# RUSSIAN GRAND COUNCIL

## Decides That Offensive Tactics be Taken in the Campaign.

RUSSIAN TACTICS.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Paris Petit Journal says there was a meeting of the Grand Council and General Staff yesterday, under the presidency of the Czar, at which important decisions, involving the adoption of offensive tactics in the present campaign were reached.

The Echo de Paris, the Matin, and the Journal confirm the report of Russia's intention to relieve Port Arthur. The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Echo says that the decision of the Council of War to send Gen. Kouropatkin to the relief of Port Arthur is the subject of all conversations in military circles, and continues to arouse profound emotion. Comparison is made between the orders sent on this occasion from St. Petersburg and those forwarded from Paris in 1870, which resulted in the advance of Marshal MacMahon and the Battle of Sedan, yet Paris was not situated at such a great distance from the seat of war as St. Petersburg is from Manchuria. It appears that the decision was taken by the Czar against the advice of a majority of the Council upon the insistence of Gen. Sakharoff, the Minister of War, and Grand Duke Vladimir, who are not considered to be very warm partizans of Gen. Kouropatkin.

SEVERAL SMALL FIGHTS.

The commander of the Japanese forces south of the Yalu River telegraphed to Tokio from Seoul Saturday of a series of fights north of Pu-Lang-Tien, about 40 miles north of Port Adams, Liao-Tung Peninsula. It was learned that Cossack scouts had been located at Telissa and the Japanese thereupon despatched infantry and cavalry, which defeated and pursued them. The Russian force consisted of three squadrons. At Chan-Chin-Tun this force was joined by two additional squadrons and the Japanese again attacked and defeated the Russians. Five companies of infantry and a battery of horse artillery joined the Russians at Lung-Wang-Miao, where the Japanese attacked for the third time and the Russians fell back to Telissul, where the Japanese and Russian cavalry continued in contact Monday night.

MANY EXPLOSIONS.

It is reported at Tokio that several explosions, accompanied by dense masses of smoke, were heard on Saturday at Port Arthur.

The Chitose, which has been cruising near Port Arthur, reports having heard a series of explosions, and believes them to have resulted from blastings preparatory to the emplacing of new batteries.

The Japanese torpedo-boat destroyer Ikachui on Saturday discovered and exploded a large mine off Sanshan Island, at the entrance of Talienwan Bay.

The Japanese naval authorities engaged in clearing out the mines in the vicinity of Talienwan Bay are employing Japanese divers from Kushiu Province for the purpose. These divers volunteered for this work, and are wonderfully expert. It is said that with their diving paraphernalia they can stay under water for half a day at a time. Hundreds of Japanese fishermen are volunteering to assist in clearing away Russian mines, and it is probable that some of them will be used for this work. These voluntary offers are taken to illustrate the unity of the Japanese people in the war.

RUSSIAN TREACHERY.

A despatch to the London Telegraph from Nagasaki gives an account of the abuse by the Russians of the white flag at the Battle of Nanshan Hill, as told by a Japanese officer, who was wounded, and has arrived at Moji. He says: "We advanced and were on the point of passing them (the Russians who displayed the white flag), when they fired point blank at us, killing many." It was this piece of treachery that accounts for the greatness of the Japanese casualties.

2,000 RUSSIANS DEFEATED.

The Japanese rear-guard has repulsed 2,000 Russian infantry, one battery, and some cavalry at Chuchiatun says a Tokio despatch. The Japanese casulaties were eight. A reconnoitring detachment from Gen. Kuroki's army has defeated 600 Russians, north of Feng-Wang-Cheng. The battle took place towards Chaimachi. Gen. Kuroki says that the Russian losses were heavy. The Japanese lost one killed and three wounded.

TO SALLY OUT.

A despatch to London from Chefoo says that the Japanese army investing Port Arthur extends from Shulintarkao, on the west to Chi-Chengtsu on the east, from twelve to fourteen miles from the fortress. The Japanese outposts are being gradually advanced to within four miles of the land defences.

The Japanese fleet has taken possession of two Russian torpedo boats that were abandoned at Dalny, and another vessel that is ashore in Talienwan Bay. There are indications that the Port Arthur fleet will make a desperate effort to sally from the port during the land attack.

A RUSSIAN MOVEMENT.

A London despatch says:—The talk is again of an important Russian move southward from Liao-Yang. An unofficial telegram from headquarters at Mukden, says it is understood that the Russian commander-in-chief is now in a position to begin offensive operations on an important scale. It is true that the Japanese are in possession of Liao-Yang promontory, that Port Arthur is practically besieged, and that the enemy have advanced to the Russian main positions by the shortest lines of communication, but their further operations seem likely to be confined to a restricted area owing to the danger attending the exposure of their communications in Northern Corea. Reports received regarding the achievements of the Cossacks show that the Russians are already adopting aggressive tactics south of Hai-Cheng. Moreover, the garrison at Port Arthur is stated to be harrassing the Japanese. The siege of the fortress is expected to be protracted.

The foregoing obviously embodies what the Russian censor wishes to be announced, and it may or may not enclose the truth, but it is to a great extent consistent with other reports according to which the recent lively skirmish at Wafangkau was the opening action by the force sent by Gen. Kouropatkin to relieve Port Arthur or create a diversion in favor of its garrison. This force, according to the New-Chwang correspondent of the London Daily Mail consists of 14,000 artillery, cavalry and infantry, under Gen. Stalkenberg, who left Liao-Yang with Wafangtien as his immediate objective for the purpose of attacking Gen. Oku's rear.

Those critics here and in Paris who consider the story probable concur in the opinion that the dangerous manoeuvre is likely to end in disaster for Gen. Stalkenberg, while greatly weakening Gen. Kouropatkin.

According to advices from Tien-Tsin, from where this Russian movement is also reported, the Japanese are not concerned over it, feeling certain that the Russians are unable to bring down a sufficient force to prove effective, and especially as it would leave them open to an attack on the flank from the sea.

Meanwhile the Japanese operations between Kinchau and Port Arthur are screened with the customary secrecy. Such few reports as come in reference to their doings since the Battle of Nanshan Hill are based on rumor or supposition.

The Tokio correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph, discussing the tremendous task involved in the capture of Port Arthur, says that he nevertheless does not doubt that the unique feat will be accomplished, and that it will constitute a mortal wound, which even successful stands by Gen. Kouropatkin at Mukden, Kirin, or Harbin will be unable to staunch or heal.

It is assumed from unofficial reports of the stream of troops that Japan is still sending out, that Gen. Oku will be given an overwhelming force to enable him to act independently of Gen. Kuroki, who is also believed to be receiving a considerable proportion of the reinforcements Gen. Kuroki's operations continue to be completely hidden.

IN FRONT OF MUKDEN.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Petit Parisien says that the Japanese have withdrawn their attacking lines some distance beyond Liao-Yang. They have moved further to the north-east, evidently for the purpose of overlapping the Russian left wing. Gen Kouropatkin states that everything appears to be going well, but he asks for large reinforcements as soon as possible. Nearly the whole Russian army is concentrated in front of Mukden, thus preventing any sudden attack on that place.

GEN. OKU'S ARMY.

The London Daily Telegraph prints a St. Petersburg despatch, saying that Gen. Nodzu is now busily supervising the landing of a third Japanese army at Takushan. Two divisions are going to reinforce Gen. Oku, making his army 120,000, and the remainder will reinforce Gen. Kuroki, bringing his army up to 140,000 men. The military authorities in St. Petersburg believe that the large and ever increasing Japanese army on the roads around Mukden and Hai-Cheng makes it clear that the Japanese plan of campaign is directed against both of Gen. Kouropatkin's flanks. Meanwhile, it is known that the Japanese are paying extraordinary attention to fortifying their positions in the rear of Kwang-Hing.

COURT-MARSHALLED.

A despatch to the London Daily Mail from Odessa says that seven infantrymen at Poltava and five at Krementchug were court-martailed and shot for leading a mutinous demonstration against sending their regiments to the Far East, shortly before the Czar's recent tour of inspection. The affair was of a serious nature.

JAPANESE SIEGE TRAIN.

A despatch to the London Times from Chefoo says it will take the Japanese some little time to make Dalny and Talienwan practicable as a base, because the San-Shantao Islands have been connected very skilfully with the main land by both observation and blockade mines which zig-zag over a large field, but the demolition of the Russian works ashore was insignificgnt and the rolling stock captured, together with four locomotives taken at Pulandien will give the nucleus of railway communication, which will be available as soon as the reconstruction of the line is complete. Large quantities of railway plant have been arriving from Japan for some time past.

As soon as the bay is practicable a Japanese siege train will land, and it may be presumed that then the second army corps will quietly invest Port Arthur while the third corps and a specially organized flying column will co-operate with the first corps in an advance on Mukden.

The correspondent says regarding the damage at Dalny that it was thirty hours after the fight before the Japanese were in a position to occupy the town. During the interval anarchy prevailed. Such European non-combatants as were able to get passages fled in junks to Chefoo. The local Chinese officials allowed the jail, which contained about 200 cutthroats, to be forced and until the Japanese arrived and restored order the jail birds had the free run of the town.

JAPANESE LOSSES.

The total of the Japanese casualties at the Battle of Nanshan Hill, on May 26, is 4,304. They are divided as follows: Thirty-one officers, including one major and five sergeant-majors, and 713 non-commissioned officers and men killed; 100 officers, including one colonel, one major, and twelve sergeant-majors, and 3,460 non-commissioned officers and men wounded.

RUSSIAN LOSS 700.

The Russian losses in the fighting at Kinchau are officially stated to be 30 officers and 700 men killed or wounded. These figures were given in Gen. Stoessel's report, which has reached the Russian War Office. The account says the attack began May 21, and culminated on the evening of May 26. The real fighting was practically confined to May 25 and May 26, the Japanese remaining quiet the two previous days.

Gen. Stoessel reports that owing to the absence of the support of warships against the Japanese artillery fire at the time of the final assault on the Russian positions on Nanshan Hill during the evening of May 26, he at 8 o'clock gave the order to blow up the guns and retire. The General explains that the order was only partially executed, as the enemy's flank movements necessitated promptness in retreat, which he says was carried out with great coolness, thus accounting for the smallness of the Russian losses.

Gen. Stoessel also says the enemy's losses must have run far into the thousands, the Japanese mortality in storming Nanshan Hill being frightful.

Gen. Stoessel pays a high tribute to the Russian troops, and refers in terms of warmest praise to the skill and courage displayed by Gen. Fock, whom he recommends for the St. George's Cross. He does not mention that Gen. Fock was wounded, by which the general staff assumes that the report to this effect was untrue.

As Gen. Stoessel specially praises a regiment which was not in Gen. Fock's division, the general staff concludes therefrom that five regiments, or about 12,000 men, were engaged on the Russian side.

YAMAGATA TO COMMAND.

A despatch to the London Express from Tokio says it is stated that Field Marshal Marquis Yamagata has been appointed commander-in-chief of the armies in the field. It is expected that he will shortly proceed to the Liao-Tung Peninsula, presumably to command the final assault on Port Arthur.

The despatch adds that it is expected that Japan will shortly declare a blockade of all the Gulf of Liao-Tung, in addition to the peninsula, the blockade of which has been already announced, with the view of stopping the enormous smuggling which is being carried on in junks.

Field Marshal Yamagata was commander-in-chief of the Japanese forces in the Chinese-Japanese War. He is a member of the Genro or Elder Statesmen, and next to Marquis Iro, is the most important subject of the Mikado.

The French naval budget provides appropriations of $60,000,000.

# THE WORLD'S MARKETS

## REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

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

Toronto, June 7.—Wheat—No. 2 white and red Winter quoted at 93 to 94c outside. Spring wheat is nominal at 89c east, and goose at 81 to 82c east. Manitoba wheat is unchanged. No. 1 Northern, 93c Georgian Bay ports; No. 2 Northern at 90c, and No. 3 Northern, 88c. No. 1 hard is nominal at 94c. Grinding in transit prices are 6c above those quoted.

Oats—No. 2 white quoted at 31½c west, and at 32½c low freights to New York. No. 1 white, 33c east and No. 2 at 32½c east.

Barley—No. 2 quoted at 42c middle freights. No. 3 extra, 40 to 40½c, and No. 3 at 38 to 39c middle freights.

Peas—The market is dull at unchanged prices, with No. 2 shipping peas quoted at 61 to 62c west or east.

Corn—No. 3 American yellow quoted at 59½c on track, Toronto; No. 3 mixed at 58½c. Canadian corn nominal at 44 to 45c west for sound grain.

Ry—The market is quiet, with prices nominal at 57 to 58c outside.

Buckwheat—No. 2 quoted at 45c outside.

Flour—Ninety per cent. patents unchanged at $3.70 to $3.75 middle freights for domestic use, but are not worth over $3.60 for export. Straight rollers of special brands for domestic trade quoted at $4.25 to $4.50 in bbls. Manitoba flours are steady. No. 1 patents, $4.80: No. 2 patents, $4.50 and strong bakers', $4.40 on track, Toronto.

Millfeed—Bran is dull at $17, and shorts at $16 here. At outside points bran is quoted at $15.50 and shorts at $16.50. Manitoba bran, in sacks, $18 and shorts at $20 here.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Dried apples—Trade is very dull, and prices are unchanged, at 3 to 3½c p erlb. Evaporated apples, 6½c 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 28 to 32c, according to quality.

Honey—The market is quiet at 6 to 7c per lb. Comb quiet, at $1.50 to $1.75.

Hay—Timothy quoted at $9.50 to $10.25 a ton on track, Toronto.

Straw—The market is quiet, with prices unchanged at $5.50 to $6 on track, Toronto.

Maple Syrup—The market is quiet, at $1 per Imperial gallon.

Potatoes—Car lots are quoted at 75 to 90c per bag on track here, according to quality.

Poultry—Chickens, 12 to 13c per lb.; turkeys, 15 to 17c per lb. for fresh killed.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—We quote: Finest 1-lb. rolls, 14 to 15c; ordinary to good large rolls, 12 to 14c; medium and lower grades, 10 to 11c; creamery prints, 17 to 18c; solids, 16 to 17c.

Eggs—Case lots are selling at 15c per dozen.

Cheese—Old quoted at 19½c per lb. and new at 9¼ to 9½c, the latter for twins.

HOG PRODUCTS.

We quote:—Bacon, long clear, 8 to 8¼c per lb. in case lots. Mess pork, $17; do. short cut, $18.50.

Smoked meats—Hams, light to medium, 12½c; do. heavy, 11½ to 12c; rolls, 9 to 9½c; shoulders, 10c; backs, 12½ to 14c; breakfast bacon 13½c.

Lard—The demand is fair, with prices unchanged. We quote:—Tierces, 7¾c; tubs, 8c; pails, 8¼c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, June 7.—Cable bids on Manitoba Spring wheat were lower to-day. Offers of considerable quantities of No. 3 oats were made at 37c, and of No. 2 at 38c, stores. Peterboroughs are quoted at 35½c in store. Peas were about steady at 71c afloat Montreal; No. 2 barley, 50c; No. 3 extra, 49c; No. 2 rye, 62c. Flour—Trade is rather dull, and many regard the following prices as above the market. We quote:—Manitoba patents, $4.90 to $4.95; strong bakers', $4.60 to $4.65; Winter wheat patents, $4.80 to $5; straight rollers, $4.50 to $4.65; straight rollers, in bags, $2.15 to $2.25. Feed—The market was quiet; Manitoba bran, in bags, $19; shorts, $21 per ton; Ontario bran, in bulk, $18.50 to $19; shorts, $19.50 to $20; mouillie, $26 to $28 per ton. Rolled oats—The market is firm; dealers are asking $2.32½ for bags, and $.90 in barrels, on track. Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, $17.50 to $18; light short cut, $17 to $17.50; American fat backs, $17.50; compound lard, 6½ to 7c; Canadian lard, 6¾ to 7½c; kettle rendered, 8½ to 9½c; hams, 11 to 13c; bacon, 13 to 13½c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, $7.35 to $7.50; live hogs, $5.40 to $5.60. Eggs—New laid, 15 to 15½c. Butter—Full grass, 17 to 17½c; Western dairy, 13 to 14c. Cheese—Ontario, 8½ to 8¾c; best Quebec, 8½c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Buffalo, June 7.—Flour—Firm. Wheat—Nothing doing. Corn—Unsettled; No. 2 yellow, 59½c; No. 2 corn, 56½c. Oats—Steady; No. 2 white, 47c. Barley—Western, 53 to 55c asked in store. Rye—No. 2 offered at 80c through billed.

Minneapolis, Minn., June 7.—Wheat—July, 84⅛c; Sept., 82⅝c; on track, No. 1 hard, 96⅞c; No. 2 Northern, 96⅞c; No. 2 Northern 93⅞c. Flour—First patents, $5.10 to $5.20; second patents, $5 to $5.10; first clears, $3.60; second clears, $2.65. Bran—In bulk, $17 to $17.50.

Milwaukee, June 7.—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, 98½c; No. 2 Northern, 96 to 97c; old July, 94¼c bid. Rye—No. 1, 77½c. Barley—No. 2, 63c; sample, 40 to 59c. Corn—No. 3, 50 to 52c; July, 49½ to 59⅝c asked.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, June 7.—Export—The demand for export cattle is just now very good, and, it is said, is likely to be so from this out right through the season. The class of export cattle offering to-day was said to be not quite up to the recent offerings, but for all that the prices realized were fully as high as the best that have been so far this season. Quite a few loads sold at $5.30 to $5.35. Some of the buyers said they were not able to get all the cattle they wanted, and would have to look to Chicago, as they could not stand the high prices which cattle are commanding in the home market.

Butchers—The demand for butchers' cattle was particularly active, with buyers complaining they were paying more for cattle than they were worth. As high as $4.70 was paid to-day for cattle that a week ago could have been bought 25c to 30c per cwt. less. So keen is the demand for butcher cattle just now that there are the usual complaints around the market, of some buyers being allowed to get into the market as early as three o'clock in the morning. One buyer said to-day that he was in the market at 3.30 this morning and found that the particular kind of cattle he was looking for had all been picked up. It is said that some of the cattle are bought up thus early by speculators, who sell them off again to the local wholesale men, who must have the cattle at any cost.

Stockers and Feeders—There is a good, steady market for good stocker cattle and short-keep feeders. Prices are firm.

Sheep and Lambs—There were no changes in the quotations to-day.

Hogs—There was an unusually heavy run of hogs to-day, amounting to between 3,500 and 4,000. The market, however, was steady at the advance of the early part of the week. Selects are quoted firm at $5.25, lights and fats at $5.

## TEN MEN KILLED.

**Three Thousand Two Hundred Steers Suffocated.**

A Peoria, Ill., despatch says:—An explosion which occurred in the eleven-story warehouse of the Corning distillery, the second largest in the world, on Saturday, completely wrecked the building. The ruins took fire, and the flames were communicated to three adjoining buildings burning them to the ground. Ten men were buried beneath the ruins and burned to death, and six others were seriously injured. The loss on buildings and whiskey and spirits stored will approximate $1,000,000. The fire spread to the stock yards district, where a dozen large cattle barns, filled with cattle for market were burned. The warehouse, containing in the neighborhood of 30,000 barrels of whiskey, was instantaneously a seething caldron, and it was seen that no one inside the big structure could escape. The warehouse, in crushing the smaller structure nearby, set the latter on fire, and the whiskey from the bursting barrels flooded everything in that section. Large streams, ran down toward the river, and in a short time there was a foot of whiskey in the cattle pens east of the warehouse, where 3,200 steers were chained fast. Their distress lasted but a few moments, however, for they were soon roasted to death or suffocated. They were the property of Dodd & Kiefer of Chicago.

## POSTAL NOTES.

**United States Authorities Issue Instructions.**

An Ottawa despatch says:—The Post-office Department has received a copy of the instructions issued by the postal authorities at Washington which affect Canadians. It says:

"Postmasters at money order offices in the United States may pay Canadian postal notes, if properly drawn for payment at their respective offices, provided the notes are regular in every particular, show no evidence of alteration of correction, bear legible impressions of the date, stamps of the issuing offices, and are presented for payment within twelve months from the date of issue."

## TWO TONS OF GOLD.

**Royalty Paid on This Amount of Season's Output.**

A Dawson despatch says:—Since sluicing began in the Klondike on May 8 a royalty has been paid on 55,753 ounces of gold, or nearly two tons. This is the largest amount ever produced up to June 1 in this district. Last year only 11,000 ounces were taken out in a similar period.