

SITUATION AT FORTRESS CRITICAL

American Consul at Chefoo Says Japs Hold the Outer Forts.

FIGHTING OCCURS NIGHTLY

Washington, Nov. 18.—Consul General Fowler cabled the state department from Chefoo that the situation at Fort Arthur is extremely critical, the outer forts having fallen into the possession of the Japanese. He also states that three Japanese torpedo boat destroyers are lying outside of Chefoo harbor, and that the Russian crew of the torpedo boat destroyer Rastoropy destroyed Wednesday are transferring their arms and supplies to a Chinese cruiser which is posted in front of the Russian consulate.

Fighting Every Night.

Chefoo, Nov. 18.—Fighting at Port Arthur has taken place nightly since the Japanese began their general assault on October 26, according to Captain Ronberg, a pilot, who was a passenger on the Russian torpedo boat destroyer Rastoropy.

The Japanese trenches, the captain says, are closest to the forts on Rihlung and Keekwan mountains and to other forts on the northeastern group.

The sharpshooters of both sides occupying the pits converse with each other and frequently make individual truces in order to borrow cigarettes or to relieve their cramped limbs.

The Japanese are displaying great energy in the construction of trenches and the mounting of guns. All the railroad steamers belonging to the Russians, except the steel screw transport Amur, have been sunk by Japanese shells.

The hospital ship Angara, formerly a transport, has been sunk in shallow water. The patients are still on board the ship and are comfortable.

The Japanese shells directed against the harbor are fired with remarkable accuracy.

CAN HOLD OUT SEVERAL MONTHS

Stoessel Certain He Can Defend Port Arthur Until Fleet Arrives.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 19.—General Stoessel has telegraphed to Emperor Nicholas that Port Arthur can hold out several months.

Needs Munitions and Stores.

London, Nov. 19.—The Daily Mail's St. Petersburg correspondent says that Lieutenant General Stoessel's report expresses a firm conviction that he will be able to hold out at Port Arthur until the Baltic squadron arrives in March, on the condition that he is supplied with munitions and stores. The government, the correspondent adds, has instructed its agents abroad to supply Lieutenant General Stoessel's requirements at any cost.

Another Great Battle Imminent.

Tokio, Nov. 21.—Increasing activity along the Shakhe river seems to indicate the imminence of another great battle.

The Russian feints, evidently intended to draw a Japanese attack, are uniformly repulsed.

Army headquarters yesterday received the following report from Field Marshal Oyama, dated November 18:

"At dawn today a detachment of the enemy made an attack near Hsinglungtun. They were repulsed by us.

"Since this morning the enemy in the vicinity of Shakhe village have indirectly bombarded our positions with mortars and field pieces. They have effected no damage.

"The enemy have burnt Huanglashtzu and villages to the southeast on the right bank of the river Hun."

NEW NAVY FOR RUSSIA

Determined to Maintain Position as First Class Power.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 19.—America is likely to profit, both directly and indirectly, from the execution of the large naval program which Russia is now elaborating.

The vital importance of the sea power has been Russia's bitterest lesson of the war; and the government is fully determined that the maintenance of the empire's position in future as a first class power will be impossible without an adequate navy.

If the losses the Pacific fleet has already sustained should be followed by disaster to Vice Admiral Rojstvensky's squadron, it will be necessary not only to rebuild the whole navy, but to increase its strength. The immensity of the task seems to be fully appreciated.

While some of the contracts will be placed abroad, owing to the limited facilities of Russian yards (and it is expected that at least one big ship will be constructed in America), the admiralty's plans will be directed towards the ultimate divorce from dependence upon foreign shipbuilders by the organization at home of vast shipbuilding, armor plate, ordnance and kindred industries. For this purpose it is realized, however, that foreign builders and specialists must be attracted; and some alluring prospects are likely to present themselves.

Vickers Sons and Maxim & Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Limited, of England, have already made advances, but owing to the anti-English sentiment, British firms are not meeting with a very cordial reception. The disposition is to turn towards France, Germany and the United States; and a great plant at Libau or on the banks of the Neva, directed by American brains, and possibly in association with French and German enterprise is one of the possibilities of the near future.

PLACE FOR COCKRELL

President Offers Missouri Senator Isthmian Canal Commissionerhip. Washington, Nov. 21.—The president has offered Senator Francis M. Cockrell, of Missouri, the Isthmian canal



SENATOR FRANCIS M. COCKRELL OF MISSOURI.

commissionerhip made vacant by the resignation of Col. Frank J. Hecker, of Michigan, and has also told him that if he feels that his health will not permit him to take this place the president desires to offer him a position on the inter-state commerce commission.

TWO MEN FATALLY BURNED

Gasoline Explosion Caused Fire That Threatened to Destroy Town.

Lancaster, Pa., Nov. 19.—Two men are perhaps fatally injured and the Walker & Eby business block totally destroyed as the result of a fire which threatened destruction to the town of Gap, on the Pennsylvania Railroad, 17 miles from this city. The flames broke out in the hardware store of George T. Sellers, supposedly from the explosion of a gasoline tank. Joshua Hershey and Benjamin Sellers, clerks in the hardware establishment, were near the tank, and the burning fluid was thrown upon them, inflicting terrible burns. They have been taken to the Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia.

The Walker & Eby property is a large three-story brick structure, occupied by a half dozen tenants. The flames were spread rapidly by a high wind. A message for assistance was sent to this city, and a fire company was hurried to the scene of the conflagration on a special train. Four hours later the flames were under control. The loss will exceed \$50,000. The principal losers, besides Mr. Sellers, are the Gap National Bank, the Gap Academy and the Gap Social Club.

RUMORS OF MARINE DISASTER

Red Star Line Steamer Kroonland Said to Have Foundered at Sea.

London, Nov. 21.—A news agency report from Brussels states that rumors are afloat at Antwerp that the Red Star Line steamer Kroonland foundered in mid ocean. Officials of the company here deny all knowledge of the alleged disaster and discredit the rumors.

Officials Brand Rumors as False.

New York, Nov. 21.—The officials of the Red Star Line brand as malicious the rumor of the Kroonland foundering. They discredit the report and declare that the Kroonland is not due here until tonight and as vessels arriving report heavy weather she may not get here until tomorrow.

Minister Goes to Jail For Thirty Days

Worcester, Mass., Nov. 19.—Rev. W. P. Squires, pastor of the First Baptist church, East Brookfield, was sent to jail for 30 days for contempt of court by Judge Forbes, of the probate court.

The clergyman wrote a letter to the judge in connection with a suit now pending, in which the First Baptist church is interested, accusing witnesses of perjury. The judge promptly decided that the writer had used "undue and improper influence" with the court, and sentenced him to pay a fine of \$50 or go to jail. The clergyman said that he could not pay the fine and took the alternative.

Minister Drops Dead On Street.

Greensburg, Pa., Nov. 19.—Rev. Dr. H. C. Beacon, one of the prominent ministers of the Methodist church, dropped dead on the street at New Florence. He was 76 years old and had been to the postoffice for his mail and was on his way home, when he fell to the pavement and expired in a few minutes. He was the father of Hon. James F. Beacon, former state treasurer, of this city. He had been preaching since 1860, and was widely known. He is survived by his wife, three sons and two daughters.

Boy Mangled in Shafting.

Bridgeton, N. J., Nov. 18.—A horrible accident occurred here. Samuel Horner, a lad 14 years old, employed at Ayar's cannery house, was assisting in placing a belt on a shaft, when his apron caught in the shafting. His scalp was torn off, his left arm broken in four places, shoulder dislocated and the clothing torn from his bruised body. There is little hope of the boy's recovery.

Professor Shearer Burned to Death.

Carlisle, Pa., Nov. 21.—Professor Samuel B. Shearer, former superintendent of the Cumberland county schools, was found dead in a thicket a mile south of here. The body was badly burned. Suffering from influenza, he wandered from his home. It is believed that he fell into the thicket and that matches in his pocket set fire to his clothing and that he was burned to death.

TWELVE DEAD IN TENEMENT FIRE

Smothered Before They Could Reach Fire Escape on Building.

TWO FAMILIES WIPED OUT

New York, Nov. 21.—Smothered before they could reach the rear fire escape in a burning tenement building at 185 Troutman street, in the Williamsburg district of Brooklyn, 12 persons met death. Two entire families, those of Maranio Triolo and Charles Polognio, are wiped out, the last living member of each being now in a hospital, with no hope of their recovery. They are Charles Polognio, 33 years old, and Tony Triolo, 13 years old, both of whom are terribly burned. Although, in the opinion of the coroner, all the dead were suffocated, the bodies were badly burned before they could be taken from the ruins by the firemen.

The fire is supposed to have started in the cellar of the grocery store of Antonio Giambalvos, on the ground floor. The cellar was stored with inflammable material, and the flames spread with lightning-like rapidity. All the occupants were asleep at the time, and there was considerable delay in sending in the first alarm. The Giambalvos family lived in the rear of the store and succeeded in getting out of the building, but before the occupants on the two other floors were roused their escape had been cut off.

Before the firemen arrived the fire had communicated to the adjoining tenement, but here the occupants had sufficient warning and all of them escaped.

All the bodies were found in the rear room of the third floor, and it was evident that all had been suffocated in their effort to reach the fire escape at the back of the building. The two who were rescued were found in the lower hallway soon after the firemen reached the scene. Working their way through the building, the rescuers discovered the heap of dead on the third floor.

In his intervals of consciousness Polognio cries for his wife and children, but the physicians fear the knowledge of their death will kill him and have not told him of their fate.

In their investigation as to the origin of the fire the police have been unable to obtain a statement of any kind from neighboring tenants. It was with great difficulty that even the names of the victims could be secured.

The dead are: The mother and two small children of the Polognio family, Maranio Triolo, his wife and three children, Marie Ambrosio and her 18-year-old daughter, Mary Galigoni, 15 years old, and Lonaria Grosseppi, 30 years old.

SAVED FROM BURNING STEAMER

21 Persons Rescued From Blazing Mohawk With Much Difficulty.

New York, Nov. 19.—Twenty-one persons were rescued from the big freight steamer Mohawk, of the Central Vermont Railway's fleet, which burned to the water's edge off Horton's Point in Long Island Sound. The watchman, a Swede named Larsen, is believed to have been burned to death. All the others on board, among whom were two women, were taken off the burning vessel by the freight boat Boston, of the Fall River line, and almost immediately afterward there was a heavy explosion on the abandoned freighter, which apparently completed the destruction made by the flames. The vessel and cargo are a total loss.

The Mohawk was loaded with general merchandise, which included nearly a thousand barrels of sugar and considerable oil. The value of the cargo has not yet been ascertained.

The fire was discovered as the vessel was passing Horton's Point on one of her regular trips from this city to New London, Conn., and a few minutes later her entire framework was aflame. The Boston came up in a short time and went at once to her assistance. The rescues were made with much difficulty, owing to the intense heat.

Yacht Captain a Suicide.

Oyster Bay, L. I., Nov. 21.—Captain Edwin Ross, a well-known yacht captain, committed suicide here by shooting. The cause of his act is not known. He had commanded yachts for the late Colonel Van Rensselaer Kruger and other men of prominence and was wealthy. He was a friend of President Roosevelt and a member of the same Masonic lodge.

Rat Turned On Deadly Gas.

Williamsport, Pa., Nov. 21.—A big rat, trying to reach a piece of bread that lay on the gas range in Otho H. Miller's home stepped on and opened two of the stops of the range, thus permitting a strong flow of gas to escape. Mr. and Mrs. Miller and their young son were almost asphyxiated.

Calls For 25 Per Cent. of Deposits.

Washington, Nov. 19.—Secretary Shaw has announced a call upon national banks holding government deposits to the amount of 25 per cent. of their holdings, 10 per cent. to be paid on or before January 15 next. This, the secretary estimates, will bring into the treasury about \$25,000,000.

Colonel Breckinridge Is Dead.

Lexington, Ky., Nov. 21.—Colonel W. C. P. Breckinridge died from a stroke of paralysis he sustained last Wednesday. The end came peacefully. He had been gradually sinking for 24 hours, and for that length of time the case had been known to be hopeless. The funeral took place today.

A Real Christmas Story.

The December McClure's opens with one of the most charming Christmas stories of the year. It is called "A Jumble in Divinities," and is the work of James Hopper. Any one who read Mr. Hopper's story in the November McClure's, a startlingly real interpretation of the physical and mental stress of football, will find it difficult to associate his name with this exquisitely tender and sympathetic sketch of the heart-life of a little French lad. In such a remarkable contrast Mr. Hopper shows his true art. His Christmas story is a literary gem, excelling in both quality and workmanship. It has caught and reflected the Christmas spirit in all of its beauty and sentiment. It is sure to bring tears of appreciation into many an eye before this children's-tide is past.

Only Makes a Bad Matter Worse.

Perhaps you have never thought of it but the fact must be apparent to every one that constipation is caused by a lack of water in the system, and the use of drastic cathartics like the old-fashioned pills only makes a bad matter worse. Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets are much more mild and gentle in their effect, and when the proper dose is taken their action is so natural that one can hardly realize it is the effect of a medicine. Try a 25 cent bottle of them. For sale by A. H. Boyett, Smithfield; Selma Drug Co., J. W. Benson.

The naval reserves of Wilmington are going to have a carnival in that city, beginning November 28th.

The Best Liniment.

"Chamberlain's Pain Balm is considered the best liniment on the market," write Post & Bliss, of Georgia, Vt. No other liniment will heal a cut or bruise so promptly. No other affords such quick relief from rheumatic pains. No other is so valuable for deep seated pains like lame back and pains in the chest. Give this liniment a trial and you will never wish to be without it. Sold by A. H. Boyett, Smithfield; Selma Drug Co., J. W. Benson.

The board of county commissioners of Mecklenburg have decided to build a reformatory for youthful criminals, with or without State aid.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction has completed his report on the school receipts and disbursements. There was expended for rural schools this year \$1,514,596 and for city schools \$356,184. The number of children attending was 489,735; average length of the term, white school, seventeen weeks; colored, sixteen weeks.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

Grand Secretary John C. Drewry of the Grand Lodge of Masons says the Masonic Temple fund now reaches \$100,000, and that \$20,000 more is needed. It is decided, he stated, that work on the building will begin in the early spring. It may be that a canvasser will then be put at work in the state. Last year Francis D. Winston made a very successful canvass.

THE GREAT FAMILY MEDICINE

Theodore's Black-Draught comes nearer regulating the entire system and keeping the body in health than any other medicine made. It is always ready in any emergency to treat ailments that are frequent in any family, such as indigestion, biliousness, colds, diarrhoea, and stomach aches.

Theodore's Black-Draught is the standard, never-failing remedy for stomach, bowel, liver and kidney troubles. It is a cure for the domestic ills which so frequently summon the doctor. It is as good for children as it is for grown persons. A dose of this medicine every day will soon cure the most obstinate case of dyspepsia or constipation, and when taken as directed brings quick relief.

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Ask your dealer for a package of Theodore's Black-Draught and if he does not keep it send 25c. to The Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., and a package will be mailed to you.

THEODORE'S BLACK DRAUGHT

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What is CASTORIA

Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Purgative, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation and Flatulency. It assimilates the Food, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

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