

BIG FIGHT BEGINS

Russian Forces North of Hai Cheng Attacked and Losses Are Reported Heavy. KUROKI IS ALSO THREATENING. Both Sides Have Large Armies Placed in Disturbed Territory. ALEXIEFF AND KOUROPATKIN IN THE FRONT.

JAPS FORTIFYING WOLF HILL

Refugees from Fort Arthur Tell of Preparation Being Made for Battle. CHE FOO, Aug. 8.—During the last twenty-four hours 200 Chinese and fifty Russian refugees have arrived here from Fort Arthur. They almost all left there on August 4. It has been impossible to obtain confirmation of the reports of the sinking of Fort Arthur of a Japanese cruiser, but that that occurred is not denied, as the vessel is said to have sunk in a place where mines have recently been laid.

POSITION OF UNITED STATES

Circular from State Department States This Government's Attitude. COAL AND COTTON NOT CONTRABAND. Russian Declaration Is Disputed as Tending to Shut Off All Trade, and American Ambassadors Are Notified.

SEEKS TO ENJOIN UNCLE SAM

Psychic Science Man Has Trouble Getting His Mail Past Lincoln Postmaster. The motion of Ray E. Dutton, an occult science man at Lincoln, to restrain Postmaster E. R. Sizer of that city to cease interfering with his mail, was argued before Judge Munger. The case has been taken under advisement by Judge Munger. The United States part of the case was looked after by Assistant District Attorney Rusk and that of Prof. Dutton by E. Z. Green of Lincoln. Postoffice Inspector Sincich of Omaha and Postmaster Sizer of Lincoln were the only witnesses examined.

PRESENCE OF FLEET IS FELT

Sublime Porte Decides to Answer the United States' Question. EARLY AND FAVORABLE ACTION PROMISED. States of American Hospitals and Schools in Turkey the Only Issue Involved in the Present Demonstration.

NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST

Showers Tuesday and Wednesday. Temperature at Omaha Yesterday: Hour. Deg. Hour. Deg. 5 a. m. . . . . 58 1 p. m. . . . . 73 6 a. m. . . . . 54 2 p. m. . . . . 74 7 a. m. . . . . 58 3 p. m. . . . . 76 8 a. m. . . . . 62 4 p. m. . . . . 78 9 a. m. . . . . 62 5 p. m. . . . . 79 10 a. m. . . . . 67 6 p. m. . . . . 78 11 a. m. . . . . 70 7 p. m. . . . . 74 12 m. . . . . 72 8 p. m. . . . . 72

MANY DIE IN WRECK

Fast Passenger Train on Rio Grande Crosses Through Bridge in Colorado. ABOUT 100 LIVES ARE SNUFFED OUT. Coaches with Human Freight Whirl Down Stream in Boiling Current. PASSENGERS DROWNED LIKE RATS IN TRAP. Occupants of Three Cars Have Not Even Chance to Bream. THRILLING ESCAPES OF PASSENGERS. Brave Pullman Porter Tightens the Brake of Coach and Saves Sleepers on Brink of Chasm.

BERLIN, Aug. 8.—The Tageblatt this morning prints the following dispatch:

LLAO YANG, Aug. 7.—The western Russian forces north of Hai Cheng suffered a heavy attack today. Many wounded Russians are here. There is a rumor current that General Kuroki is threatening Mukden from the westward. Viceroy Alexieff and General Kouropatkin were yesterday in Liao Yang.

GENERAL CONFERENCE AT ST. PETERSBURG

General Goltz, One of Kouropatkin's Aide-de-Camp, Reaches Russian Capital with Important Dispatches. ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 8.—An important conference in the military situation was held at the Peterhof palace today. The ministers of war and marine, Grand Duke Alexis, the high general, General Goltz, and General Kouropatkin, his aide-de-camp, who had just arrived from the front with personal dispatches for the emperor and others, were present.

WARSHIPS HAVE LATELY BRUSH

Russians at Port Arthur Report Sinking of Japanese Ship. ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 8.—Emperor Nicholas has received the following dispatch from Viceroy Alexieff, dated at Mukden, August 7: Telegrams received today from Port Arthur and from the commander of the squadron (Rear Admiral Witthoft) state that the Japanese fleet of battleships, including the cruisers Bayan, Askold, Pallada and Novik and some gunboats steamed out to sea on August 2. They were engaged in the bay on August 2. The protected cruisers Chiyoda, Itatsushima and Matsushima and two secondary cruisers were with the torpedo boats.

BOY DROPS OUT OF SIGHT

Suddenly Disappears After Tragical Death of Brother and Mother Is Prostrated. Chief of Police Donahue is in receipt of a letter from Chief Hennehan of Keokuk, Ia., requesting that an effort be made to locate O. D. Newberry, who disappeared from Oak Park, Ill., July 29 of this year under what is thought to be mysterious circumstances. The young man is described as being 17 years of age, five feet seven inches in height, dark hair and brown eyes, scar on left cheek and weight about 130 pounds. He is a telegraph operator and left his home at Keokuk, Ia., and went to Oak Park, Ill., where he is a resident of Keokuk and is said by Chief Hennehan to be strict-tempered over the matter. A few months ago her other son was found dead on a road with a bullet hole in his head and the disappearance of her other boy at this time is particularly distressing to the mother.

WILL TAKE NELIGH UP

Commercial Club Determined to Meet Proprietors of Town for Fall Exchanges. Omaha jobbers are very much encouraged over the anticipated results of the recent trade excursion. Commissioner McNann of the Commercial club expressed the opinion that "it was the most successful trip yet taken."

WESTERN MATTERS AT CAPITAL

Deadwood Man Gets Good Position in the Treasury Department. (From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—(Special Telegram.)—Fremont P. Ward of Deadwood, S. D., has been appointed superintendent of construction in the Treasury department at a salary of \$2,000 per annum. Mr. Ward has not yet been assigned to any specific duty.

GERMAN GOVERNMENT KEEPS COOL

Will Not Wait on Russian Report in the Thea Case. ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 8.—(Special Telegram.)—In spite of the excitement shown by a section of the German press, the German government is acting as calmly in the matter of the sinking of the steamer Thea as it did in the case of the steamer Roon. The Russian report that the ship was sunk by a Japanese mine is not yet able to reply.

INVITES KNIGHTS TO RACES

Mayor of Beatrice Comes to Quivers to Summon King's Subjects to His City. Mayor M. E. Shultz of Beatrice is an Omaha visitor and incidentally dropped in on the Ak-Bar-Ben session last night for the ostensible purpose of impressing upon the Knights of Quivers the necessity of their attending the races at Beatrice on August 21 and 22.

PRESIDENT APPROVES REPRIMAND

Postmaster McMicheal Charged with Political Discrimination. WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—The president today approved a report of the Civil Service commission recommending that Postmaster McMicheal of Philadelphia be reprimanded as the result of the investigation of the charges filed by Robert B. Jenks, secretary of the Civil Service Reform association of Philadelphia, alleging political discrimination in Postmaster McMicheal's selection of employes.

PASSENGER TRAIN WRECKED

Five Cars in Illinois Jump Track and Are Burned with a Flour Mill. PLAINFIELD, Ind., Aug. 8.—Eastbound Yanda passenger train No. 11 struck a broken rail this afternoon in the city limits. Five cars left the track and were burned. Several passengers were injured, but none killed. The fire from the cars and explosion of the tanks set fire to the Plainfield flour mill near the track, which is burning and will be a total loss. The plant of the Plainfield Cement company is almost totally destroyed and the fire is not under control.

OTIS DISSOLVES INJUNCTION

Decision at Springfield Permits Operation of Anti-Convoit Labor Law in Illinois. SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Aug. 8.—Judge J. Otis Humphrey in the federal court today dissolved the injunction granted on June 20 restraining the operation of the anti-convoit law in Illinois. He said the new law is constitutional and that the records of the general assembly show the insertion of the word "willful" and he cannot go behind the records. He filed no written opinion. The prison boards are now at liberty to go ahead and put into operation the anti-convoit law law passed in 1891 and made effective July 1 of this year.

FOUR CAUGHT IN A WRECK

Building Falls at Kansas City and a Quartette of Laborers Is Crushed. KANSAS CITY, Aug. 8.—As the result of the collapse of a one-story brick building early today four men were injured, one seriously. The injured: William Kagle, laborer, head badly smashed, will probably die. J. W. Smith, laborer, leg bruised. George Martin, head bruised and leg badly sprained. Joseph B. Eldridge, cut by flying bricks. The building was in course of reconstruction.

DEATH RECORD.

Funeral of Captain Ough. GENEVA, Aug. 8.—(Special.)—The funeral services of the late Captain Claude Ough were held this afternoon in the Methodist Episcopal church and were largely attended. A number of his comrades and railroad men from Chadron attended. The Grand Army of the Republic, Woman's Relief corps, Company G, Nebraska National Guards, and Knights of Pythias were all in attendance.

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EXPECT KOUROPATKIN WILL FIGHT

Importance in Russia Increasing for Decisive War News. ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 9, 2:15 a. m.—There is increasing importance among all classes for decisive news from Liao Yang. Lieutenant General Sakharoff reports that there has been no change in the Manchurian army's sphere of operations merely adds to the tension, which possibly will continue for some time. There is no telling how much time the notoriously slow and methodical preparation of the Japanese military preparations they feel ready to advance on General Kouropatkin's strong positions.

THREE JAP WARSHIPS DAMAGED

Viceroy Alexieff Reports Result of Recent Naval Engagement. ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 8.—Viceroy Alexieff reports that in the engagement which took place July 26 off Port Arthur between the Japanese and Russian squadrons three Japanese ships, including a gunboat, were damaged.

CHAFFEE TO COME FRIDAY

Lieutenant General and Staff Arrive in Omaha Last Week from West. Brigadier General T. J. Wint, commanding the Department of the Missouri, received word yesterday that Lieutenant General Adna H. Chaffee and party will arrive in the city Friday evening at 8 o'clock over the Northwestern from Fort Niobrara. General Chaffee will inspect Fort Crook Saturday and will depart Omaha Sunday morning, leaving Sunday afternoon for Fort Des Moines.

STEAMER AT VIADIVOSTOK

VIADIVOSTOK, Aug. 8.—The British steamer Callicha, from Tacoma for Japan ports, which was arrested by the Viadivostok squadron, thirty miles north of Yokohama during the recent cruise off the Pacific coast of Japan, arrived here today in charge of a prize crew. It was a week overdue, having been detained by storms. The Callicha is the last vessel captured by Admiral Jessen's cruisers. The papers of the Callicha showed it was carrying 27 tons of flour, nine tons of cotton, 25 cogs and 12 parts of machinery, all consigned to Yokohama. The remaining 1,800 tons of the Callicha's cargo were consigned to Hong Kong.

COAL MINERS ACCEPT REDUCTION

South of California, L. T. Aug. 8.—By a practically unanimous vote, the coal miners of the South California district have voted to accept the reduction in wages proposed by the mine operators, which means that the mines now idle will resume operations.

VEST ALIVE, BUT SINKING

Has Been Unconscious for Hours and His Pulse Is Very Weak and Rapid. SWEET SPRING, Aug. 8.—The Senator Vest is barely alive. His pulse is very weak and rapid. He is now unconscious, having been so since 1 o'clock this morning. It is impossible to arouse him. At 10 o'clock tonight the attending physician stated that Senator Vest was dying and could live but a few hours.

MISSING.

Injured and Missing. Those known to have been on the train and now missing are: Hugh McCracken, Aurora, Ill.; Clyde Price, Aurora, Ill.; Mrs. James Kinship, East Fourth street, Pueblo; Mrs. George West, home unknown; little daughter of Mrs. Thompson, P. O. Hochstadt, Mrs. Howard, Pueblo; Frank Bowman, Northampton, Mass.; George G. Gurnee; Mary McDonald, Pueblo; Fred Maloney, Pueblo; Thomas Sullivan, Pueblo; J. H. Dunham, 120 Bradford street, Pueblo; Knight, Denver; E. B. Reese, express messenger, Pueblo; Mrs. E. L. Lamb, Denver; Mrs. W. K. Jones, 337 E. 1st street, Pueblo; Mrs. H. Meninger, bank cashier, Central city, Colo.