JAPANESE WERE FOILED

Appeared Within Range of Search-Lights at Port Arthur.

JAPS WITHDRAW.

A despatch received at London from Chefoo says that 17 battleships and cruisers, 20 steamers and 12 torpedo boat destroyers have passed Chefoo apparently bound for Port Arthur.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says Admiral Makaroff telegraphs that an attempt to surprise Port Arthur was foiled Saturday night. A number of Japanese vessels suddenly appeared within range of the search-lights, but they withdrew after reconnoitring.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Echo de Paris says that the members of the naval general staff believe that Admiral Makaroff, perceiving the Japanese squadron, returned to Port Arthur, his idea being to try to induce Admiral Togo to follow him under the guns of the forts.

FEARS NEXT BLOW.

There can be little doubt that the period of suspense over the Far East is almost at an end, and that the next few days will bring news of important war operations, says a London correspondent. It is significant that the aggressive talk from Russian sources in the past few weeks has been followed by pessimistic forebodings in military circles in St. Petersburg. The writer learns that grave fears are entertained at Russian headquarters that the fall of Port Arthur is imminent.

The generally anticipated attack did not occur on Saturday night, although a telegram received from Grand Duke Cyril reports that the enemy's ships were sighted on the horizon. It is presumed that the Japanese were warned of the extra precautions which had been taken to guard against a surprise, Vice-Admiral Makaroff's torpedo flotilla patrolled the open sea, while the warships, with full steam up, remained outside of Port Arthur.

It is admitted in St. Petersburg naval circles that the situation is so bad that Admiral Togo's next and supreme attempt to block the harbor may be successful. The Russian dilemna in that event would be the gravest, and the practical value of the position both in a naval and military sense would be reduced almost to nil.

The only chance of saving the Russian fleet, if the possibility of sealing Port Arthur be admitted, is to send it to Vladivostock while Admiral Togo is busy convoying transports to the Yalu. It is known that the vicinity of Port Arthur was free of Japanese ships for the past week, and opportunity for this move by the Russian admiral has not been lacking.

It is suspected, however, that if it had been acted upon it would have required extraordinary good luck to enable the Russian fleet to get far on its way without discovery. But if it reached the vicinity of Vladivostock the Russian squadron there, expecting the arrival, would, in conjunction with Admiral Makaroff's ships, be much superior in strength to the Japanese fleet in those waters.

NEW-CHWANG IS SAFE.

The best informed military circles at St. Petersburg no longer anticipate a Japanese landing at the head of the Liao-Tung Gulf. They believe the Japanese have missed their opportunity, the Russians being now too strong.

The opinion now is that the Japanese will try flanking movements from Takushan, west of Antung, at the head of the Gulf of Corea, in connection with their advance on the Yalu River, but the authorities at St. Petersburg make no display of nervousness, manifesting the utmost confidence in the plan of campaign marked out by Gen. Kouropatkin.

A correspondent with the Russian outposts, writing from Antung, on the Yalu River, under date of March 19, describes the fearful state of the roads and the journey from Feng-Huan-Cheng to Antung, which, he says, is impassible for vehicles.

The correspondent depicts Antung as a miserable collection of hovels, the inhabitants of which on account of the scarcity, cannot afford timber for fires and use straw instead. The country between Feng-Huan-Cheng and Antung is sparsely settled. The Chinese avoided the high roads, preferring the mountain fastnesses. Milk, butter, and eggs are almost unknown.

Gen. Kouropatkin's visit to New-Chwang has inspired boundless confidence. The Commander-in-Chief ordered 10,000 reserves to reinforce this position, in view of the expected Japanese attack, while an additional force of 15,000 men is ready to concentrate upon this place at short notice if necessary.

RUSSIAN WOUNDED.

A despatch to the London Express from Tien-Tsin says it is reported from Mukden that two trains, containing a large number of Russians, who were wounded in an engagement on the Yalu River, have passed through Mukden en route to Harbin.

IN SUPREME CONTROL.

The Japanese now control the whole Corean bank of the Yalu River, and are in especially strong force at Wiju. On Sunday forty foreign correspondents arrived at Chinampho from Tokio. It is expected that they will go north with the headquarters staff.

NEW ARMY CORPS.

Reports reached London on Sunday that there is renewed activity in Corea, a second army, recently mobilized, being landed at the present time. The point of disembarkation is not given, but the troops undoubtedly are to reinforce the army which has taken peaceable possession of the Yalu and is preparing for an aggressive advance into Manchuria.

A STRONG POSITION.

While the first line of defence against the Japanese advance from Corea is a strong position, selected by Gen. Kouropatkin near Feng-Huang-Cheng, it is believed the Russians intend to hold out so long as possible at Antung, which commands the Pekin road. The place has many natural advantages for defence.

Gen. Kuroki's army, according to Russian advices, is strong out along the road between Anju and Wiju, its advance being severely impeded by bad roads, which made it difficult to push forward the supplies, which are dragged by coolies, requiring eight days' march from Chong-Ju to the Yalu. For seventy miles the river is 500 fathoms wide, and at Yongampho it is ice-laden and barred by islands, whence the Russian sharpshooters can harass the Japanese advance.

The Russians have entrenched themselves heavily near Hai-Cheng, to block the progress of the Japanese in case they succeed in landing at the head of the Liao-Tung Gulf.

RUSSIA'S NAVAL PLAN.

The Russian naval plan for retrieving the reverses at Port Arthur and Chemulpo has been communicated to one of the Embassies through official channels having accesss to the highest naval authorities at St. Petersburg. The plan is explained as follows:—

Russia recognizes that Japan now has preponderating naval strength in the Far East, and will attempt to reverse it by two distinct moves. First, urgent efforts will be made to have a naval concentration at Port Arthur, the Baltic, Red Sea and Vladivostock fleets joining Vice-Admiral Makaroff's command if possible, and thus giving the combined fleets preponderance over Vice-Admiral Togo.

Second, it is foreseen that it will be difficult and probably impossible to effect this concentration, as Admiral Togo may intercept the Baltic fleet before its arrival at Port Arthur. In that event the Baltic fleet, which is comparatively small, will attempt the perilous task of engaging the large Japanese fleet in the hope of disabling some of the Japanese ships, and thus reducing the Japanese effective. According to the Russian calculations, the Baltic fleet may suffer annihilation in such an unequal combat, but it will have served a valuable end if it is able to cripple a sufficient number of Japanese ships to reduce Admiral Togo's naval strength below that of Admiral Makaroff.

The foregoing information is not part of current speculative report, but comes from creditable official sources as being the determined Russian plan.

THE JAPANESE FLEET.

The London Times correspondent in a despatch from Wei-Hai-Wei, says that the results of a week's cruise in the Times' despatch boat leads him to believe that the Japanese fleet is engaged in covering arrangements for a new landing of the troops recently mobilized. A close blockade of Port Arthur is not maintained, presumably owing to information regarding the condition of the channel. Moreover, sudden fogs are apt to occur at this time of the year, and they might give the Russian torpedo boats, which still have free egress, certain advantages. It is certain that no Japanese transports have yet entered the Gulf of Pechili, though it must be allowed that the persistent endeavors to close Port Arthur suggest that the fleet is required for operations at a greater distance from the present fleet base, which is, of course, within easy striking distance of all points in the present theatre of hostilities except Vladivostock.

WHY RUSSIANS RETREATED.

A despatch to the London Times from Tokio says that reports suggest that a scarcity of provisions and forage was probably the chief reason for the Russian retreat from Corea. The Russians have apparently stripped the country of everything edible.

A despatch to the London Daily Mail from Seoul tends to show that the Japanese will not suffer from the leanness of the country. It says that the commissariat of the northern army is marked by the same thoroughness that has distinguished its operations from the first. Thousands of provision carts went north through Ping-Yang last week.

MORE JAPANESE SAIL.

A despatch to the Paris Petit Journal from Tokio states that 11 Japanese transports have left Nagasaki and Sasebo for Corea with 10,000 infantry of the Guards, bridge material and provisions, and convoyed by a warship.

SIX TRAINS DAILY.

The Berlin Tageblatt's war correspondent, Major Gaedke, writing on a train, while nearing Harbin, Manchuria, March 19, said :—

"Only six trains daily pass east on the railroad to Manchuria, and only four thence to Harbin, but these consist of as many as thirty-eight cars. The railroad apparently is able to meet the military demands."

The correspondent added that the Russians will be ready to take the offensive about the middle of this month.

JAPANESE NAVAL LOSSES.

Official returns of the Japanese casualties in the various attacks on Port Arthur show the losses were 23 killed and 91 wounded, 40 of whom recovered. It is expected that Vladivostock will be free of ice on the 24th inst.

JAPS ADVANCE TO THE YALU.

Information has been received at Tokio that Japanese transports with stores have entered the estuary of the Yalu, and that troops are landing at various points on the Corean shore. Presumably gunboats are covering the movement. If this be true, the Russian forts erected on the other side of the river must be ineffective.

The Seoul correspondent of the Kokumin telegraphs, on what he says is reliable authority, that the Japanese lines have advanced to the Yalu, thus proving that there is no considerable Russian force on the left bank of the river.

TO SIEGE THE FISHERIES.

The proprietor of the principal fisheries on Saghalien Island has been informed that the Japanese are preparing to make a descent on the island so soon as the ice shall permit. The inhabitants have petitioned that the Vladivostock squadron come to their defence.

THE MELANCHOLY CZAR.

A despatch to the London Daily Mail from Geneva says that the Czar on Wednesday received two officers who are going to the front to represent Switzerland. His Majesty seemed very nervous and melancholy. He discussed the repulse of the Cossacks at Chong-Ju, and said: "Do not be too severe in your criticisms. Remember everything becomes difficult so far from a base."

MUST STAMP ALL ARMS.

Newspapers state that the Russians have ordered that the arms of the Chinese troops at Liao-Yang and in that neighborhood be stamped with the Russian mark. The bearers of unmarked arms will be treated as brigands.

CATTLE QUARANTINE.

Government Issues Regulations Governing Importation.

An Ottawa despatch says :—The Canada Gazette contains the new regulations governing the importation of live stock which have been adopted by the Government. All animals subject to quarantine must be entered at quarantine stations, those in Ontario being Windsor, Sarnia, and Niagara Falls. Animals subject to inspection only may enter in Ontario at the ports of Prescott, Brockville, Toronto, Cornwall, Bridgeburg, Sault Ste. Marie, and Port Arthur. Persons contemplating the importation of animals from any country except the United States must first obtain a permit.

The periods of quarantine are as follows :—On all cattle imported from Great Britain, Ireland, or the Channel Islands, sixty days. The cattle from all other countries, except the United States and Mexico, sixty days. On all sheep and goats from countries other than the United States, fifteen days. On all swine imported, except from the United States, for immediate slaughter, fifteen days.

WIDE TIRES COMPULSORY.

New Brunswick Passes a Good Roads Measure.

A Fredericton, N. B., despatch says: The New Brunswick Legislature on Friday night adopted the part of the Highways Act requiring vehicles to be equipped with wide tires. It requires that wagons have tires all the way from two and a half to four inches wide, according to the size and style of axles. It will go into operation in 1914, the intervening time being allowed so that owners of wagons which will be contrary to the Act can wear them out, or replace them by the present sale of narrow-tired wagons.

Meanwhile the Act provides that after one year from the date of proclamation of the Act no manufacturer can recover the price of a wagon he sells unless it is within the law regarding width of tires.

THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

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

Toronto, April 12.—Wheat—The demand for Ontario grades is slow, and prices are irregular. No. 2 white and red Winter quoted at 92 to 93c low freights. Spring wheat is nominal at 87c east, and goose at 82 to 83c east. Manitoba wheat steady, with No. 1 Northern selling at $1 at Georgian Bay ports; No. 2 Northern at 97c, and No. 3 Northern at 93 to 94c. No. 1 hard is nominal at $1.02. Grinding in transit prices are 6c above those quoted.

Oats—The market is steady, with fair offerings and little demand. No. 2 white quoted at 31c north and west, and 31½c low freights. No. 1 white quoted at 32c east, and No. 2 at 31½c east.

Barley—The market is quiet, with the demand limited. No. 2 quoted at 44c middle freights. No. 3 extra at 43c, and No. 3 at 41c middle freights.

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

Corn—The market is quiet, with prices easier. No. 3 American yellow quoted at 54c on track, Toronto; No. 3 mixed at 53c. Canadian corn is nominal at 38½c west for yellow, and 38c for mixed.

Rye—The market is unchanged, with No. 2 quoted at 59 to 60c 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; buyers' at $3.60 middle freights in buyers' sacks for export. Straight rollers of special brands for domestic trade quoted at $4.30 to $4.50 in bbls. Manitoba flours unchanged. No. 1 patents, $5.30; No. 2 patents, $5; and strong bakers', $4.90 on track, Toronto.

Millfeed—Bran is steady at $17 to $17.50, and shorts at $18.50 here. At outside points bran is quoted at $16.50 and shorts at $17.50; Manitoba bran in sacks, $20, and shorts at $21 here.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

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

Dried apples—The demand is limited, and prices are steady at 3 to 3½c per lb. Evaporated apples, 5½ to 6c per lb.

Beans.—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 ta quality.

Honey—The market is quiet at 6 to 7c per lb. for bulk, and at $1.25 to $2 for comb.

Hay—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.

Maple Syrup—There are some offerings of new, which sell at $1 per Imperial gallon.

Potatoes—Choice cars are quoted at 75c per bag on track here, and inferior quality at 70c per bag.

Poultry—Chickens, 11 to 13c per lb.; turkeys are quoted at 15 to 16c per lb. for fresh killed; ducks, 13c; and geese at 10 to 12c per lb.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Rolls are more plentiful, and prices unchanged. We quote:—Finest, 1-lb. rolls, 17 to 18c; choice large rolls and selected dairy tubs, 15 to 16½c; medium and low grades, 12½ to 14c; creamery prints, 21 to 22c, solids, 18½ to 19½c.

Eggs—The market is weak on heavy receipts, with case lots quoted at 16 to 17c per dozen.

Cheese—Market quiet at steady prices. We quote:—Finest September's, 11c; late Fall and seconds, 9¾ to 10½c.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Dressed hogs are unchanged, with offerings moderate. Car lots at $6.-25 delivered here. Cured meats are in good demand at unchanged prices. We quote:—Bacon, long clear, 8¼ to 8½c per lb. in case lots. Mess pork, $16.50 to $17; do., short cut, $18.50.

Smoked meats—Hams, light to medium, 12½c; do, heavy, 12c; rolls, 10c; shoulders, 9½c; backs, 13½ to 14c; breakfast bacon, 13 to 13½c.

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

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, April 12.— There was some demand for oats for milling purposes, and a sale of 50,000 bushels of No. 2 white was reported at 32c per bush. high freights; there were also some enquiry for peas, 72c per bush. was bid afloat for a round lot, and sales of car lots were made at a figure equal to the above. The spot market for oats was unchanged; No. 3 white being quoted at 38½c per bush. ex store. Flour—Market steady; business reported rather quiet; we quote Manitoba Spring wheat patents, $5.40; Manitoba strong bakers', $5.10; Winter wheat patents, $5.10 to $5.25; straight rollers, $4.85 to $5; straight rollers, in bags, $2.30 to $2.35. Rolled oats—Sales in small lots were made at $2.32½ to $2.35 per bag; a fair trade is passing in cornmeal at $1.40 to $1.45 per bag. Feed—We quote Manitoba bran, in bags, $20; shorts, $21 per ton; Ontario bran, in bulk, $19.50 to $20; shorts, $20.50 to $21; and mouille, $24 to $28 per ton as to quality. Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, $18 to $19; light short cut, $16 to $17.50; American short cut clear, $17 to $17.50; American fat backs, $19.50; compound lard, 7½ to 8c; Canadian lard, 8¼ to 9c; kettle rendered, 8¾ to 9½c; hams, 11 to 13c; toir hogs, $7 to $7.50; country dress-bacon, 13½ to 14c; fresh killed abated hogs, $7; live hogs, $5.50. Eggs—New laid, 18c. Butter—Winter creamery, 19½ to 20c; new made, 20½ to 21c; full grass Fall makes, 18½ to 21½c; Western dairy, 15 to 15½c; rolls, 16 to 17c; creamery, 18 to 18½c. Cheese—Ontario, 9¾ to 10½c; Townships, 9½ to 10c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Milwaukee, April 12.—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, $1; No. 2 Northern, 96 to 98c; old July, 87⅞c bid. Rye—No. 1, 72 to 73c. Barley—No. 2, 62 to 63c; sample, 40 to 59c. Corn—No. 3, 50 to 51c; July, 52⅞c.

Buffalo, April 12.—Flour—Quiet. Wheat—Spring dull; No. 1 Northern Duluth, $1.09. Corn—Stronger; No. 2 yellow, 57½c; No. 2 corn, 54 to 54½c. Oats—Dull; No. 2 mixed, 42½c; No. 2 white, 46½c. Barley—Nothing doing. Rye—No. 1 quoted at 54c.

Minneapolis, April 12.—Wheat—May, 95½c; July, 95c; September 81⅜c; on track, No. 1 hard, 96⅞c; No. 1 Northern, 95⅞c; No. 2 Northern 93⅜c. Flour—First patents, $5.05 to $5.15; second patents, $4.95 to $5.05; first clears, $3.60 to $3.65; second clears, $2.50 to $2.60.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto, April 12.—Business was active in butchers' cattle to-day, and prices were firmly maintained.

A limited number of exporters' were sold. The quality of these was good, but the market was quiet and prices were weak. The enquiry was light.

Stockers and feeders kept in brisk demand, but the small receipts prevented buyers securing sufficient supplies. Stock calves and short keep feeders are particularly wanted.

Sheep were in fair demand, while lambs sold freely at firm prices for grain-fed stock. The run made buying active, prices were unchanged.

Drovers shipping cattle from up-country stations, said that a great delay took place in the forwarding of their cattle. Loads that were shipped on Tuesday and Wednesday morning did not reach the market till this afternoon.

Exporters' cattle were quoted at $4.25 to $4.80 per cwt.

An active tone dominated the market for butchers' cattle to-day, and values held strong. We quote :—Picked lots equal in quality to exporters', $4.45 to $4.60; good loads, $4.20 to $4.35; fair to good, $3.80 to $4.10; common to fair, $3 to $3.60; rough cows, $2.50 to $3.20 per cwt.

Butchers' and exporters' bulls were unchanged. We quote :—$3.40 to $3.75 for export bulls, $3 to $3.40 for feeders, and $2.50 up for lights.

Trade in feeders was light on limited deliveries. A number of stock calves were sold. Quotations follow :—Feeders, 1,000 to 1,200 lbs., $3.90 to $4.45; feeders, 800 to 1,-000 lbs., $3.50 to $3.75; stockers, 600 to 800 lbs., $3 to $3.75; stock calves, 400 to 600 lbs., $3.50 to $3.65 per cwt.

Trade in sheep continued active. We quote :—Heavy ewes, $3.50 to $4; light sheep, $3.75 to $4.25; bucks, $3.25 to $3.75; grain-fed lambs, $5.50 to $6.50; barn-yard lambs, $4.50 to $5.25 per cwt.; Spring lambs, $2.50 to $6.50 each.

Calves sold at 4 to 6c per lb. or $2 to $10 each.

Milch cows were steady at $30 to $55 each.

The prices of hogs were unchanged. We quote :—Selects, 160 to 200 lbs. of prime bacon quality, off cars, Toronto, $4.75; fats, $4.50; sows, $3.50 to $3.75; stags, $2 to $2.50 per cwt.

TREACHOROUS THIBETANS.

Fired at British Officers During a Parley.

A despatch to The London Times from Kalatzo, Thibet, dated Thursday, reports that 200 Thibetans at the village of Samonda, in treacherously firing a volley at a party of British officers whom they invited to parley with them aimed badly. No one was injured, but the action is supposed to indicate the tactics which the Thibetans intend to employ at Guru. The correspondent adds that reinforcements are arriving at Gyangtse to oppose the British advance.

VALUABLE RELICS STOLEN

Raid on Geological Survey Museum at Ottawa.

An Ottawa despatch says: A valuable collection of Indian and Eskimo relics has been stolen from the Geological Survey Museum. They are of a kind that cannot be easily replaced. The thieves made use of false keys in order to get access to the cases. Besides specimens of the handiwork of the Indians, a rare collection of shells was raided.