

HEAVY FIRING IS HEARD

Believed Long Expected Naval Battle Has Taken Place.

JAP FLEET SEEN OFF CHE FOO

Detachment of Russian Sharpshooters Cross Yalu and Surprise Japanese Patrol—Nearly All of Party of Fifty Killed.

Che Foo, April 13.—Noon.—The captain of the steamer Lockshan, which arrived today from New Chwang reports that he heard heavy firing between 5 and 7 o'clock this morning, in the direction of Port Arthur. The firing was continuous, but no ships were visible. From the direction of the sound he judged that there was fighting at the entrance to Port Arthur. The Lockshan was the last foreign merchant vessel to leave New Chwang, sailing at the same time as the British gunboat Espiegle.

A correspondent of the Associated Press at Teng Chow, forty miles northwest of here, telegraphs as follows: "Sounds of very heavy firing were heard at 6:30 o'clock this morning. The firing evidently was being done between here and Port Arthur. It is believed at Teng Chow that the long expected sea fight among the Miaotao islands has taken place. The Japanese battleship Asahi, flying an admiral's flag, was seen off Che Foo, going to the west, and there is no doubt that the remainder of the Japanese fleet was in the vicinity of Port Arthur. The Russian fleet also was seen outside Port Arthur yesterday."

Japanese Patrol Wiped Out.

St. Petersburg, April 13.—General Kourapatkin, in a dispatch to the emperor, says General Kravynsky, on the night of the 6th, ordered a detachment of sharpshooters to cross to the left bank of the Yalu, opposite Wiju. The sharpshooters landed on the island of Samalind and surprised a patrol of fifty Japanese scouts just as the latter were approaching the east side of the island in three boats. The Russians allowed the Japanese to land and then fired on them. Nearly all the Japanese were shot, bayoneted or drowned and their boats sunk. The Russians sustained no losses. The following day the Japanese lowered their flag at Wiju and their outposts, which lately have been seen to fall back. On the night of April 9 four Russians crossed the Yalu to Yongampho and made towards a Russian village, where they found a squadron of Japanese cavalry. They remained there twelve hours, when they were betrayed by Koreans and found themselves obliged to swim the river, their boat having struck on a sand bank. One soldier lost his life. The Japanese pursued the Russians in a boat, but were in turn attacked by a Russian boat which had come to the rescue of the swimmers. The Japanese were all killed and their boat sunk.

General Kourapatkin's report of the annihilation of the Japanese detachments on the Yalu river is a matter of general satisfaction in official circles. Again, in the view of the authorities, the Russian soldier has proved his superiority in strategy and in the manner of attack, which left no chance for a single enemy to escape. One feature of the message which is not pleasing to the authorities is the action of the Koreans in revealing to the Japanese the presence of the Russians at Yongampho, and the belief prevails that the Koreans are not so unfriendly to the Japanese as has been announced. Incidents such as that at Yongampho indicate that the view held of the Korean attitude is a mistaken one.

Now Fighting on the Yalu River.

Tokio, April 13.—It is believed here that fighting has commenced on the Yalu river. It is known that the Russians occupy the right bank of the river in force. No direct information from the Yalu district has been received here, but the position of the Russians is known, and while it is doubted that they will be able to prevent the Japanese from crossing the river, that they will offer some opposition is regarded as certain. It is not believed, however, that there will be any serious engagement during the Japanese operations to cross the Yalu.

Many Skirmishes in Korea.

Seoul, April 13.—The Japanese authorities here say there have been frequent skirmishes between Sakji and Wiju. The main body of the first Japanese army is in the neighborhood of Wiju. Japanese advices from northern Korea state that the Russians have strongly fortified Chou Tien Cheng, a walled town on the Manchurian side of the Yalu river, about ten miles north of Antung. It is estimated that there are 20,000 Russians of all arms at Antung, ready to oppose the Japanese crossing.

Panic at New Chwang.

London, April 13.—The Times' New Chwang correspondent says: "Last night a pilot's flare was mistaken for the lights of a Japanese fleet and the Russians fired and sank the junk, with thirty-five hands, besides killing three persons and wounding seven in another junk. The native population is panic-stricken and leaving the town."

Attorney Mallory Discharged.

Chicago, April 13.—Lucius W. Mallory, the lawyer who was arrested on the charge of snatching pocketbooks from women, was discharged when his case was called in court. Two women identified him as the man who had robbed them, but several members of a Masonic commandery of which Mallory is a member testified that he was in the commandery rooms at the time the robberies are said to have been committed.

Flour Mills to Close Down.

Minneapolis, April 13.—According to the Journal, the flour mills here will close down for an indefinite period the latter part of the week, as a protest against what they consider railroad discrimination, forcing their flour out of competitive markets.

Iowa Legislature Finishes Up.

Des Moines, April 13.—The legislative session closed nominally at noon, but in fact, late in the afternoon, with the clock stopped and much waiting done for conferences and for the completion of work by the enrolling committee.

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FIGHTING FOR CONTROL

Hill and Harriman Interests Represented in Court.

GREAT ARRAY OF LEGAL TALENT

Attorney General Knox Files an Objection to Intervention in Northern Securities Case—Government Stands on Decree as Affirmed.

St. Paul, April 13.—The motion of E. H. Harriman and Winslow S. Pierce for leave to file an intervening petition in the settlement of the Northern Securities affairs, recently ordered by the United States supreme court, the manner of such settlement being left to the order of the United States district court here, was heard before the full bench of the district court. Messrs. Harriman and Pierce in their petition which they ask leave to file object to the plan of the directors of the Northern Securities for a pro rata distribution of Great Northern and Northern Pacific stock among holders of Northern Securities stock. The first point raised will be the right of Harriman and Pierce to intervene and if that right is granted the suit will follow with its usual accompaniment of demurrers, answers, amended petitions, etc. If the motion is denied the settlement of the affairs of the company will be made according to the order of the court.

When court convened the Harriman interests were represented by W. D. Guthrie, John F. Dillon and Judge Baldwin. The Northern Securities company was represented by Elihu Root, former secretary of war; Francis Linde Stetson, attorney for J. P. Morgan & Co.; John G. Johnson, M. D. Grover, C. W. Bunn and George B. Young. Besides this array of talent the United States government was represented by District Attorney C. C. Hout, who presented an objection to the intervention under the direction of Attorney General Knox. This intervention was something of a surprise to the petitioners, who were not aware of it until after Mr. Everts had opened the case for the plaintiffs, when Judge Sanborn asked him if he was aware that the United States government objected to the intervening petition.

Rock Island Settles Suits.

New York, April 13.—Difficulties between the majority and minority stockholders of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad have been settled, according to the Herald. The settlement is to include the purchase of the stock held by C. H. Verner of Boston and the dismissal of his suits. Besides being rid of the suits, in one of which Judge Dunne, in Chicago, had issued an order compelling the books of the company to be submitted and disclosure of the terms of the reorganization, the defendants have practically removed opposition to the proposed bond issue of \$163,000,000.

Satelli to Visit United States.

Rome, April 13.—Cardinal Satelli, with the permission of the pope, is going to the United States privately and without a mission, arriving probably in June. As prefect of the congregation of studies the cardinal will visit the Catholic university at Washington and he will make a trip to the St. Louis exposition. Cardinal Satelli's visit to the United States is considered most important, there being no record in recent times of a cardinal immediately attached to the papal court going abroad without being accredited an ablegate.

St. Louis Editor Assaulted.

St. Louis, April 13.—John A. Sheridan, a former member of the house of delegates, whose appeal from the verdict in a lower court convicting him in connection with the hoodlum cases is now before the supreme court, and Thomas E. Kinney, a well known local character, were arrested in connection with a probably fatal assault upon Charles O'Brien, editor and publisher of the American Celtic. O'Brien was picked up in an unconscious condition. He had been assaulted and his skull was severely wounded.

Prairie Fire Sweeps Range.

Taylor, Neb., April 13.—A prairie fire started near Brewster, in Blaine county, and swept across the country eastward, extending across Loup county and into Garfield, burning all the range between the North Loup and the Calamus rivers, a distance of twenty miles in width. It will be a great hardship to ranchmen in the path of the burned district, many of whom had put their cattle on the range for the summer. The fire is under control.

Workmen Buried Under Snowslide.

Winnipeg, April 13.—A serious accident occurred in the Selkirks, near Glacier, as a result of a snow and rock slide. A work train on the Canadian Pacific railway while engaged in clearing the tracks was struck by a tremendous avalanche of snow and rocks and several cars were overturned. Trainmaster Bowlin and several workmen are reported to have been killed.

Jury in Neely Case Disagrees.

New York, April 13.—The jury disagreed in the action brought by the United States against C. F. W. Neely, former director of finance of the post-offices of Cuba, in which an attempt was made to officially fix the amount of Neely's alleged pecuniations between January and May, 1900.

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