OUTPOSTS ARE IN TOUCH

Battle Between Japs and Russians Cannot Long be Delayed

A correspondent of the London Times, cabling from Wei-Hai-Wei, says he has just returned from Ping-Yang Inlet, where he arrived Tuesday. He states that navigation is still difficult owing to the natural difficulties being increased by the quantities of ice which the river is carrying out. The disembarkation of Japanese troops at Chinampho has been tiresome, but the Japanese took with them all the necessary appliances, including pontoons, jetties, and landing barges. The correspondent describes the military situation at Corea as follows :—After the first landing, a small expeditionary force landed near Haiju. It pressed on and seized Ping-Yang. It was followed there by troops who landed at Chemulpo. This force was sufficient to secure a strategic front against a possible advance of the Russians from the Yalu River. These troops had terrible weather, rain being followed by frost, and then by a blizzard. The infantry, however, marched twenty-five miles a day, each man carrying nearly 100 pounds. They did well, bivouacking mostly in Corean villages. Covered by this force, a larger force is now disembarking within easier distance of the objective, while it is reported that preparations for disembarkation are also being made at the only practicable port on the east coast of Corea. The weather is intensely cold, but the troops are being 6immediately pushed forward, and are bivouacked with their animals in the open, sleeping in turns in Corean houses, which are warm though dirty. Everything requisitioned is paid for, but at present the army is independent of the resources of the country.

The actual land front points to a further retirement of the Russians. The Japanese are now holding Anju and the line of the Chengseng. The river outposts are still in touch, but while there is no trustworthy information of their having come in contact, a sanguinary affair of outposts is reported north of Anju. All correspondents who arrived at the Corean thearte of hostilities without official licenses have been requested to withdraw and board returning transports.

BLOWN UP BY A MINE.

A despatch from Chefoo says that the destroyer Skori was blown up by a submarine mine which had got out of place. Another despatch from Chefoo says the disaster occurred on Wednesday, and that the destroyer struck a mine which was not on the Russian mine chart. The despatch adds that it is probable that the mine was one of those which Admiral Togo reported recently that he had laid across the entrance of the harbor.

RUSSIANS RETREATING.

The London Daily Mail's Chefoo correspondent, who has just returned from a steamer trip along the Corean coast, says that the vessel was stopped by a Japanese gunboat off an inlet, 12 miles below Chinampho, and warned that the place was dangerous owing to mines in the channel. Afterwards a constant succession of transports were passed. The main body of Japanese are landing at Chinampho direct from Japan. Three thousand landed at Chemulpo at the end of last week and 2,000 more were due. The Russians are retreating across the Yalu River before the advance of the Japanese outposts Strong detachments of Japanese have been placed in each town.

American refugees who arrived at Chemulpo Tuesday on board the cruiser Cincinnati say that the whole administration in Northern Corea is in the hands of the Japanese. This is also the case in every part of the country. Corean independence is at an end, according to the correspondent.

CAVALRY MADE A DASH.

An official despatch from Seoul to Tokio says that 1,500 Russian cavalry made a dash between Wiiu and Ping-Yang. Two hundred of them came as far as the Seisenko River and fired at Japanese troops on the other side. The fire was not returned. A despatch from Seoul says that the Corean Military Council is contemplating sending the Ping-Yang battalion to the north, as an army of national defence.

MISSIONARIES SAFE.

An Ottawa despatch says: The Secretary of State is in receipt of a cable on Thursday from Lord Strathcona in regard to the steps taken to protect the interests of the missionaries in Corea. It says:— Admiralty has received telegram from Commander-in-Chief of China station, reporting that H.M.S. Phoenix arrived at Gensan with Canadian missionaries from Long-Chin, who did not require further passage."

RUSSIA WANTS SHIPS.

The Berlin Vossische Zeitung says it learns that Russia has approached German and other ship-building firms with the view to building 12 destroyers.

WIDESPREAD IN EFFECT.

The last bombardment of Port Arthur is declared to have made every part of the fortified area unsafe. The Russians are taking new and special measures to guard the peninsula.

TESTING THE SHIPS.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Echo de Paris telegraphs that the report that the Port Arthur squadron is trying to join the Vladivostock squadron is due to the repeated sorties at Port Arthur, whereby Admiral Makaroff is testing his ships and officers. The Russian ships were out again on Monday.

TO JOIN BALTIC FLEET.

It is stated that five vessels of the volunteer fleet, now at Sebastopol, have received preliminary orders to proceed to the Baltic two months hence. It is understood that they will serve as colliers to the Baltic squadron, which will sail for the Far East in June, and that they will carry 30,000 tons of coal in addition to their own supplies.

It is semi-officially stated that the Admiralty has abandoned the idea of the squadron going to the East by the north-east passage, it being held to be unnecessary, inexpedient and virtually impracticable.

THE LAND FORCES

The reports received at London of the Russian movements along the Yalu River are confusing. One from Yin-Kow seems to imply that the main body there has crossed to the southward, leaving small detachments along the line of the river. A despatch to the Chronicle from Ping-Yang, dated Tuesday, states that all the Russians have left Corea, and that 20,000 of them are concentrated north of the Yalu at Kiulioncheng.

A correspondent of the Times at Tokio says that the Russians are occupying an area having a forty-mile base fram Wiju to Changtong, and extending south to the Pakchon River.

RUSSIAN PROPHECY.

A St. Petersburg despatch to the New York Journal to-day, comparing the opposing forces of Russia and Japan in the far east, says Russia has a superiority in land armaments of seventy-six cannon, but is inferior in warships. Without counting the squadron of Admiral Wirenius, the superiority of the Japanese is represented by seventeen ships and eighty-one guns. Continuing, the paper says, "This is largely compensated for by the artillery in the Russian forts, the valor of the Russian sailors, and the necessity for the Japanese to set apart a number of warships to escort transports, to guard communication, and guarantee a food supply for the troops in Korea. There is no doubt as to the issue of the naval war being the destruction of the Japanese fleet; it is only a question of time. The Baltic squadron will make its appearance in eastern waters in a few months under the most brilliant of Russian admirals. The Japanese will not run the risk of a combat on the high seas when the Russian fleet is reinforced by such battleships as Nicholas I., Alexander I., and Alexander III., Sissoi, Veliki and Orel. In any case the issue of a fight on equal terms would be fatal to our adversary who has not sufficiently understood the valor of the nation it has defied."

WITHOUT FOOD OR WATER.

A Dog Buried Behind Freight for Fifteen Days.

A despatch from Toronto says :— An important discovery was made in the Dominion Express Company's office at the Union Station, on Wednesday, when the men removed the freight for branch lines on the railways, that has been stowed away for the past fifteen days. Behind the big pile was a little dog that had got in the corner and before he could get out the freight was packed up around him. When found the poor creature was alive but unable to walk. The men immediately prepared a feast of hot milk and bread for the dog and then rolled him in a number of old coats. After a few hours he recovered from his lengthy fast of fifteen days without food or water. He will be kept by the men as a souvenir that will always remind them of the severe winter of 1904.

DONATED $500,000.

Sir Donald Currie's Gift to London University.

A despatch from London says :— Sir Donald Currie, the well known shipowner, has donated £100,000 to London University.

FRANCE AND BRITAIN.

Agreement Over Newfoundland Has Been Concluded.

A Paris despatch says :—It is asserted positively in authoritative quarters that the agreement between France and Great Britain concerning Newfoundland has been concluded. The officials say the negotiations relative to Morocco, Egypt and Siam are progressing in such a satisfactory manner as to promise early conclusions, similar to those in the case of Newfoundland.

The differences over Newfoundland are of long standing, Great Britain claiming that the French right to occupy a strip of Newfoundland shore without payment of taxes, and without being subject to Newfoundland laws, has prevented the proper exercise of provincial authority. It is understood that the French territorial rights are relinquished, but the rights of off-shore fishing are retained, thus permitting Newfoundland to exercise authority throughout the island.

Concerning Morocco, it is expected that the negotiations will result in giving France a free hand in North-west Africa, thus permitting the development and extension of the French colonial empire westward from Algeria.

Much significance is being attached to the settlement of these differences at the present time, as it is considered to be a practical realization of the friendships established under the pale of the French Arbitration Treaty, and also as an assurance that the Russo-Japanese War has not had the effect of disturbing the relations between the allies of the two belligerents.

HUSBAND AND WIFE BURNED

Terrible Double Tragedy on Berkeley St., Toronto.

A Toronto despatch says :—Mrs. Samuel Mitchell, wife of Patrol-Sergt. Samuel Mitchell, of No. 2 Police Station, her mind unhinged by religion and the recent death of her daughter, the only child, committed suicide by setting her clothes on fire after pouring oil upon them from a paraffin lamp at her home, 278 Berkeley Street on Thursday.

At 10.30 a. m. the husband, who was sleeping, having been on night duty, was awakened by his wife's terrifying screams. He ran down stairs in his night shirt, and tried to extinguish the flames by throwing a carpet about his wife. His night shirt became ignited, and he was very badly burned. Neighbors who answered his shouts found both man and wife unconscious. Ambulances were at once called, and they were removed to the General Hospital, where Mrs. Mitchell died shortly before 2 p. m. Mr. Mitchell died a few minutes before midnight.

SETTLERS SLAIN.

Frightful Cruelty By the Herero Tribesmen.

A despatch from Berlin says :— Letters from South-West Africa detail the attrocities committed by the rebellious Hereros during the earlier stages of their insurrection against German authority. Hundreds of Germans were massacred with savage cruelty, their arms and legs being cut off and their eyes gouged out. Women were tied to trees, head downward, and beaten to death. Frau Lange, after watching the murder of her husband, was compelled to witness the butchery of her child. The Hereros placed it in a doorway and slammed the door until it was killed. One hundred and thirteen persons were thus tortured in the Okahandja neighborhood. The natives after mutilating the bodies nailed fragments to the walls of the victims' houses. Frau Schumann was beheaded and her head was placed on the roof of her home with a pince-nez fixed to her nose.

POSTAL INSURANCE.

Registered Letters May be Protected up to $25.

A despatch from Ottawa says :— Under power conferred by statute the Post-office Department has decided to institute a system of insurance of inland registered letters. The maximum amount to be insured will not exceed $25. The insurance fee for $10 will be three cents, for $15 four cents, for $20 five cents, and for $25 six cents. In addition of course, the full postage and registered charges must be paid. Coins, articles of gold and silver, precious stones, jewelry and other articles of value must be either put in strong boxes in accordance with directions furnished by postmasters, or in envelops, with directions furnished by postmasters. Envelopes with black or colored borders may not be used for registered or insured letters.

CZAR AND PIANIST.

Why Paderewski Was Ordered Out of Russia.

A Vienna despatch says: A newspaper states that Paderewski, the famous pianist, lately performed at the Russian court. The Czar was delighted, and told the performer that he was especially pleased to find such talent in a Russian. "I beg your Majesty's pardon," replied Paderewski, "I am a Pole." Later, on the same day, Paderewski, who had arranged a number of concerts in St. Petersburg, received a police order directing him to leave the capital in 24 hours and never to return.

THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

Prices of Cattle, Grain, Cheese, and Other Dairy Produce at Home and Abroad.

Toronto, March 22.—Wheat.— The feeling is easier for Ontario grades, with little doing. No. 2 white and red are quoted at 95c low freights. Spring wheat is nominal at 90c east, and goose at 84 to 85c east. Manitoba wheat unchanged, with No. 1 Northern quoted at $1.03 at Georgian Bay ports; No. 2 Northern at 99c, and No. 3 Northern at 96c. No. 1 hard is nominal at $1.05. Grinding in transit prices are 6c above those quoted.

Oats—The market is firmer, with a fair demand. No. 2 white quoted at 32½c north and west, and 33c low freights. No. 1 white quoted at 34c east, and No. 2 at 33c east.

Barley—The market is quiet with a moderate demand. No. 2 quoted at 45c middle freights; No. 3 extra at 43 to 44c, and No. 3 at 42c middle freights.

Peas—The market is firm, with No. 2 quoted at 65c west and 66c east.

Corn—The market is quiet, with prices firm. No. 3 American yellow quoted at 53c on track, Toronto, and No. 3 mixed at 52c. Canadian corn is nominal at 38½c west for yellow, and at 38c for mixed.

Rye—The market is steady, with No. 2 quoted at 58 to 59c east and west.

Buckwheat—The market is unchanged, with demand good. No. 2 quoted at 50 to 51c middle freights.

Flour—Ninety per cent. patents are unchanged, with buyers at $3.65 middle freights in buyers' sacks, for export. Straight rollers of special brands for domestic trade quoted at $4.40 to $4.65 in bbls. Manitoba flours unchanged. No. 1 patents, $5.30; No. 2 patents, $5, and strong bakers', $4.90, on track, Toronto.

Millfeed—Bran steady at $17 to $17.50, and shorts at $18.50 here. At outside points bran is quoted at $16, and shorts at $17.50. Manitoba bran in sacks, $20, and shorts at $21 here.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Apples—Trade here is quiet, with prices steady at $2 to $2.50 per bbl. for the best stock.

Dried apples.—The demand is limited, and prices are unchanged at 3½ to 4½c per lb. Evaporated apples, 6 to 6½c per lb.

Beans—Trade is quiet, and prices steady. Prime beans are quoted at $1.50 to $1.60, and hand-picked at $1.65 to $1.70.

Hops—The market is unchanged, at 26 to 32c, according to quality.

Honey—The market is firm at 6½ to 7½c per lb. for bulk, and at $1.25 to $2 for comb.

Hay—The market is quiet, with offerings restricted. No. 1 timothy quoted at $9.50 a ton here.

Straw—The market is dull, without offerings, and prices nominal around $5.50 on track here.

Potatoes—The market is steady, with offerings moderate. Choice cars are quoted at 90c per bag on track here, and inferior quality at 80 to 85c per bag.

Poultry—Receipts are moderate, and prices as a rule unchanged. Chickens, 11 to 13c per lb.; turkeys are quoted at 14 to 16c per lb. for fresh killed; ducks, 13c; and geese at 10 to 12c per lb.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—The market to-day was quiet, with prices unchanged. We quote as follows:—Finest 1-lb. rolls, 18 to 18½c; choice large rolls, and selected dairy tubs, 16 to 17c; medium and low grades, 12½ to 14c; creamery prints, 21 to 22c; solids, 19½ to 20c.

Eggs—The market continues steady, with sales of case lots at 22c per dozen. Americans quoted at 23c.

Cheese—Trade is dull and prices unchanged. We quote:—Finest September's, 11c; late Fall and seconds, 10 to 10½c.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Dressed hogs are steady, with offerings moderate. Car lots at $6.40 to $6.75 delivered here. Cured meats are in good demand and prices firm. We quote:— Bacon, long clear, 8½ to 8½c per lb. in case lots. Mess pork, $17; do short cut, $18.50 to $19.

Smoked meats—Hams, light to medium, 12½c; do heavy, 12c; rolls, 10c; shoulders, 9½c; backs, 13 to 13½c; breakfast bacon, 13c.

Lard—The demand is limited, with prices unchanged. We quote:—Tierces, 8c; tubs 8¼c; pails, 8½ to 8¾c; compound, 7½ to 8¼c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, March 22.—Demand for Oats is quiet just now and trade is confined to an occasional carload. Prices seem firm, however, No. 2 still realizing 40c in store, and No. 3, 39 to 39½c; No. 2 oats; Ontario points, millers' prices, 35c for export, 33½ to 34c low freights west; No. 2 peas asking 65c; No. 2 barley, 46c; No. 3 extra barley, 45c; No. 3, 44c. Flour —Millers report a firm market, the demand being active; Manitoba patents, $5.40; strong bakers', $5.10; Winter wheat patents, $5 to $6.25; straight rollers, $4.75 to $5; straight rollers, in bags, $2.25 to $2.35; Feed —Bran and shorts are firm, and good demand; Manitoba bran, in bags, $19 to $20; shorts, $21 per ton; Ontario bran, in bulk, $19 to $20; shorts, $20.50 to $21.50; mouille, $26 to $28 per ton. Rolled oats—The market is firm; dealers are asking $2.25 to $2.30 for bags, and $4.70 to $4.90 for bbls. on track. Provisions —Heavy Canadian short cut pork $18.50 ta $19; light short cut, $19.-25; American short cut, clear, $17 to $17.50; American fat backs, $21.50; compound lard, 8c; Canadian lard, 8½ to 9c; kettle rendered, 8¾ to 9½c, according to quality; hams, 11 to 13c; bacon, 14c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, $7.50 to $7.75; country dressed hogs, $7; live hogs, $5.38 to $5.50. Eggs.—New laid, 23 to 24c. Butter—Winter creamery, 19½ to 20c; new made, 20½ to 21c; full grass, fall makes, 18½ to 21½c, according to quality; Western dairy, 15 to 15½c; rolls, 16 to 17c; creamery, 18 to 18½c. Cheese—Ontario, 10 to 10½c; Townships, 9½ to 10c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Milwaukee, March 22.—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, 98c to $1; old July, 92½c. Rye—No. 1, 72 to 73c. Barley—No. 2, 62 to 63c; sample, 36 to 59c. Corn—No. 3, 46 to 47c; July, 50⅝c.

Buffalo, March 22.—Flour— Steady. Wheat—Spring, steady; No. 1 Northern, Duluth, carloads, $1.12; Winter, nothing done. Corn—Quiet and easy; No. 2 yellow, 55c; No. 2 corn, 53c. Oats—Weak; No. 2 white, 47½c; No. 2 mixed, 45½c. Barley—Spot, No. 1, 60 to 65c. Rye—Dull; No. 1, 85c.

Minneapolis, March 22.—Wheat — May 98½ to 98⅞c, July 98⅞ to 99c, September 86½c; on track, No. 1 hard $1.00½, No. 1 Northern 99½c, No. 2 Northern 96¾c. Flour—First patents, $5.25 to $5.35; second do., $5.10 to $5.15; first clears, $3.60 to $3.75; second do., $2.50 to $2.60. Bran in bulk, $14.50.

TATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, March 22.—Butchers' — Very fair trade, with prices about steady, but easier at the close.

Sheep and lambs—The market a little dull, but prices unchanged. A few spring lambs are coming in, the prices ranging from $5 to $10 each. A pair of very fine lambs, the best on the market this season, brought in by Mr. James Skeens of Port Credit, and bought by Wesley Dunn, brought $21 the pair.

Feeders—There is a good market for feeders and stockers, but not many coming in. Receipts are expected to be heavier next week, as the roads open up.

Hogs—The market is weaker, with prospects lower, though prices today were unchanged.

Exporters, heavy	$4 50 to	$4 95
Bulls, export, heavy, cwt.	3 75	4 00
do light	3 50	4 00
Feeders, 800 lbs. and upwards	3 00	3 25
Short keep, 1,100 lbs.	4 00	
Stockers, 400 to 800 lbs.	2 50	3 12½
do 900 lbs.	2 75	3 50
Butchers' cattle, choice	4 25	4 40
do medium	3 85	4 15
do picked	4.25	4 40
do bulls	2 75	3 00
do rough	2 75	3 25
Light stock bulls, cwt.	2 25	2 50
Milch cows	30 00	65 00
Hogs, best	5 12½	
do light	4 87½	5 00
Sheep, export, cwt.	3 75	4 25
Lambs	5 25	6 00
Bucks	3 00	3 50
Culls, each	3 50	4 25
Calves	5 50	6 50

MUST WEAR HAIR PLAITED

Regulations for Female Employes in All Factories.

A Toronto despatch says: The Minister of Agriculture, Hon. John Dryden, introduced a bill in the Legislature to amend the Factories Act. The provisions of the measure are somewhat radical. The first clause enacts that "Young girls and women in factories shall, during working hours, wear their hail rolled, or plaited, and fastened securely to their head, so as avoid contact with working machines or shafting, or material being handled. It shall be the duty of managers, superintendents, foremen, and others in charge to see that employes comply with this section."

Another clause stipulates that the hours of working in any day shall not be earlier than seven o'clock in the morning, and not later than seven o'clock in the evening.

The existing Act is made much plainer with regard to the sanitary condition of all factories for which the employer shall be held responsible.

No overcrowding while at work is to be allowed in any factory, according to the bill, and a standard of 300 cubic feet of room space is to be allowed each employe.

GROWS SEEDLESS APPLES.

Colerado Fruit Grower Succeeds in Achievement.

A Glenwood Springs, Col., despatch says: After experimenting for seven years John F. Spencer, an old fruit grower, of Grand Junction, Col., has succeeded in perfecting a seedless apple. The apple looks like a naval orange. Its inside is entirely solid, and there is a depression in the naval end very similar to that of seedless oranges. The tree on which the seedless fruit is growa is unusual in that it has no blossoms. Spencer will not reveal the secret of his budding and grafting.

ORIGINAL