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NO. 6.

Japanese Admiral Practically Annihilates Navy of the Czar

According to Information Received at the State Department in Washington, the Battle Began Saturday, the Japanese Sinking the Russian Battleship Borodino, Four More Warships and a Repair Ship.

According to the latest information, the battle between the Russian and Japanese naval forces for the supremacy of the Oriental seas, on which hangs the outcome of the far Eastern struggle, has begun, if it has not terminated decisively. All the dispatches received point to a Japanse victory, though it is not yet known whether the full force of Vice Adrimal Rojestvensky's fighting ships took part in the contest, which, according to the dispatches, took place in the comparatively narrow waters of the Straits of Korea. The first information came in a dispatch from the American consul at Nagasaki to the State Department at the Korean Strait, and this was followed by a dispatch received by the State Department, the date of which was not given, that the "Japanese government had made the announcement that its fleet had engaged the Russians in the Straits of Korea Saturday and had held them." The State Department also received information that two of the vessels reported to have been sunk were the sister battleships Orel and Borodino, and that three of the other ships were cruisers. From Tsingtau, the German port on the Shantung Peninsula, came a report that a running naval engagement took place Japan, 200 miles northeast of the Straits of Korea, and that the whole Russian fleet did not participate, the slow vessels having been sent around Japan. Russian sources give no news of the battle, while the Japanese government, following its custom, is silent as to either the battle or its outcome.

THINK TORPEDO BOATS DID IT.

Washington Naval Circles Comment main fleet was there, while the major on Dispatches to State Department -Battleship and Five More Vessels Sunk-Straits Held Against Rus-

Washington, Special.-A dispatch received at the State Department says that the Japanese Government has made the announcement that its fleet had engaged the Russians in the Straits of Korea Saturday and had held them .

The reported sinking of the battleship Bordino is mentioned in a dispatch received at the State Department from the consul at Nagasaki.

The belief in the naval circles in Washington is that the Japanese resorted to the free use of torpedo boats in their attacks on the vessels of Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet. The Japanese have a large number of torpedo boats in their fleet and they demonstrated their effectiveness in the operations around Port Arthur. Na- take any chances. If the ship was unval officers here express the opinion justifiably sunk from the standpoint of that it was unlikely that such serious international law, Russia, of course, losses as those reported could have will have to foot the bill; but any cost been inflicted by ordinary fire. The following is the text of the Na- mission.'

Texas Town Not Destroyed.

Austin, Tex., Special.-S. J. L. Mathquested a correction of the report sent to several papers that the town had been badly damaged by a tornado last high wind, which swept over the town cation for such a report.

Floods North of El Paso.

El Paso, Tex., Special.-A half million dollars is a conservative estimate N. of the Rio Grande north of El Paso board connection at Monroe, was in the Messilla valley. Some 7,000 made, in the shape of a petition for a acres of farm land are under water, lina & Virginia Railroad." The comlost, and all houses in the path of the ram, Neill O'Donall and Marion Moise, waters washed away. The water in G. McLeod, of Lee county, as incorporstill rising rapidly, threatening great acquire rights of way and build and have caused the rash act. damage, especially at El Paso.

BATTLE IN THE STRAITS OF KOREA | gasaki dispatch to the State Depart-

"Nagasaki, May 28.—Japanese sunk the Russian battleship Borodino and four more warships and a repair ship." The other dispatch read as follows: "Tokio, May 27.-Japanese met and engaged the Baltic squadron this afternoon in the Straits of Fushima, which was held. Cannonading was

heard from shore." From information which has been received in Washington it is believed that two of the Russian ships reported to have been sunk in the Korean Straits by the Japanese are the Orel and her sister ship, the Borodino. They are battleships of 13,000 tons. Three other vessels reported sunk are believed to have been cruisers, the remaining one being a repair ship.

The Orel and Borodino are of 13,516 tons displacement each, heavily armed, well protected, and were designed to make 18 knots. They measure 397 feet by 76 feet, with 26 feet draught, and both have a lofty spar deck fully 30 feet above the water line, extending from the bow to the quarter deck. Forward is mounted a pair of 12.4-inch guns in a turret protected by eleven inches of Krupp armor. Another pair of guns, of same size, is mounted aft. There are thirty other guns on the intermediate battery, the vessels carry Washington, telling that the Japanese two submerged torpedo tubes and two had sunk one Russian battleship, four above the water. A special feature of other warships and a repair ship in the vessels is their verdical longitudinal bulkheads of inch armor, running throughout the whole length of the ship at a distance of nine or ten feet inboard from the ships' sides, designed to localize the effects of a blow from a torpedo.

Failed to Mislead Togo.

Chefoo, By Cable.-Private telegrams from Korea to the Japanese consul here state that a battle was progressing Saturday afternoon at or near the Korean straits, between the main portion of the Russian squadron and the Japanese fleet under command of Admiral Togo.

Telegrams almost identical with the above have been received here, and announce that a large portion of the Russian fleet was sighted approachnear the Island of Oki, in the Sea of ing the Korean straits Sunday, headed for the channel between Tsu Island and the Japanese coast.

According to the best information receievd here recently, the main portion of Admiral Togo's fleet has been almost constantly at Masampho bay.

Advices from a reliable quarter received here are to the effect that three Russian battleships, three armored cruisers and several colliers were off Shanghai Friday. It is believed that Vice Admiral Rojestvensky sent sufficient ships to the vicinity of Shanghai in order to induce the belief that his portion of it pushed on toward the Ko-

Sinking of American Ship.

Washington, Special.-Confirmation has been received here from Shanghai of the press report that the Russian warships have sunk an unknown American merchant ship off the Chinese coast. Heavy gun fire is plainly heard

to the northward. St. Petersburg, By Cable.-Nothing and she carried 318 officers and men. is known at the Admiralty of the reported sinking of an unknown American steamer off Formosa by Vice Admiral Rojestvensky. It is recognized at the Admiralty as quite possible that about 20 knots. She had a complement "Rojestvensky may have been compelled by military necessity to destroy a neutral. If he feared that to allow it to proceed and report the whereabouts and direction of the Russian fleet would endanger his strategic plan, he had no other alternative except to take off the crew and sink the ship. Such an incident is unfortunate, but every naval officer must admit that the risk in such a crisis is too great to is cheap if it furthered Rojestvensky's

Shot Chief of Police.

Nashville, Tenn., Special.—A special er, mayor of Mineral Wells, Tex., re- from Jackson, Tenn., says that A. D. Dugger shot and seriously wounded Chief of Police Gaston, of that place week. He says that no damage was Four shots were fired, two of which done at all, and that excepting a very took effect. Dugger was drinking and men. last Wednesday, there was no prova- Gaston attempted to arrest him. Dugger was subsequently locked up.

An Interstate Railway. Columbia, Special.-Definite announcement of a railroad from Charleston, S. C. to Monroe, N. C., C., giving Charleston, Sumof the damage done by the overflow ter and intermediate points seacommission to incorporate the "Carocrops and farm machinery have been mission was granted with Wm. H. Ingmost places is six feet deep. Every ators. The initial capital is forty thousabode house in Anthony, N. M., has and dollars, and the ultimate two and a been washed away and the people half million. The "purposes" state that have fled to El Paso. The water is it is the intention of the corporation "to maintain cotton worehouses," ...

GREATEST OF NAVAL VICTORIES

Fuller Details Given Show That Japanese Victory Was Most Complete. Latest advices confirm the magnitude of the disaster suffered by the Russian fleet, and point to the fact that Rus-

sia's hopes, so far as this war is concerned, now lie in whatever may be accomplished by the oft-beaten army in Manchuria, An official report received from Tokio by the Japanese legation at Washington Monday evening says that the Russian losses definitely known include two battleships, a cost defense ship, five cruisers, two special ships and three destroyers sunk, and two battleships, two coast defense ships, one destroyer and one special service ship captured, while over 3,000 prisoners have been taken, including Rear Admiral Nebogatoff. The Japanese, it

the final result is known. There is nothing to clearly indicate the extent of the Japanse losses, and it is suggested from one source that the Tokio government is waiting to hear from Admiral Rojestvensky by way of Vladivostock before announcing to what extent his fleet has suffered.

would seem, are still pursuing the Rus-

sians, and it may be some time before

The news of the disaster has caused deep depression in official Russia, though it is not yet known generally among the Russian people. Rojestvensky's defeat has given rise to renewed talk of peace. It is pointed out by the Associated Press' St. Petersburg correspondent that Russia, in this crisis, will turn to France, through its Foreign Minister, M. DelCasse, while from Washington comes information that President Roosevelt, in accordance with his promise, announced a long time ago, is taking steps to do all in his power to bring about peace negotia-

Admiral Rojestvensky. In Tokio there is one belief that he has perished, while another source says he was rescued by a torpedo boat, but that he is wounded.

The Lost Vessels.

Tokio, By Cable.-In the battle fought Saturday in the Strafts of Korea, the Russian battleships Borodino and Alexander III, the armored crusiers Admiral Nakhimoff, Dmitri Donski and Valdimir Monomach, the coast defence iron-clad Admiral Oushakoff. the protected cruisers Svietlana and Jemtchug, and the repair ship Kamptschatka and the cruiser Irtessim were

The battleshipes Orel and Nicolai I. and the coast defence iron-clads Admiral Apraxine were captured.

The Borodino was a first-class battleship, completed in 1904, of 13,516 tons displacement and 16,000 horse-power, giving her a speed of about 18 knots. Her crew numbered 740, officers and

The Alexander III was a sister ship of the Borodino and was also com-

pleted in 1904. The Admiral Nakhimoff was an armored cruiser of 8,524 tons displacement and 9,000 indicated horse-power, giving her a speed of 16 knots. She had a complement of about 567 officers

The Dmittri Donski was an armored cruiser of 6,200 tons, sheathed, of 7,000 indicated horse-power, and having a speed of about 16 knots. Her crew numbered 510 officers and men.

The Valdimir. Monomach was sheathed cruiser of 5,593 tons and 7,000 indicated horse-power. Her crew num-

bered 550 officers and men. The Admiral Oushakoff, a coast defence iron-clad, was 4,684 tons displacement and 5,000 indicated horse-power. Her speed was estimated at 16 knots

The Svietlana was a protected cruiser of 3,826 tons displacement, had 3,-828 indicated horse-power, was completed in 1897 and had a speed of of 360 officers and men.

The protected criuser Jemtchug was of 3,106 tons displacement and 17,000 indicated horse-power giving her a speed of about 23 knots. Her crew numbered 340 officers and men.

The repair ship Kamtschatka was a most important unit of Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet. She is understood to have been fitted up with every scientific appliance available for the repair of warships and was described as being a "floating workshop." She had transport accommodations for 32 officers and

The Irtessim was probably an auxiliary cruiser, but her name is not given in any of the naval lists available. The battleship Orel is a sister ship of the Borodino and carried the same

complement of officers and men. The battleship Nicholai I is of 9,-627 tons displacement and 8,000 indicated horse-power, giving her a speed of about 14 knots. She has sheathed and although completed as far back as 1892 was thoroughly overhauled in 1900. Her complement was 604 officers and

The coast defense iron-clad Admiral Seniavin is a sister ship to the Admiral Oushakoff.

Bigamist Commits Suicide. Knoxville ,Tenn., Special.-C. C. Cummings, of Pittsburg, Pa., committed suicide/at Williamsburg, Ky., by drinking carbolic acid. He was employed by the Parker Oil Company, as manager of drilling. Two weeks ago he married Miss Vicy Summer, of Williamsburg, and only a few days ago was arrested on the charge of bigamy, it being claimed that he had a wife and children living in Tennessee. He denied the charge and gave bond, and thus far nothing has been found to bear it out. Brooding over his family troubles is supposed to

TAR HEEL CROPS

Weather Conditions Given Out by the Department Observer.

Although considerable improvement in weather conditions was reported in many counties, the past week was unfavorable both for farm work and for the growth of crops over the larger portion of the State. The rain-fall was again above the normal, occurring from the 22nd to 23rd and 26th to 27th, thus giving only two or three days on which farm work could proceed. The least precipitation occurred along the northern tier of counties, and in many cenwork was accomplished; in some exsome reports of suffering for lack of moisture. In nearly all southern counties the rain was nearly continuous, Although the mean temperature for the week, about 70 degrees, was nearly normal, the temperature continued quite low, especially at night, until Saturday and Sunday which were warmer; as regards the growth of vegetation the low night temperatures were quite unfavorable, checking growth of all crops.

Where conditions permitted farmers have been very busy during the week chopping cotton, cultivating corn, transplanting tobacco and sweet potato slips, and finishing the planting of corn; crops that have been cleaned look fairly well, but very many fields are still very grassy. A week of warm, dry sunny weather is needed.

The work of planting cotton was so much delayed that many fields intendpurposes, so that planting cotton is Nothing has been heard from Vice practically finished; chopping is well advanced but by no means completed; stands are regular, but low temperatures continue to prevent rapid growth, plants are very small for the season, and are yellow in many fields; much late planted cotton is not yet up. Upland corn is in fair condition, but most of this is badly in need of cultivation; its growth also has been checked by low temperatures; the stands have been injured by the ravages of cut worms; most lowlands have not yet been planted. The rain Friday gave a very favorable opportunity for transplanting tobacco, and this task will be completed the coming week. Tobacco is doing well; there are very few complaints of injury by insects or otherwise. Wheat and oats are not as thrifty as formerly, suffering in a number of places from excessive rains and rust, but as a rule these crops are in excellent condition; in a few southern counties wheat and oats are beginning to ripen. Peanuts have come up nicely to good stands. Planting rice is underway. Gardens and vegetables are thrifty. In regard to Irish potatoes it appears that the growth of tops is very thrifty but the tubers relatively few; way. Setting sweet potatoes continues. Melons are doing well. The crops of blackberries and huckleberries will be large. Many correspondents continue to report that fruit, especially apples, are falling from the trees.

Rains reported: Goldsboro, 0.50; Lumberton, 1.86; Newbern, 1.12; Weldon, 0.14; Hatteras, 4.90; Wilmington, 1.60; Nashville, 0.17; Greensboro, 2.60; Raleigh, 1.30; Moncure, 1.40; Lexington, 1.78; Pomono, 2.00; Ramseur, 1.34; Charlotte, 0.70; Asheville, 2.30; Marion,

The State Department of Agriculture Monday evening gave out the following annual report of the acreage devoted

to cotton: In view of the important bearing of the acreage devoted to cotton upon prices of this staple, unusual interest is felt in the size of the crop planted. The result given below is carefully compiled from reports of a large number of regular correspondents, and is believed to be approximately correct. An interesting feature of the report is the difference between the estimated acreage of all cotton counties and of a dozen of the largest cotton counties, representative of the different sections.

REPORT BY COUNTIES. The total acreage, compared with last year, is 78½ per cent., indicating a decrease of 211/2 per cent. The total acreage in 12 large counties is 81 per cent., indicating a decrease of 19 per cent. Reports from the 12 counties above

referred to are as follows: Anson, 81 per cent.; Beaufort, 85 per cent.; Cleveland, 87 per cent.; Edgecomb, 82 per cent.; Halifax, 79 per cent.; Johnson, 761/2 per cent.; Mecklenburg, 77 per cent.; Pitt, 801/2 per cent.; Robeson, 85 per cent.; Union, 75 per cent.; Wake, 79 per cent.; Wayne,

85 per cent. Owing to late spring cold or cool weather, and excessive rains during the last three weeks, there is much complaint as to the present condition of the crop. Grass, scarcity of labor and wet weather are the chief causes of complaint.

Two Growing Towns.

As showing the extent of development many sections of the State are making, an example may be cited of the towns of Dover and Winterville. A few years past each of these places Dover has a population of 1,500 and Winterville is close behind. Both are manufacturing towns; each located on the Atlantic & North Carolina railroad. in the heart of the rich middle section of the State. These towns are doing equally as well.

CAPTURE OF CRUMP

H. Clay Grubb's Assallant Captured by Two Young Men.

Marion, Special.-Sheriff P. H. Mashburn's posse captured Nat Crump alleged assailant of H. Clay Grubb, at Mut Cut, near Old Fort Saturday night. Two of the party, Lytle and Porter, boarded a train at Old Fort to go to Swannanoa Tunnel to watch for Crump and on the way up the mountain the negro tried to jump on the train. The men got the engineer to stop the train after they had passed tral ones, where a large amount of up the road and got off and watched and pretty soon their man came up. treme northeast counties there are even Lytle and Porter halted him. As they did so he attempted to draw his pistol. One of the boys fired on him, and as he turned to run the other fired, giving very little opportunity for work. hitting him in the shoulder, both shots taking effect, injuring him painfully, but not dangerously.

Crump was brought back to Sheriff Marshburn's store, at Old Fort, where he was attended by a doctor. He first gave his name at Creeman, but afterwards admitted that he was the man they accused of shooting Mr. Grubb. Sheriff Dorsett came up from Lexington after Crump and took him

Friday afternoon while the men were hunting for Crump some of them saw a negro running down the hill from a house and they hailed him, but he did not stop. Mr. R. J. Harbin shot and hit him in the hip. The need for that crop will be used for other | gro claimed that he was trying to head off the man they were hunting for, but every one there believes he was doing it to mislead them, as Cramp was seen by some other negroes above the house just afterwards.

Growth of Masonry.

Grand Secretary John C. Drewry, of the Grand Lodge of Masons, reports remarkable activity in that order. He says it is the greatest year in its history in North Carolina. Three old lodges have been revived-Linville, at Montezuma; Wake Forest and Mecklenburg, at Davidson, and four new lodges formed since the Grand Lodge met in January, these being Greensboro, Bee Lodge in Yancey county, Hollis in Rutherfordton county, and Sharon in Cleveland. He reports that a site for the Masonic Temple in Raleigh has been bought and \$1,000 paid on the purchase price, the lot being 90 by 62 1-2 feet, and costing \$36,000. The deed was recorded digging and shipping potatoes is under | Saturday. Work on the temple will begin in the autumn and tenants now in possession are notified to vacate. They have under the law six months' time, but it is expected they will vacate earlier. If they take all their time they will hold on until November

Killed in Explosion.

Wilmington, Special.-W. H. Corbett, colored fireman, was instantly killed and his body is buried beneath the debris of two brick buildings that were wrecked early this morning by a boiler explosion at the plant of the Hilton Lumber Company, in this city. The engine room and saw mill, with the machinery in both, were almost completely demolished, causing a loss of upwards of \$25,000, which is partially, at least, covered by insurance. The shock of the explosion was felt all over the city, a distance of two miles, and buildings were shaken to such an extent that many people thought it was an earthquake. The cause of the explosion is not known. Fortunately, the day shift of employes of the mill had not gone to work, else the loss of life would have been great. One of the six large boilers was blown from its foundation and crashed down on its end through the mill building. The fire department was called out, but the explosion was so complete that the fire from the furnaces did no damage.

Hoisted White Flag.

London, By Cable.-The Tokio correspondent of the Daily Telegraph R. B. Glenn and State Treasurer Lacy says a Russian warship has arrived off Iwami, on the southwest coast co Japan, and hoisted the white flag. The dispatch says that 300 men and officers, many of whom are wounded, are being assisted by the Japanese Red Cross Society there.

The Mayor in Control.

Philadelphia, Pa., Special.-State Insurance Commissioner Israel W. Durham, leader of the Republican crganization in Philadelphia for the last ten years, and whose influence reached far into the interior of Pennsylvanwere practically in the woods. Now ia, late this afternoon unconditionally surrendered to Mayor John Weaver, who opened the war on the organization last Tuesday. The action of Leader Durham was a great surprise would be fought to a finish.

TAR HEEL NEWS IN BRIEFS

Many Newsy Items Gathered From

all Sections.

Charlotte Cotton Market These figures represent prices paid

4	Strict good middling
	Good Middlin8.15
	Strict Middling 8.15
	Middling
	Tinges 6 1-4 to 7 1-3
	Stains 6 1-4 to 7 1-8
	General Cotton Market.
	Galveston, steady
	New Orleans, quiet
	Mobile dull

	General	Cotton	Market.	
Galve	sten, stead	dy	ated is public	. 814
New	Orleans, q	uiet	a di lata	84
Mobil	e, dull			81
Savan	nah, quie	t	determine h	84
Charl	eston. qui	et		8
Wilm	ington, st	eady	11790	8
Norfo	olk, firm .			81
Baltir	nore, norn	nal		84
New	York, quie	et		8.5
Bosto	n, quiet .			8.6
Phila	delphia, q	uiet		8.7
Houst	ton, steady	· · · · · · · ·		8 3-1
Augus	sta, quiet			83
Memp	phis, firm			81
St. L	ouis, stead	ly	A 34 CT 1 1 NO.	81/
Louis	ville, firm			81

Deed of Desperate Man.

Lenoir, Special .- L. D. Whittemore suicided by cutting an artery in his forearm and bleeding to death. Her had also scraped the mercury from the back of a mirror and drank it, mixed with some water and alcohol. He was a lock examiner for the Yale and Towne Lock Company, of Stanford Conn., and cleaned the Commercial Bank lock Wednesday, but seemed rather despondent. He went to his room at the Commercial Hotel, and was seemingly all right. His body was not found until early Thursday. He told Mr. Lutz, cashier of the bank, that he was a married man, and had three small children. He had on badges of both the Royal Arch and Blue Lodge

Novel Case Decided.

The Supreme Court delivers and opinion in a novel case, but one of general importance, this being of a citizen of Asheville against an electric company for cutting down a tree which shaded his yard, despite his protest. The court holds that the felling of the tree was not necessary for the purposes of the city and that the latter had no right to allow it to be felled for the benefit of a private corporation. If it had been for the better use of the street by the public. it would have been proper. The owner is allowed his claim for \$500 dame-

To Increase Endowment.

Wake Forest, Special.—The trustees of Wake Forest College Friday morning, on recommendation of Dr. Charles E. Taylor, passed a resolution making Dr. Taylor special agent of the college. in raising the funds for increasing the endowment. Dr. C. E. Brewer, professor of chemistry, was elected chairman of the faculty, in view of the fact that Dr. Taylor's frequent absence from the college. Dr. Frederick K. Cooke, dean of the school of medicine, will retire, and the executive committee will elect his successor during vacation.

North State News.

Complaint was made to the Corporation Commission of the condition of the Yackin Railway, a line from Salisbury to Norwood, Stanly county. The commission has made a ruling that on account of the heavy grades, and the large amount of freight traffic, and further, on account of the curves in the road, the track ought to be re-laid with rail of at least 70 pounds to the yard, the present rail not being over 60 pounds, and that the defective crossties ought to be replaced by sounding and the railroad given such attention as to make it safe.

A special to the Charlotte Observer from New York says: The primary object of this Northern trip of Governor has been disclosed. They met Schaffer Bros. in New York this morning and paid over \$215,864 for their holding of bonds secured by the State's stock in the North Carolina Railroad. This was the price previously agreed upon and the last Legislature authorized a bond issue to meet the obligation. The purpose of the Governor in not disclosing his mission was in defence to the wishes of Schaffer's counsel, who wanted to preclude the possibility of any legal interference by attorneys for holders of the old special tax bonds.

The State grants license to the Poter Cooper Fire Insurance Company, of New York city, to do business in North Carolina. The business will be managed by the home office.

The Colossus Gold Mining and Mining Company, of Waxhaw, is authorizto the people of the city, as all his ed to increase its capital stock from lieutenants and the rank and file of \$1,000,000 to \$10,000,000, in two million the organization had been given to shares, each of \$5, all to be common understand that the fight begun by stock, none preferred. George F. only a sample of many others that are Mayor Weaver over the gas lease Coffin is president and W. M. Shatter