

RUSSIANS HARD PRESSED

Try to Recapture Old Positions at Port Arthur.

FIGHT FOR OLD POSITIONS.

A despatch from Chefoo says: Severe fighting, the Russians being the aggressors, occurred on Sept. 23 and 29 on the west shore of Liaoti Promontory, near Pigeon Bay, according to a report brought by Chinese who left Port Arthur on Sept. 30. The Russians already apparently are attempting to capture the heavy guns which the Japanese have mounted in that vicinity. The Russians are in considerable force, and they made several sorties, dragging field artillery with them. They were unsuccessful, however.

Three junks, with 160 coolies, arrived at Chefoo on Sunday. They left Port Arthur because they were forced to carry the wounded and bury the dead. They also were afraid that eventually they would have no food, although rice is plentiful now, according to their stories. They further say that the Russians lost heavily during the attacks on Sept. 19 and Sept. 23, but the Japanese loss was much heavier.

The Russian ships were silent during the battle, and the hitherto unused merchant ships were turned into hospitals as a result of the fight. Several of the Chinese who were employed in carrying dead say that they were unable to form anything like an estimate of the number which fell in attacking and defending the supplementary forts near Itz Mountain.

Since the battle both sides continue to shell at intervals daily. The Russians make many small sorties against the Japanese trenches. Small positions frequently change hands. The Chinese say they were compelled to bury the dead by stealth at night, for the reason that the Japanese would fire on them.

A 90-ton junk, from New-Chwang to Shanghai, ran on a mine 25 miles north of Chefoo on Saturday night. No one was injured. The junk was kept afloat by water-tight compartments, and it reached Chefoo with its available hands working at the pumps.

NEEDS WATER.

The London Daily Mail's correspondent at Chefoo says he hears from the latest refugee arrivals that the Port Arthur garrison needs water urgently. Provisions are also wanted, though little is said of their small quantity and unsatisfactory quality. The Russians still have plenty of ammunition.

FOUGHT BREST TO BREST.

The London Daily Telegraph's Chefoo correspondent gives a Chinaman's account of the desperate fighting at Port Arthur, in which the Japanese swarmed like locusts upon the Russian bayonets. There were fierce breast-to-breast conflicts, and the trenches were filled with dead and wounded. The Japanese siege guns have done serious damage. The premises of the principal merchants, Gen. Stoessel's residence, the Russian Church, and the police station have been wrecked.

A junk has arrived at Chefoo with her bows damaged by hitting a mine near the Miaotao Islands. Reports of vessel captains state that many mines are floating in the open sea between Port Arthur and Chefoo.

RUSSIAN ARMY WELL FED.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says:—Writing to the War Office, under date of Sept. 12, Gen. Kouropatkin praises the commissariat officials for their untiring labors. They have, he says, overcome all difficulties in the way of supplying provisions to the army.

The troops are nearly always supplied with bread baked in portable kitchens. This work of the commissariat department, the general says, explains why the army has not suffered from dysentery, despite the execrable climatic conditions. The commander requests that the services of the commissariat be brought to the notice of the Czar.

The latter appended a note to the report, expressing great pleasure at the exemplary conduct of the commissariat.

It is stated that Gen. Gripenberg, the commander of the second Manchurian army, will start for the Far East in a month.

GRADUALLY ADVANCING.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says:—Field Marshal Oyama has begun the long-expected advance upon the Russian army at Mukden, and a coincident movement against Simnintin is indicated by the fact that the Japanese have occupied Siabeyho, west of the Liao River. There is a concentration of Japanese forces in the vicinity of the Yentai mines, and the advance lines are being gradually pushed forward. Gen. Sukharoff, in the despatches to the War Office at St. Petersburg, repeats successes in several engagements of a minor character.

It is admitted that the Japanese advance has already begun along the

whole line, assuming its most active form in the east, whither Field Marshal Oyama continues to draft large forces. Operations are also progressing west of the river.

A Harbin despatch contains the important announcement that the Japanese have occupied Siabeyho, west of the Liao River, from which point they are evidently threatening Simnintin. The despatch reads:—"Russian scouts have ascertained that fresh Japanese forces are concentrating at the Yentai mines and gradually moving eastward. A strong Japanese force west of the Liao Valley has occupied Siabeyho, South of Simnintin. A company of Chinese bandits last night attempted to wreck the railroad near the station of Fantsiatun, 150 miles south of Harbin. They killed a sentinel and caused slight damage."

TO CUT ENTANGLEMENTS.

A despatch from Tokio says:—It is reported that the Japanese at Port Arthur have invented instruments insulated with rubber which enable them to safely cut electrically charged entanglements.

JAPANESE REPULSE.

A despatch to the London Daily Telegraph from Chefoo confirms from an undoubted source the reports that the Japanese have been repulsed at Port Arthur. It adds that it is authoritatively announced that the Japanese army must go into Winter quarters. Permanent fortifications, affording excellent shelter, are being constructed outside the Russian main defenses. Warm clothing and additional troops are arriving. The blockade is stringent, and the trade conducted by means of junks has been practically stopped, the Chinese refusing to enter Port Arthur.

A Japanese lieutenant lately swam to the entrance with a torpedo. He was preparing to discharge it towards a battleship when the searchlights revealed him. The torpedoes exploded, which blew the lieutenant to pieces. Admiral Togo received many applications from junior officers who desired to reattempt the dangerous task, but he refused to allow them to go.

JAPANESE FORCES.

A despatch from Mukden says: The Russians estimate Gen. Kuroki's army to consist of 76 battalions, 18 squadrons, and 276 guns; Gen. Oku's, 60 battalions, 26 squadrons, and 242 guns, and Gen. Nodzu's, 44 battalions, 9 squadrons, and 120 guns. The total Japanese forces are computed to be 144,000 infantry, 6,350 cavalry, and 638 guns.

RUSSIANS FALL BACK.

A despatch from New-Chwang says: The main Russian army under Gen. Kouropatkin has withdrawn north of Mukden. A strong force of infantry is still south of that city, watching the Japanese movements. Big detachments are also guarding the Russian flanks. These detachments have constructed many gun positions and dug trenches, which are protected by barbed wire. The defenders of the eastern flank are centred at Usan, twenty-eight miles east of Mukden.

It is impossible to say as yet whether Mukden will be held. The belief grows that it will not. Tieling has been greatly strengthened, and is now reported to be occupied by Cosacks.

LITTLE RESISTANCE.

News has been received at St. Petersburg from Mukden to the effect that the Japanese have at last begun the offensive. They have captured Da Pass, and are pressing on General Kouropatkin's left flank. It is believed the Russians abandoned Da Pass without serious resistance. Several other passes of the Da range, eastward of Bentsiaputze (twenty miles south-east of Mukden), are also in the hands of the Japanese.

Gen. Kouropatkin is evidently drawing in his forces to the less mountainous country north-westward where he may decide to give battle. In the meanwhile sharp fighting is regarded as imminent south-east of Mukden, whence the Japanese are expected to deliver their main attack, the flank movement from the west being of secondary importance.

SUPPLIES FOR RUSSIANS.

A despatch to the London Daily Telegraph from Simnintin says that on the average 150 cars freighted with supplies for the Russians arrive there monthly over the railway. Many of the supplies are sent by private speculators, including Greeks and Americans. The track north of Kaopantse is comparatively free of both Russians and Japanese.

INCREASE OF 200,000 MEN.

A despatch from Tokio says: It is stated in Government circles that the new rules of conscription will increase the active army by 200,000 men. The ordinance needs the ex-post facto sanction of the Diet, which undoubtedly will be readily given, everybody

recognizing the necessity for it. The attitude of the public towards the ordinance furnishes further evidence of the nation's realization that the campaign is to be long and exhausting.

LOSSES OVER 30,000.

The Shanghai correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph quotes a Japanese officer as saying that the killed and wounded at Port Arthur considerably exceed 30,000. The military authorities are of the opinion that it would be useless to throw away more lives in assaulting the fortress, and that it would be better to institute a regular siege. The Japanese arsenals are working night and day turning out 12-inch howitzers and larger guns. Some batteries of 12-inch guns have recently reached the besiegers.

RAVAGES OF BERI-BERI.

A despatch to the London Telegraph from Shanghai says that a careful estimate of the number of Japanese already in the field leaves only about forty thousand trained troops now in Japan. Hence the necessity for a premature levy of conscripts and the lengthening of the reservists' terms of service. It is rumored that the Japanese are making preparations for the occupation of the island of Saghalien during the autumn for the sake of the coal mines there. The most serious problem confronting the Japanese at present is the enormous ravages of beri-beri. It is stated that the losses from this disease exceed the total casualties in the fighting. Every transport bound for Japan takes hundreds of sufferers. One general has been invalidated by the disease. It is believed that the outbreak is due to eating of cold rice that has been cooked for a long time. The besiegers of Port Arthur are suffering the worst. Between beri-beri and casualties the eleventh division has practically ceased to exist.

45,000 JAPS IN HOSPITAL.

A despatch from Tokio says:—Unofficial estimates place the number of sick and wounded Japanese soldiers under treatment in Japan at forty-five thousand. The military hospitals at Tokio, Osaka, and Hiroshima contain ten thousand each. Nine thousand have recovered sufficiently to be sent to mountain and health resorts. The system of handling and treating the sick and wounded is working splendidly and the death rate is exceptionally small.

NO POSSIBILITY OF PEACE.

A despatch from London says:—The possibility of peace overtures continues to be discussed by the European press in a manner that is not warranted by any probability. The definition of Russia's attitude is confirmed by a statement in the German press to the effect that Count Lansdorf, the Russian Foreign Minister, informed a prominent diplomatist in St. Petersburg that the rumors of Russia's intention to address peace proposals to Japan were entirely baseless. He added that the increase in Russian armaments and the appointment of Gen. Gripenberg to command the second Manchurian army might be accepted as proofs that Russia would continue the war as long as necessary.

CONFIDENCE IN JAPAN.

The correspondent of the London Times at Tokio says:—The Japanese press is uncertain whether to regard the second Russian army as a second Baltic squadron or not, but it is declared that, at any rate, since the responsibility for the prolongation of the war rests with Russia, Japan is prepared to continue the fight unflinchingly, confident in her ability to always place in the field a larger and stronger army than Russia. It is added that no financial or economic inconvenience has been experienced hitherto. Therefore confidence is expressed that in the trial of endurance Japan will not be beaten by the enemy.

RUSSIA ORDERS WARSHIPS.

The correspondent of The London Times at Paris says a despatch from Toulon says the Russian Government has just ordered from the Compagnie des Forges et Chantiers, de la Mediterranee, eleven torpedo boat destroyers of the latest pattern, which will be taken in hand at once. Four will be built in the dockyards at Havre, four in the Norman dockyards, and three at La Seyne. They will not be finished for fifteen months. It is further reported that orders have been given for four cruisers of the Bayan type.

JAPAN TO BUILD SHIPS.

The correspondent of The London Times at Berlin says:—According to an American letter to the Kolnische Volks Zeitung, a representative of the Japanese Government has given an order to the Carnegie Steel Works for 7,500 tons of nickel steel plates, which, it is said, is intended to armor new battleships, the construction of which is contemplated in Japan. It is stated that the Japanese Imperial navy yards are now fitted with the most modern machinery, and that the arsenal at Kure can supply the complete equipment of a battleship. Guns of a large calibre are being turned out at Osaka.

The Vatican is making great preparations to celebrate the jubilee of the immaculate conception. Bishops from all parts of the Catholic world will be present.

LEADING MARKETS.

The Ruling Prices in Live Stock and Breadstuffs.

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Oct. 4.—Wheat—Quotations are \$1.05 to \$1.06 for No. 2 red and white outside, and \$1.08 for old; No. 2 goose, 89c to 90c, and No. 2 spring, 97c to 98c. Manitoba wheat steady at No. 1 northern, \$1.08 to \$1.08½; No. 2, \$1.05 to \$1.05½; No. 3, \$1.02 to \$1.03, Georgian Bay ports; 6c more grinding in transit.

Flour—Cars of 90 per cent. patents are quoted at \$4.40 to \$4.45, buyers' sacks, east or west. Choice brands, 15c to 20c higher, Manitoba, \$5.70 for Hungarian patents, \$5.40 for second patents, and \$5.30 for strong bakers', bags included, on track Toronto.

Millfeed—Bran is quoted at \$14 to \$14.50 in bulk, and shorts at \$17.50 east or west. Manitoba millfeed unchanged at \$20 to \$21 for shorts and \$19 for bran, sacks included, Toronto freights.

Barley—Market is steady at 45c for No. 2, 43c for No. 3 extra and 41c for No. 3 east or west.

Rye—Is quiet and quoted at 59c to 60c east or west.

Corn—Fair demand for cars of Canada west at 52c to 53c west. American quiet at 62½c for No. 2 yellow, 61c for No. 3 yellow, and 59½c for No. 3 mixed on track Toronto.

Oats—No. 1 white are quoted at 33c east, No. 2 white at 32c to 32½c low freights, and 31c to 32c north and west, and old about ½c higher.

Rolled Oats—Are in quiet demand at \$4.50 for cars of bags and \$4.75 for barrels on the track Toronto; 25c more for broken lots here and 40c more for broken lots outside.

Peas—Are steady at 63c to 64c for No. 2 west or east.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Good grades are in active demand.

Creamery, prints 19c to 20c

do solids 18c to 19c

Dairy tubs, good to choice 13c to 15c

do inferior grades 10c to 12c

Dairy lb. rolls, good to choice 15c to 16c

do medium 13c to 14c

Cheese—Large are quoted at 9½c to 9¾c, and twins at 9½c to 10c in job lots here.

Eggs—Receipts are still light and the market is quoted unchanged, with a firm tone at 18c to 18½c.

Potatoes—Quotations are unchanged at \$1 per bag for out of store stocks and 80c to 90c on track.

Poultry—Quotations are unchanged at 11c to 13c for spring chickens, and 8c to 9c for old birds. Ducks are steady at 9c to 10c.

Baled Hay—Is offering freely and is quoted unchanged at \$7.50 to \$8 per ton for car lots on track here.

Baled Straw—Is steady and unchanged at \$5.75 to \$6 per ton for car lots on track here.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, Oct. 4.—The oat market continues to settle down day by day, but holders are gaining confidence as it comes closer to a trading basis. Merchants reported that the recent dullness is still maintained, but they were closer together as regards prices, a good average being 36½c to 37c for No. 3 car lots, in store, and 37c to 37½c for No. 2. Peterboros are offering at 36c, and buyers are willing to pay 35½c for a limited number. Peas are about steady at 72c afloat, Montreal. No. 2 barley, 50½c; No. 3 extra, 50c; No. 3, 49c.

Flour—Manitoba strong bakers', \$5.50, and patents, \$5.80 per barrel in bags; Ontario straight rollers, in bags, \$2.55 to \$2.60; in barrels, \$5.40 to \$5.50, and winter wheat patents in barrels, \$5.70 to \$5.80.

Hay—No. 1 is quoted at \$8.50 to \$9 per ton on track; No. 2, \$8; export hay, clover and clover mixed, \$6.50 to \$7.

Feed—Manitoba bran in bags, \$18 to \$19; shorts, \$20 to \$21 per ton; Ontario bran, in bulk, \$17 to \$17.50; shorts, \$19 to \$20; moulle, \$26 to \$28 per ton, as to quality.

Rolled Oats—Bags are held at \$2.32½ per bag of 90 pounds, and barrels at \$4.90.

Beans—Choice primes, \$1.40 to \$1.45 per bushel, \$1.35 to \$1.37½ in car lots.

Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, \$17.50 to \$18; light short, \$17 to \$17.50; American fat backs, \$17.50; American clear fat backs, \$20; compound lard, 6½c to 7c; Canadian lard, 6½c to 7½c; kettle rendered, 8½c to 9½c, according to quality; hams, 13c to 13½c; bacon, 12c to 13c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, \$7.50; live heavy sows, \$4.50 to \$4.75; mixed lots, \$5.25 to \$5.30; select, \$5.50 off cars.

Cheese—Ontario white, 8½c; colored, 8c; Quebec, 9c.

Eggs—Select new laid, 21c to 22c, and straight gathered, candled, 18c to 19c; No. 2, 18½c to 19c.

Butter—Fancy grades, 20c to 20½c; ordinary finest, 19½c to 19¾c; western dairy, 15c.

BUFFALO GRAIN MARKETS.

Buffalo, Oct. 4.—Flour steady. Wheat, spring weak; No. 1 northern old, car loads, \$1.30; winter quiet; No. 2 red, in store, \$1.18½. Corn, nothing doing. Oats strong; No. 2 white, 34½c; No. 2 mixed, 33c. Rye quiet; No. 1, in store, 82c. Canal freights steady.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto, Oct. 4.—Trade at the Western Market to-day was active in the best description of butchers' and feeding cattle. Prices were well maintained in these, but medium and rough classes of feeders were slow of sale, with the market continuing unchanged.

The range of values in exporters' was nominally \$4.20 to \$4.75 per cwt.

The prices prevailing for butchers' cattle were as follows:—Best butchers', \$4.25 to \$4.40; fair to good loads, \$3.80 to \$4.20; medium to fair, \$3.25 to \$3.75; common to fair cows, \$2.25 to \$3.

The following were the quotations for stockers and feeders:—Stockers, calves, 400 to 600 lbs., best, \$3 to \$3.25; medium, \$2.75 to \$3; inferiors and roughs, \$2 to \$2.60; stockers, 600 to 900 lbs., best, \$3 to \$3.40; medium, \$3 to \$3.25; rough, \$2.40 to \$2.80; feeders, 950 to 1,050 lbs., good \$3.60 to \$3.80; short-keeps, 1,100 to 1,200 lbs., at \$4 to \$4.25 per cwt.

The following were the quotations for sheep and calves:—Export ewes, \$3.75 to \$3.90; export bucks, \$3 to \$3.25; lambs, \$3.75 to \$4.25 per cwt; culls, sheep, \$3 to \$4 each; calves, \$2 to \$10 each, and 3½ to 5c per lb.

Hogs were quoted as follows:—Selects, prime bacon hogs, 160 to 200 lbs., off cars, Toronto, \$5.15; fats and lights, \$4.90 per cwt.

RIOTOUS NAVVIES.

Took Possession of Train and Shot the Engineer.

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—An accident which was followed by exciting incidents occurred on Wednesday afternoon on the Canadian Pacific at Carlstadt Station, 90 miles west of Fort William. Train No. 64 was going east, and was pulling in the Carlstadt siding when four boaring cars filled with Italians, attached to the rear of the train, became derailed in some manner. The Italians were shaken up, and started in to avenge themselves on the men in charge of the train. One named G. Lagi, armed with a shotgun, arrived at the engine. He fired at Engineer Trowel, sending six grains of buckshot into his forearm. Not satisfied with this, the Italians made after the train hands, and would not allow them to return until the arrival of the police from Fort William on a special. Two Italians were also badly injured in the accident, and three others slightly injured. Lagi, who shot Trowel, was placed under arrest at Fort William.

CONDUCTOR ARRESTED.

Charged With Causing Accident at Richmond, Que.

A despatch from Sherbrooke, Que., says: Norman Atkinson, ex-conductor on the G. T. R. was placed under arrest on Friday night at his home in Melbourne, and is now in jail at Sherbrooke charged with having been responsible for the deaths of the nine persons who were killed on Aug. 31 at Richmond, when the train on which Conductor Atkinson had charge ran past the station contrary to orders and collided with the Island Pond-Montreal train about a mile below the station.

FOR CAPTURE OF BANDITS.

Government Offers \$5,000 for Robbers of C.P.R. Train.

A despatch from Ottawa says: An extra of the Canada Gazette was issued on Saturday containing a proclamation of his Excellency offering a reward of \$5,000 for information which will lead to the apprehension and conviction of the bandits who on the night of Sept. 10th held up and robbed near Mission Junction, B. C., a Canadian Pacific Railway train carrying his Majesty's mail.

PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED.

Definite Action Taken by the Cabinet.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—At Thursday's meeting of the Cabinet it was definitely decided to dissolve Parliament subject to his Excellency's approval, and the dates of nomination and polling were decided upon—Nominations, Thursday, Oct. 27th; polling, Thursday, Nov. 3rd, the writs being returnable on Dec. 15th. Council rose at 5.30, and the Prime Minister immediately drove to Rideau Hall to acquaint his Excellency of the decision of his advisors. By 7 o'clock it was pretty generally known around town that Parliament had been dissolved.

SHOT MAN AND MOOSE.

Remarkable Fatality in the Woods of Nova Scotia.

A despatch from Halifax says:—A remarkable shooting fatality occurred in the woods of Pictou county on Tuesday, when Allan Macdonald, coal miner, of Westville, was accidentally killed by a young man named McLean. A party of three were moose-hunting. Macdonald sighted a moose and fired, but missed and immediately jumped from the cover of a tree. McLean, directly behind, just then fired and the rifle bullet went through Macdonald's head and afterwards killed the moose.