fourteen other passengers were injured, some of them seriously in a Bellefontaine street car that jumped the track and overturned.

Date for Smoot Hearing.

WASHINGTON.—Senator Burrows, chairman the committee on privileges and elections, has issued subpoenas for twenty witnesses in the Senator Reed Smoot investigation, and has fixed December 12 as the date for their appearance before the committee. Nearly all these are in Utah.

Monetary Reform Bill in Mexico.

MEXICO CITY.—The monetary reform bill recently submitted by President Diaz, and which was forestalled at that time by the Associated press has passed the chamber of legislators.

USED STRAW MAN

CONSPIRATORS IN LAND FRAUDS USED CUNNING METHODS.

ALL FACTS COMING OUT

SENSATIONAL TESTIMONY GIVEN AT PORTLAND.

Horace G. McKinley Plotted by Witnesses as Prime Mover in Game of Deceit—Prosecution Not Yet Done.

PORTLAND, Ore.—That George A. Howe is a myth, manipulated by the alleged conspirator Horace G. McKinley, to bring about the disposition of the seven quarter sections of land in townships 11 south, range 7 east, by application for the right, thus placing them in the hands of alleged conspirators, and that Horace G. McKinley made the request for an abstract of title to the George A. Howe lands was the trend of evidence offered by the government in the land fraud trial here.

The government introduced an abstract title to the Howe lands on which the name of McKinley appears to have been erased and that of Howe written in its place.

Early in the session the prosecution continued its fight to show by the testimony of the government officials that George A. Howe does not represent a corporal reality and precipitated a legal battle that consumed so much time to settle for a certainty that the government will not rest its case before it then. The defense assumed the position that evidence offered by the government to prove the non-existence of Howe is not competent, and that it cannot be proven by the mere testimony of witnesses that such a man is not known and cannot be found. The prosecution contended that it could be proven, and this is the only way to prove it, and make impossible the wholesale perpetration of fraud and crime, and that such evidence is competent sufficiently to establish the fact for all legal purposes that such a person does not exist in flesh and blood.

Doomed To Defeat.

ST. PETERSBURG.—Prince Mestchersky, editor of the Grashdanien, and the foremost spokesman of the autocracy, holds that the inauguration of such reforms as are at present possible in Russia, has been actually prejudiced by "irresponsible agitation for a constitution which is now in progress." Autocracy he considers vital to the life and future greatness of Russia as a nation. Liberal reforms, he maintains, are necessary, but they cannot be introduced except by autocracy.

Moreover, declares the prince, a broad plan of reform was already mapped out for gradual introduction when the whole work was thrown into confusion by the liberal rebound, accompanied by a discussion of a constitution which followed Minister von Plehve's death.

Speaking to the Associated press, Prince Mestchersky said:

"The question is often asked, 'Why not introduce a constitution? Russia might as well ask an American or a Briton, 'Why not introduce autocracy? A constitution is just as necessary to Great Britain or the United States as autocracy is for Russia. Constitutional government is impossible in Russia, for the simple reason that the vast majority of the people have not the slightest conception of its meaning. There are perhaps 100,000 Russians who want a constitution and as they do all the talking, while the remaining 150,000,000 are valueless, the impression goes abroad that the sentiment of the majority desires a change in the form of government. If a constitution were introduced it would be short lived for the simple reason that it would not be based upon the wishes or ideas of the people, and therefore it would only impede real and lasting reform. Constitutional government would prove in actual danger, because the nation includes races like the Poles and those of the Baltic territory, who are more advanced and developed than the rest. They would consequently soon obtain predominance in the parliament, which would call forth the opposition of the great mass of the population and lead to the disintegration of the nation."

NEBRASKA NOTES

Mrs. Anna Morris, who lives near Nymore, has been adjudged insane by the Board of Insanity commissioners.

Preparations are being made for dedicating the Carnegie library at Hastings next Tuesday.

The new uptown Northwestern passenger depot at West Point will be formally opened on Thursday of this week.

Will Ingram at Hastings was sentenced to thirty days in jail for stealing hides from the Blake slaughter house.

The Jasen Telephone Co. has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state at Lincoln. The company is capitalized at \$10,000.

David Awtry, a resident of Beatrice was badly injured by falling downstairs at his home and it will be some time before he will be able to be out on account of the accident.

Charles Swan, aged 24, son of the Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Swan of Plattsmouth, died at Roka on Sunday from typhoid fever. Burial will be made at Syracuse.

One hundred laboring men met at Marshall hall last Saturday night and organized a laboring men's club. The club will take an active part in the city politics next spring.

District court convened at Stanton, with Judge Guy T. Graves on the bench. There are three cases on the docket to be tried to a jury and the session promises to be an interesting one.

The Alliance Mining company has been organized at Alliance with \$1,000,000 capital. The company owns about thirty claims in South Dakota and active operations will begin at once.

Grading for the new Burlington depot has begun at Beatrice. Fifteen farmers in Gage county, in the vicinity of Pickerell, patrons of the Home Telephone company, have organized a farmer's exchange.

Harry Kemper, member of "The Two Orphans" company lost a \$200 diamond stud at the Paddock open house in Beatrice. On Sunday the jewel was found by a policeman and sent to the actor at Hanover Kas.

Stanton has a case of diphtheria. Mrs. Beard, wife of Dr. E. A. Beard, is the victim. The patient has been kept under strict quarantine and there is little fear of the spread of the disease.

While out delivering bread to his customers, Mr. Manning's horse was caught in an electric wire that extended into the street and jumped throwing Mr. Manning out bruising him up and injuring his back.

Miss Georgia Sanders was badly injured in a runaway accident at Beatrice by being thrown out of the buggy in which she was riding onto the hard road. No bones were broken but her escape from serious and probably fatal injury was miraculous. Two other occupants of the vehicle escaped unharmed.

A horse thief entered the house of James Schock, southwest of Beatrice and stole clothes and other articles to the amount of \$100. It is believed the thief is a fellow living near Wathena, Kas., who is also wanted at Harbine, Neb., for stealing a hog.

Den Dempsey who was released after having served a sentence of thirty days in the county jail, at Lincoln was again placed behind the bars for attempting to smuggle opium to other prisoners, who had given him money just before his release.

An enthusiastic and largely attended meeting of farmers was held at Pickrell to consider the proposition of organizing a farmers' elevator company and erecting a building. About \$1,500 were pledged at the meeting and it looks as though the organization would be a certainty. The intention is to raise \$5,000 for the erection of an elevator.

The first case to come up for trial before a jury at this term of district court was that of Mrs. Anna Senell against the city of Plattsmouth in which she sought to recover the sum of \$1,000 damages for injuries alleged to have been received by falling on a defective sidewalk. After listening to the evidence of the plaintiff Judge Paul Jensen instructed the jury to find for the defendant which was done without leaving the jury box. Judge A. N. Sullivan appeared for the plaintiff and City Attorney H. D. Travis for the defendant.