

FLEET MOVEMENT

ONLY PORTION OF RUSSIAN NAVAL FORCES SEEN.

SOME OF THE SHIPS ARE ABSENT

Only Two Battleships and Lighter Cruisers Are With Squadron.—Whereabouts of the Others Are Not Known, at Least Not Divulged.

SINGAPORE—Fifty-one ships of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's second Pacific squadron passed here Sunday. The most important fighting vessels of the squadron, including the battleships *Kniaz Souvaroff*, *Alexander II*, *Borodino* and *Orel*, with their complement of cruisers and torpedo boat destroyers, did not arrive and their whereabouts is totally unknown. The vessels which passed Singapore were the following:

Battleships *Sissol*, *Veliky* and *Oleg*; Cruisers *Admiral Nakhimoff*, *Dmitri*, *Donskoi*, *Aurora*, *Izumrud*, *Jemchug*, *Almaz*, *Russ*, *Anadyr*, *Furst Bismarck*, *Kaiserin Maria Theresa*, *Kaiserin August Victoria*, *Kaiser Friedrich*, *Rion* and seven torpedo boat destroyers, all sailing under the naval flag. Under the commercial flag were the volunteer steamers *Voronez*, *Kief*, *Yaroslav*, *Tamboff*, *Vladimir* and *Orel*, the Russian Navigation company's steamers *Jupiter*, *Meteor* and *Mercury*, the fast Asiatic company's steamers *Korea* and *Kaitai*, the North Baltic company's steamer *Kninz Gorkshoff*, one hospital ship and sixteen colliers.

A French steamer arrived here Sunday with a sailor belonging to the *Admiral Nakhimoff*, who fell overboard and was picked up in the straits of Malacca, after having been twelve hours in the water.

TOKIO—The following report has been received from the Manchurian army headquarters:

On April 5 at 2 o'clock in the afternoon one battalion of the enemy's infantry and six companies of cavalry came and attacked *Tsulushu*, twenty miles north of *Changtu*. They were repulsed. On the following day twenty-four companies of the enemy's cavalry with several guns, renewed the attack. They were again repulsed. The main force of the assailants retreated toward *Pamlencheng*. A portion stopped near *Choroyo*, three miles north of *Tsulushu*. Our casualties were ten. No officers were included.

The enemy's loss, judging from the corpses left behind and from the number of carts carrying wounded and killed, were over sixty.

Steamship Lines to Mexico.

MEXICO CITY—Considerable progress has been made toward the inauguration of a steamship line between Mexican gulf ports and Canada, and it is probable that steamers of the new line will begin trips in May. The question has arisen as to whether steamers shall call at Cuban ports as first intended and afterwards changed. The government objects to making stops at Cuban ports, but it is hoped to secure its consent to this. The regular service of the Mexico-Texas City Steamship begins May 1.

Case of Lieutenant Osborn.

WASHINGTON—The war department has received the court-martial proceedings and findings in the case of First Lieutenant Albert C. Osborn, Twenty-sixth infantry, who was charged with duplication of pay accounts, absence without leave and embezzlement. The case was tried in the Department of Texas and Osborn was sentenced to dismissal. He was a resident of New York and served as an enlisted man in the regular army from 1894 to 1899, when he was commissioned as second lieutenant.

WANT LAND ALLOTTED.

What is Demanded by the Standing Rock Indians.

FORT YATES, N. D.—In a great council called by Major McLaughlin, the Indians of the Standing Rock agency decided almost unanimously that they were ready to have their lands allotted. Each head of a family will have 640 acres and all over 18 years 320 acres. In addition they will get a span of good American mares, two cows, a wagon and harness, a plow, harrow, some other tools and \$50 in cash. All under 18 will get 160 acres.

After the allotments have been made there will be a big surplus of land. The Indians are bitterly opposed to selling this and it is doubtful if it will ever be sold with their consent.

Each head of a family will be worth \$1,000 in addition to his 640 acres when Uncle Sam relinquishes his guardianship and turns these Indians over to the states of North and South Dakota as full-fledged citizens.

Between 1,000 and 1,200 voters will be equally divided between the two states.

The question of leasing their lands was also placed before the Indians by Major McLaughlin, but they decided against it.

LUMBER KINGS UNDER FIRE

Federal Grand Jury Orders Secretary to Produce Books.

PORTLAND, Ore.—Charles W. Eberlin, land agent of the Southern Pacific company, was the principal witness Thursday before the federal grand jury which is investigating land frauds in this state. It is reported that Eberlin's testimony may prove an important factor in establishing a conspiracy to secure large areas of timber lands in the southern part of Oregon. This testimony, it is learned on good authority, corroborated by the records of the Southern Pacific company, establishes the fact that simultaneously with the securing of a large amount of railroad land which comprised the odd numbered sections, large tracts of government land, which comprised the even numbered sections of the same district, were located upon.

The government, it is learned, will attempt to prove that this simultaneous acquiring of the even and odd sections was more than a coincidence.

RIGOROUS ANTI-TRUST LAW

Measure Providing Fines and Penalties Passes Illinois House.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—The McKinley anti-trust bill passed the Illinois house of representatives by a vote of 112 yeas to 9 nays, and now goes to the senate. The bill, which was carefully drawn under direction of Attorney General Stead, makes very explicit definition of what constitutes a trust, includes insurance companies in the organizations subject to the trust definition and provides heavy fines and imprisonment for violation.

For the corporations the fines range from \$500 to \$1,000 for the first offense to \$15,000 for the fourth offense. For the individual members, presidents, managers, etc., of companies in trust a fine of from \$500 to \$1,000 and a jail sentence not to exceed a year is provided.

The Banker Not Guilty.

Denver, Colo.—By order of District Judge Frank T. Johnson, the jury in the case of E. M. Johnson, former president of the defunct Fidelity Savings association, charged with embezzlement, returned a verdict of not guilty. While lamenting the fact that thousands of poor persons had been made penniless by the failure of the Fidelity, Judge Johnson said that the worst that had been proven was mismanagement, which was not on trial and could not therefore be considered.

JAPS WILL WANT

INDEMNITY MUST COME OR WAR KILL NOT STOP.

WHAT BARON SUGEMATSU SAYS

Japanese Government Has Formulated No Terms Because Might Be Accused of Skinning Bear Before It Was Shot.

LONDON—Baron Suyematsu, formerly Japanese minister of the interior, has written an interesting and significant article for the Outlook, under the heading "War and Indemnity—the Japanese Claim." The whole trend of the article is intended to show that Japan will carry on the war until Russia consents to pay indemnity. The baron says:

"A canon of the Japanese bushido is, 'one should not unsheath the sword unless one is to totally overcome or has secured equitable satisfaction for one's cause.' This is our ideal in international intercourse. The sword of Japan is drawn, and the aim for which it was unsheathed has scarcely been attained. We want a peace which will secure tranquility in the far east for at least a generation or two.

"The world should know that in the present war Japan staked her very existence, whereas with the enemy it was a mere war of caprice. Why, then, in case of defeat, should not Russia be made responsible in equitable accordance with the nature of the affair? I believe therefore, that in case of the adversary asking for peace the satisfaction which she will have to make to Japan should include making good the material loss of Japan; in other words, indemnity."

Baron Suyematsu says further: "Japan has not formulated definite terms of peace, because she might be accused of skinning the bear before it is shot. We have, however, outlined our idea."

The article argues out the righteousness of Japan's position in demanding indemnity as a basic condition, and controverts the idea which, he says, he finds prevalent outside of Japan, that Japan is willing to make peace at any price.

"Some say," the baron continues, "that for humanity's sake an armistice should be concluded with a view to negotiating peace. It is all very well to talk of humanity, but no injustice must be perpetrated in the name of humanity. If a proposition arising out of the question of humanity gives more advantage to one than another of the contending parties it cannot be justice."

Baron Suyematsu treats sarcastically the special plea that Russia should be allowed to "save her face," and compares Japan to a dwarf fighting a giant, and says:

"The public at large seems to have gauged the relative value of Russia and Japan. They are glad that the large bubble which had been causing a nightmare to so many people for so long a time has been pricked. They have seen that it was no use to suppress Japan's aspiration by the combined force of western powers. Yet there seems floating in the air some sort of compassion for our adversary. This I deem an inconsistency, arising out of some psychological instability."

Purpose of Watering Erie Stock.

NEW YORK—It was ascertained that the increase in the common stock of the Erie railroad company from \$113,000,000 to \$133,000,000 recently announced was made to prepare for a conversion of its outstanding \$10,000,000 of convertible bonds, which have been convertible since April 1. This amount is necessary to care for the bonds, since they are convertible into stock at \$50 a share. This calls for twenty shares of stock for each \$1,000 bond, and the stock is now selling at 46½.

A TALK WITH SAKAROFF

He Says There Was no Conspiracy Against Kouropatkin.

ST. PETERSBURG—War Minister Sakaroff, in an interview, declares that the reports of Russia countermanding orders for war material abroad are baseless and grow out of the declination of the foreign offers with which the war office and the admiralty have been swamped. He insists that there has been no relaxation in the preparations to continue the war, but says there will be no new mobilization at present, explaining, as stated in these dispatches, that 140,000 troops of the last mobilization have already started for the front and that instead of mobilizing new troops these will be followed by a portion of this year's conscripts.

General Sakaroff denied emphatically that he ever intrigued against General Kouropatkin, affirming that he gave the latter the most loyal support. At the same time, in discussing the battle of Mukden, Sakaroff declared that the men and material of the Russian army were equal to those of the Japanese, forcing the reluctant conclusion that the Japanese generalship was superior to the Russians.

In denying the popular impression that a large proportion of army reserve men were sent to the front, Sakaroff made the important admission that reserve men were only sent in the early stages of the war, "before we had assurances from Europe," which is interpreted as a confession that an arrangement was made with Germany for covering the frontier of Poland.

The announcement that President Roosevelt has left Washington on a vacation trip is accepted here as evidence that the efforts to draw Russia and Japan into peace negotiations have come to grief for the moment. No definite explanation of exactly what happened is forthcoming, but the general impression is that Japan either declined to treat upon the Russian basis or demanded a direct avowal that there was a pacific disposition. At any rate the advocates of a continuation of the war seem secure of their position and everything indicates that the hope of an immediate change of fortune is staked on Vice Admiral Rojestvensky, whose squadron, according to the best information, is now actually on its way to meet the Japanese. The admiralty is greatly encouraged by the prospects that Rojestvensky will be able to defeat Admiral Toga owing to the splendid reports which have just arrived here from Rojestvensky, dated from the island of Madagascar, recounting in detail the condition of the ships and personnel and results of the target practice of the squadron and of the maneuvers in which the warships have been drilling for three months.

Sues Standard Oil Company.

CHICAGO—The city of Chicago filed suit for \$40,000 against the Standard Oil company. The bill is based upon the alleged non-payment of inspection fees by the Standard Oil company. It is claimed that the company has for years refused to pay for inspections made by the city under an ordinance regulating commerce in naphtha and gasoline. Representatives of the Standard held that gasoline and naphtha are not products of petroleum and that the ordinance does not apply.

Will Not Affect Supply of Sugar.

WASHINGTON—The secretary of the treasury has proclaimed the net amount of bounty granted by the Argentine Republic on the exportation of sugar to be 11½ centavos per kilo. This is equivalent to nearly 5 cents a pound. The secretary has issued a calendar carrying out the provisions of section 5 of the tariff act and directing United States customs officers to assess a countervailing duty of 4.09 cents per pound on all sugar imported into the United States from Argentina.