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POLITICAL REFORM AND THE GENERAL UPBUILDING OF MADISON COUNTY.

MARSHALL, N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1905.

NO. 12.

RUSSIAN CAUSE DESPERATE

Only Their Well Directed Flight Has Saved Entire Army From Extermination

GENERAL KUROPATKIN RESIGNS

After a Lively Retreat and an Orderly Rout the Russian Forces Get a Chance to Rest.

While General Kuropatkin has apparently succeeded in saving more of his artillery than seemed possible, his losses in men, ammunition and commissariat supplies, in the battle of Mukden, are far greater than earlier reports indicated, and even that portion of his army which he succeeded in extricating from the positions around Mukden is still in serious danger. The Japanese generals, realizing that with a little more speed they could have inflicted a crushing defeat on the Russian army after the battle of Liao Yang, determined not to again allow an opportunity to pass, and are following after the defeated and sorely tried Russian forces. While a small portion of Kuropatkin's army has reached Tie Pass, the greater part of those who escaped from the battle of Mukden are still struggling northward, being at last accounts between 12 and 18 miles from their goal, with the Japanese, flushed with victory and re-enforced by fresh men, harassing them from all sides. Even should the remnants of the army reach Tie Pass, it is hardly possible for it to make a stand there against the overwhelming force opposing it, and especially as the Russians must be worn out and weakened by the loss of men, guns and ammunition. It is more likely that Kuropatkin will fall right back to Harbin with what he can save and wait there for the re-enforcements that St. Petersburg already has promised him. A possible obstacle to the plan is General Kamamura's army, which has not yet been located and which may also be heading for the northern capital.

General Kuropatkin has sent in his resignation to the Emperor.

General Kuropatkin has telegraphed to Emperor Nicholas assuming himself all the responsibility for his defeat, making no excuses except that the strength of the Japanese was miscalculated and refusing to place any of the blame upon the council of generals upon whose advice he determined to give battle. His reputation as an offensive strategist is gone, and though the Emperor's military advisors know not where to look for a better general, his resignation will be accepted.

In losing General Kuropatkin, the army will lose the idol of the private soldiers, an officer who, in spite of the intrigues of his generals and his failure to win a battle, has won their confidence and affection.

The flight of the Russian army of upwards of a quarter of a million men and the 2,000 pieces of artillery with which it was expected confidently General Kuropatkin and his lieutenants could prevent the advance of the Japanese beyond the Shakhe and Hun rivers, is still in the balance. They have been drawn from those positions, and are now rushing northward towards Tie Pass, around which are high hills, which were prepared for defense after the battle of Liao Yang. In September, there being no hope at that time that the Japanese would allow the defeated army to rest south of the Tie Pass. That the Russians have lost many guns and large quantities of ammunition and supplies is certain, for with but a single track of railway to the north, it would be impossible to remove the large stores

Bryan Loses Appeal.

Hartford, Conn., Special.—In a decision handed down by the Supreme Court Thursday, the Superior Court is upheld in declaring that the sealed letter in the Philo S. Bennett will containing a bequest of \$50,000 to William J. Bryan is not a part of the Bennett will. The case went up on Mr. Bryan's appeal from the Superior Court's decision.

Japs in Kuropatkin's Rear.

With the Japanese Left Armies, Wednesday, Noon, via Fusan.—The left armies have cut and destroyed the railroad between Mukden and Tie Pass. Details are not obtainable at present. The Russians are in retreat over the northern roads. The left column of these armies is at Likampu, seven miles north of the Hun river and five miles west of the railroad, and has had a fierce fight with a Russian force thrice its number. The Russian casualties number 10,000. The Russian centre is retreating in great confusion.

ON THE VERGE OF PEACE

Despite Strenuous Denials by the Russian Ambassador, the Diplomats Are Convinced That Russia Will Ask For Peace, and Expect Definite Notice of Such Intention to Be Signified as a Result of the Czar's War Council.

Washington, Special.—When the Czar calls his war council he will be able to inform them that Japan will welcome peace on reasonable terms, and will promptly name her conditions, provided she receives trustworthy assurances that they will be seriously considered. This the Emperor has learned from friendly chancelleries in Europe as well as the general terms acceptable to Japan. These, it is said, will be retention by Japan of Port Arthur, a Japanese protectorate over Korea, and an indemnity. A high official states that Russia has recalled her second Pacific squadron. An attaché of a Russian embassy in Europe is quoted as expressing the belief that Kuropatkin's recent defeat will force Russia to ask for peace. Briefly, these were the reports current in the diplomatic corps Monday, and, as a result of this important information, Official Washington believes that peace will be reached in the second Pacific squadron has been recalled, even the most optimistic of Russia's friends admit that this is a strong indication that Oyama's mighty blow has made for peace.

Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, is the notable exception in the group of foreign envoys here. "However generous the terms which Japan might offer," the ambassador said, "Russian prestige is not among them. That is the one thing for the end. Victory for the Russian arms will alone make for peace. If not at Tie Pass, then at Harbin; Russia will assemble another army mightier than before, and with that army she will settle the issue. It may be six months, a year or perhaps two years. Time will be no consideration."

Russians Resting.

By delay in pressing his pursuit of Russia's defeated and demoralized army at Tie Pass, Field Marshal Oyama has afforded General Kuropatkin time to sortie the disordered units of his command, and restore his forces to at least a semblance of order. So far as known, there is no considerable force of Japanese nearer Tie Pass than six or eight miles, but in Russian quarters there is a feeling of apprehension that some turning movement, of which there is no definite information, is in progress. From Japanese sources, it is reported that many straggling parties of Russians, cut off from their commands in the retreat from Mukden, are surrendering upon the appearance of Japanese troops. The council of war, summoned by Emperor Nicholas, is reported to have decided that the war must be carried forward. The all-important question of financial means, however, is said to have reached no solution, the situation being complicated by the reported decision of French capitalists not to negotiate the loan recently offered by St. Petersburg. The probability, as regarded in St. Petersburg, seems to be that when General Kuropatkin has completed the task of re-organizing what is left of his army, he will be permitted to return to Russia, and that the command in Manchuria will be entrusted to General Sukhomiloff, whose former war apprenticeship was served under General Dragomiroff, who has been regarded as the foremost of Russia's scientific soldiers. It is possible, however, that the command will go to Grand Duke Nicholas Nicholavitch.

50,000 Wounded Recently.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.—General Kuropatkin, in a dispatch dated March 12, says 50,000 Russians were wounded during the last few days' fighting. General Kuropatkin says: "According to reports from the rear guard, a Japanese force consisting of a division and a half is within a short distance of the Russian guard. The Second Army is marching continually under the fire of the enemy, who is advancing from the east and west."

General Kuropatkin adds that the rear guard advanced in perfect order, but that the movement of the transport along the mandarin road was very difficult, owing to the Japanese cannonade. The country between Tie Pass and Mukden is intersected by rivers and steep banks, and the Russian wagons were obliged to halt and await their turn, causing much delay.

General Kuropatkin compliments the Japanese intelligence department. He says: "Thanks to the organization of their intelligence department and their reconnoissances, the Japanese always knew the positions occupied by our army."

The first regiment of Siberian Rifles had the most fighting. They marched under the Japanese fire from east and west almost continuously. Col. Loesel succeeded in extricating three officers and 150 men of the regiment with its colors and one battery. In the battle of March 6 the regiment lost over 1,000 men.

The Pass Undefended.

Tien Tsin, By Cable.—The well-informed here roughly estimate the total Russian casualties at 150,000 and those of the Japanese 60,000. It is reported that Tie Pass is practically undefended, and another great action is regarded as improbable. A Japanese officer has said: "We must push the advantage home, and give no respite until a crushing defeat has been administered."

Not Expecting Peace.

Washington, Special.—"After Liao Yang there was talk of peace. Russia's answer was re-inforcements. Like Liao Yang, Mukden is scene of another retreat, and again Russia's answer will be large re-inforcements, but of peace, not a word." This was the emphatic statement of Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador. If an echo of peace should come out of St. Petersburg, no official in Washington would be more surprised than the Russian ambassador, who has all along been positively informed that nothing but victory for General Kuropatkin can bring an end to the war.

SPOKE TO MOTHERS

President Roosevelt Made a Vigorous and Wholesome Address

THE GLORY OF TRUE MOTHERHOOD

In an Address Before a National Gathering the President Emphasizes the Prime Importance of a Wholesome Home Life to the Perpetuity of the Nation and the Happiness of the Individual.

Washington, Special.—An address by President Roosevelt was the feature of the evening session of the National Congress of Mothers, now holding its tri-ennial convention at the Metropolitan M. E. church. There was an immense attendance. The President was formally introduced to the audience by Mrs. Frederick Schoff, of Philadelphia, the president of the congress. He read his speech, but occasionally interjected some extemporaneous remarks to emphasize a point. The President spoke as follows:

"In our modern industrial civilization there are many and grave dangers to counterbalance the splendors and the triumphs. It is not a good thing to see cities grow at disproportionate speed relatively to the country; for the small land owners, the men who own their little homes, and therefore to a very large extent the men who till farms, the men of the soil, have hitherto made the foundation of lasting national life in every State; and if the foundation becomes either too weak or too narrow, the superstructure, no matter how attractive, is in imminent danger of falling."

"But far more important than the question of the occupation of our citizens is the question of how their family life is conducted. No matter what that occupation may be, as long as there is a real home and as long as those who make up that home do their duty to one another, to their neighbors and to the State, it is of minor consequence whether the man's trade is pined in the country or the city, whether it calls for the work of the hands or for the work of the head."

"But the nation is in a bad way if there is no real home, if the family is not of the right kind; if the man is not a good husband and father, if he is brutal or cowardly or selfish, if the woman has lost her sense of duty, if she is sunk in rapid self-indulgence or has let her nature be twisted so that she prefers a sterile pseudo-intellectual life to that great and beautiful development of character which comes only to those whose lives know the fullness of duty done, of effort made and self-sacrifice undergone."

HOME LIFE ALL-IMPORTANT.

In the last analysis the welfare of the State depends absolutely upon whether or not the average family, the average man and woman and their children, represent the kind of citizenship fit for the foundation of a great nation; and if we fail to appreciate this we fail to appreciate the root morality upon which all healthy civilization is based.

"No piled-up wealth, no splendor of material growth, no brilliance of artistic development, will permanently avail any people unless its home life is healthy, unless the average man possesses honesty, courage, common sense, and decency, unless he works hard and is willing to need to fight hard; and unless the average woman is a good wife, a good mother, able and willing to perform the first and greatest duty of womanhood, able and willing to bear, and to bring up as they should be brought up, healthy children, sound in body, mind and character, and numerous enough so that the race will increase and not decrease."

DIVISION OF LABOR BY SEX.

"There are certain old truths which will be true as long as the world endures, and which no amount of progress can alter. One of these is the truth that the primary duty of the husband is to be the home maker, the bread-winner for his wife and children, and that the primary duty of the woman is to be the helpmeet, the housewife and mother. The woman should have ample educational advantages; but save in exceptional cases the man must be, and she need not be, and generally ought not to be trained for a life-long career as the family bread-winner; and, therefore, after a certain point the training of the two must normally be different because the duties of the two are normally different. This does not mean inequality of function but it does mean that normally there must be dissimilarity of function. On the whole, I think the duty of the woman the more important, the more difficult, and the more honorable of the two; on the whole I respect the woman who does her duty even more than I respect the man who does his."

WOMAN'S WORK THE NOBBLER.

"No ordinary work done by a man is either as hard or responsible as the work of a woman who is bringing up a family of small children; for upon her time and strength demands are made not only every hour of the day but often every hour of the night. She may have to get up right after night to take care of a sick child, and yet must by day continue to do all her household duties as well; and if the family means are scant she must usually enjoy even her rare holidays taking her whole brood of children with her

The birth pangs make all men the debtors of all women. Above all our sympathy and regard are due to the struggling wives among those whose Abraham Lincoln called the plain people, and whom he so loved and trusted; for the lives of these women are often led on the lonely heights of quiet, self-sacrificing heroism.

"Just as the happiest and most honorable and most useful task that can be set any man is to earn enough for the support of his wife and family, for the bringing up and starting in life of his children so the most important, the most honorable and desirable task which can be set any woman is to be a good wise mother in a home marked by self respect and mutual forbearance, by willingness to perform duty and by refusal to sink into self-indulgence or avoid that which entails effort and self-sacrifice. Of course there are exceptional men and exceptional women who can do and ought to do much more than this, who can be and ought to be great careers of outside usefulness in addition to—not as substitutes for—their home work; but I am not speaking of exceptions; I am speaking of the primary duties, I am speaking of the primary citizen, the average men and women who make up the nation."

Treaty Likely to Fail.

Washington, Special.—The discussion of the Dominican treaty, in the legislative session of the Senate Tuesday, resulted in the drawing of party lines. The Democrats who have been reported as likely to support the treaty will return to the fold, it is said, and on both sides of the chamber it is admitted there is little prospect that the convention will be ratified. The Republicans have been depending on some Democratic support and have counted as certain the votes of Senators McEnery and Foster, of Louisiana, and Clarke, of Arkansas.

Gift to Livingston College.

New York, Special.—Booker T. Washington called upon Andrew Carnegie in company with Bishop Clinton, one of the trustees, and Dr. W. H. Goler, the president of Livingston College, for colored people, at Salisbury, N. C., under the auspices of the African M. E. Zion Church. They suggested to Mr. Carnegie that he present the college with a library building. This Carnegie consented to do. "The amount of the gift was not made public."

Mills Adopt 10-Hour Day.

Union, S. C., Special.—At a meeting Monday of the directors of the Union Cotton Mills and Buffalo Cotton Mills, of Union, it was voluntarily decided to reduce working time to ten hours a day. This action was taken on behalf that there will be increased and better production. The Union Mill is capitalized at \$1,100,000, and has 69,500 spindles, while the Buffalo Mill has a capital stock of \$600,000, with 40,000 spindles.

Rojevstevsky Recalled.

Washington, Special.—There is high authority for the statement that the Russian Second Pacific squadron has been recalled by the Russian government. While not regarded as a sure sign of peace, the recall of Admiral Rojevstevsky's squadron, in the opinion of European chancellors, is regarded as a hopeful sign that peace is at hand.

NEWSY GLEANINGS.

Extensive plans for the improvement of the Suez Canal are now well under way.

Society in Washington seems determined to introduce "the Continental Sunday."

An Indianapolis man has been ordered by the courts to pay his ex-wife \$52,150 alimony.

Copper money in France is being gradually replaced this year by aluminum bronze pennies of a pale yellow color.

The Corcoran Art Gallery, at Washington, D. C., recently paid \$2000 for an oil painting of a codfish by William M. Chase.

French horticulture in the experimental gardens at Bordeaux has acclimatized for Europe one of the sweet potatoes of Western Africa.

Five pensioners of the Revolutionary War and 1116 pensioners of the War of 1812 are still upon the Government's pay rolls.

Dr. Osier, of Johns Hopkins University, reiterated that men over sixty are "absolutely useless," but admitted that his chloroforming suggestion was only a joke.

The descendants of Mary Setoun, one of the four maids of honor to Mary Queen of Scots, have in their possession a curious watch which was given by that queen to her favorite.

London clubs are not very cheerful places in cold weather, according to a Saturday Review writer, who says that in times of frost and snow the number of sleepers and snorers is abominably increased.

Two Japanese prisoners were picked up by the Russians in a recent skirmish. One was unhurt, the other mortally wounded. They were brothers, and the one had preferred capture to leaving the other to die alone on the battlefield.

London Truth asserts that "now, for the first time in centuries, England possesses, in Sir Edward Elgar, at least one composer of international repute."

MANY DIE IN FIRE

Nineteen Charred Bodies Tell Grim Story of Death

ROASTED IN A TENEMENT HOUSE

More Than 40 Others Were Injured, and Only a Few of the Sleeping Inmates of the Building, Which is on the New York East Side, Escaped Unhurt.

New York, Special.—Nineteen persons were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the five-story house, 1,005 Allen street, early Friday. More than 40 were injured and only a few of the sleeping inmates escaped unhurt. Several of those who perished were roasted to death in plain view of thousands in the streets. Coroner Goldenkrane declared after an investigation that he had reason to believe the blaze was the work of an incendiary. He issued subpoenas for the fire marshal, tenement house and building inspector and health and police officials to appear before him at the inquest Thursday.

The fire started in the basement and spread with frightful rapidity to the roof. The victims were caught in traps of flames, the halls and exits being rendered impassable in a few minutes after the blaze started. The building was one of the usual tenement and the disaster was the worst in the history of the East Side. The district attorney's office has begun an investigation to place the blame for the great loss of life. Chief Croker, of the fire department, asserts that the police and the tenement house departments are to blame for the violations of the fire escape law. The tenement house department officials, however, say that the blame is on the shoulders of the fire commissioner.

Of the nineteen dead, three bodies, those of a boy and two girls remain unidentified.

Crowded fire escapes in the rear of the tenement house were largely responsible for so many deaths and injuries among its population, which approached 200 souls.

The scenes were heartrending. The fire started in the basement, occupied by Isaac Davis, his wife and three children. When Davis reached his home early this morning and went into his store on the same floor he saw a kerosene lamp in the rear explode. He awoke his wife and both tried to put out the flaming lamp but without success. A policeman who heard the cry of alarm rushed to the scene and every effort was made to arouse the sleeping people. Meantime the flames had spread with startling rapidity and the occupants of the upper floors awoke to find themselves confronted by a wall of flames on nearly every side. Panic-stricken people rushed to the fire escapes only to find them littered with rubbish. On some of the escapes the rubbish was so closely packed that it became impossible to pass certain points and men, women and children stood literally roasting to death as the flames roared through windows around them. One of the escapes was manned by Policeman John J. Down, who had run a plank across to the window of an adjoining building. He rescued nearly a dozen persons, but finally fell 20 feet to the paved yard and shattered his shoulder. Dozens of people were taken from the crowded fire escapes and upper windows. By this time the building was a furnace and the rescues were effected in many cases only through heroic efforts of the firemen. Lieutenant Bonner, son of the former chief, descended the now red hot fire escapes five times. Four times he brought down a woman or a child in his arms. The fifth time he was descending with an unconscious woman but staggered and was barely saved from death. Once Bonner rescued a little girl from a window where she stood surrounded by flames. She pleaded with him to leave her on the escape and go in after her little brother whom she said had fallen unconscious. Bonner jumped into what looked like a furnace, found the boy and saved him.

Swarming With Hungry Russians.

General Kuroki's Headquarters in the Field, via Fusan.—The country is swarming with hungry, disheartened Russians, who are surrendering squads to any passing pursuing Japanese they meet. Leading Japanese officers have refused to criticize the lack of mobility displayed while driving the Russians beyond Tie Pass. Most of the foreign attaches with the Russian army, including two American and English officers, were captured at Mukden.

Total Dead 111.

Birmingham, Ala., Special.—With the removal of the last four bodies from the Virginia mine, the total fatalities from the awful explosion of February 20 was swelled to 111. The recovery of the bodies has been a slow and difficult task. The fund which was raised for the relief of the widows and orphans left by the disaster reached nearly \$30,000, and this is being distributed among them in the form of semi-monthly allowance by a committee of prominent ministers in the Birmingham district.