

## BALTIC FLEET MAY PARTICIPATE.

In St. Petersburg it is Said That  
It Will Leave for the Far East  
At the End of June.

### RUSSIAN ARMY IN KOREA.

Will be Large But Will Not Attempt to  
Do Much Until the Ice  
Melts.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—It is now said the Russian Baltic squadron, comprising eight battleships, two armored cruisers, three protected cruisers, two large transports and 30 torpedo boats will leave for the far east at the end of June. It is added that it will be commanded by Rear Admiral Rojestvensky.

According to information received by well informed military men, the Russian army which is intended to operate in Korea will consist of an advance vanguard of two regiments of Siberian sharpshooters, a vanguard of 16 regiments of infantry, with 96 quick-firing guns, three batteries of mounted guns and a corresponding force of cavalry. The main body will consist of 40 regiments, including Cossack cavalry, with 300 guns.

It is added that no important military operations will be possible before the melting of the ice, and that the present operations will be confined to necessary preparations.

### JAPAN AMAZES CORRESPONDENTS.

London, Feb. 25.—War correspondents and Europeans in Japan, commenting in amazement upon the success of Japanese officials in preserving secrecy regarding all the operations of war, declare that this "conspiracy of silence" is not only confined to government and service circles, but that it extends to every section of the community. All classes of people are submitting with marvelous patience to being deprived of news, which they recognize as imperative to the success of the cause. It is undoubtedly in pursuance of this policy that no Japanese account of the Port Arthur attacks has yet been published, and none is expected until Admiral Togo has completed his designs there.

In the meantime, if the reports from Yinkow of a Japanese landing near Vladivostok, which at present is based on missionary and native statements, should prove correct, a most important and new development in the Japanese operations will have been revealed, as it points to an attack on Vladivostok, from which Fossiet bay is only a little over 70 miles distant.

The report that the railroad has been cut between Harbin and Vladivostok may possibly be connected with these operations, but until reliable information is forthcoming this report must be received with reserve. It has already been reported from Tokyo that certain Russian forces were concentrating at Fossiet bay.

No further news of an attack on Port Arthur after the engagement in which the Japanese attempted to sink vessels in such a manner as to block the harbor entrance has reached London. Almost all the English newspapers, in discussing Viceroy Alexieff's reports, incline to the belief that Admiral Togo succeeded in so far as to make the channel impassable for battle ships, even if it is still free to

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smaller craft, and presume that the reported second attack, if it did occur, was devoted to an attempt to sink further obstacles to navigation.

The Morning Post today devotes a long editorial article to a historical record of the rapid growth of American activity in far eastern affairs, comparing the present attitude of the United States with her passive interest in the China-Japanese war. The paper remarks on the notable friendship with Russia, and contends that American friendship for the empire was always artificial. Admiral Dewey's guns, the paper says, literally shattered the supposition that Russia was the appointed friend and Great Britain the foe of the United States.

"We believe," the Morning Post concludes, "that the appearance of America as a working element in far eastern affairs, and her attitude, is destined to be epoch-making, if not epoch-making."

### JAPS BRILLIANTLY REPULSED.

Paris, Feb. 25.—In a dispatch from St. Petersburg a correspondent of the Echo de Paris says the last, or reported second, attack of the Japanese at Port Arthur was repulsed brilliantly. He says the Japanese were obliged to quit the roadstead. It is presumed that the entire squadron joined in the second attack, hoping to avenge the repulse of the preceding day. The Japanese are thought to have incurred further losses during this long fight. Admiral Stark has telegraphed that he expects a third attack.

Continuing, the correspondent says that Gen. Kuropatkin has started for home to take leave of his mother before going to the far east, and he quotes the general as having said: "This war may last 18 months, but every arrangement has been made that no Japanese, after being landed, shall return to his country."

### CHINA MAY HELP JAPAN.

Chefoo, Feb. 25.—Circulars from Russian sources have been printed in the Chinese language and distributed here belittling the successes of the Japanese and exaggerating those of the Russians. It is stated, on the authority of those close to the Chinese, that at the first success of the Japanese army the Chinese will join the Japanese with the hope of driving all foreigners out of China.

A Russian official report states that four Japanese battleships were sunk at Port Arthur in last Wednesday's attack, but the report is not credited. The Japanese only have six battleships in these waters. Four of them were off Wei-Hai-Wei last Wednesday evening and the remainder of the fleet is intact.

### LANDING AT POSSIET BAY.

Yinkow, Feb. 25.—Native reports that the Japanese landed at Possiet bay and subsequently undertook operations against Hunchun and toward Kirin, have received qualified confirmation from English missionary refugees who have arrived at Newchwang.

These people say the Russia-Chinese bank has removed from Kirin to Kwan-

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We Cannot Procure  
Better Tea  
Than Tree Tea.



cheng Tsi, where commercial interests are seeking safety and defense. This reported advance has produced consternation among the European civilians residing in the line of march. It is reported also that the Russian government bureau at Vladivostok has withdrawn to Khabarovsk.

### ATTACK ON PORT ARTHUR.

Japs Are Determined to Bottle Up or Destroy Russian Fleet.

London, Feb. 25.—Owing to the absence of a detailed account of the battle, which followed the attempt, Thursday morning, of the Japanese fleet to bottle up the Russian ships in Port Arthur, it is still uncertain whether the Japanese lost any of their fighting ships. The dispatches of last night indicated that in addition to the hulks that the mikado's men tried to sink at the mouth, two or more of the ships of line were sunk or disabled.

Naval men here are inclined to a belief that the portion of the meager story of the battle is not correct, and argue that if it were true the names of the vessels would have been known by this time. This conclusion of the naval experts is based upon the fact that cables have been going through to St. Petersburg all day, and the engagement is frequently mentioned in the dispatches. Nothing that would tend to clear up the question is contained in the dispatches.

It may be that the Russians are too busily engaged in defending Port Arthur to spare time to cable, as for two hours today the fortified town was under the bombardment by the Japanese fleet. What damage if any was accomplished by the Japs is not known.

It is presumed from knowledge of the country and about Port Arthur that the bombardment operated from Pigeon bay on the west coast of the peninsula. This theory is based on the fact that in the previous attacks the Japanese have used Pigeon, or as it is frequently called in the dispatches, Dove bay. Then it is admirably situated for the purposes to which the Japs put it.

Society and Kinchow bays to the north have also been used by the Japs in the present war, the belief being that they desire to land a flanking column somewhere in the neighborhood of Kinchow, when they are ready to march against Dainy.

Late this evening the British foreign office announced that it had received an official dispatch, saying that not one of the Japanese torpedo boats was injured by the attack on Port Arthur on Wednesday, Feb. 24.

The fact that the Japanese have renewed the attack is interpreted here to mean that they are determined to bottle up or destroy the Russian fleet at Port Arthur in order to give themselves freedom for land maneuvers to cut off or invest the city, or as a feint to cover a movement elsewhere.

### PREPARING FOR WAR.

Portugal Arms Its Soldiers With New Rifles.

New York, Feb. 25.—Dispatches from Lisbon to the Voassische Zeitung state, cables the Herald's Berlin correspondent, that in carrying out the alliance between Great Britain and Portugal, the latter country is now serving out to its army new rifles and the representative of a German firm is at present at Lisbon instructing artillery officers in the handling of the recently purchased field artillery.

Coast defenses are being overhauled in Lisbon, Fayal and Lagos, which could serve as naval stations. Telegrams from Amsterdam assert that everything is ready for the mobilization of the Dutch army. All leave is refused to officers.

## RUSSIA SUSPECTS GREAT BRITAIN.

Very Angry at Language Used by  
Foreign Minister Lansdowne  
Regarding Tibet.

### RETURN OF BENCKENDORFF.

Ambassador to St. James' Trip to St.  
Petersburg Believed to be  
Ominous.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—There is a growing belief here that an understanding exists between Russia and Germany relative to the developments from the war and the diplomats are giving more attention to the likelihood of other powers becoming involved. France's enormous financial investments in Russian funds and enterprises are estimated at close to \$2,000,000, and it is feared that in case of Russian reverses, which might threaten the empire, France may be compelled to go to the support of her ally. There are suspicions of the motives of Great Britain here of a character to cause complications in that direction.

It is strongly intimated that the return of the Russian ambassador to Great Britain, Count Benckendorff, to St. Petersburg, was not solely to bid farewell to his son, previous to the latter's departure for the far east with his regiment, but that it was also to consult with the Russian foreign office relative to the British expedition to Tibet.

The government is angry at the language used by Foreign Minister Lansdowne, as printed in the recent British blue book on the subject of Tibet, and Ambassador Benckendorff may receive instructions to reply in kind if exchanges on the subject continue.

The conditions in the Balkans are also considered extremely critical and altogether, the diplomatic feeling that if the danger of a general conflagration is to be avoided every energy should be directed not only to limiting the sphere of operations, but toward an attempt at mediation. They are discussing the subject with great seriousness.

It is not believed that Russia will be disposed, while smarting under the humiliation of defeat to accept intervention, but once a decisive victory is achieved the diplomats are inclined to believe that owing to the czar's sincere aversion to war he will welcome good offices.

The Novoye Vremya declares Great Britain's failure to protest against the violation of the neutrality of Korea, whose inviolability was guaranteed by the Anglo-Japanese treaty, proves that the treaty was directed solely against Russia.

Some old believers in the schismatics of 300 years ago, who are among the wealthiest Russians, show a disposition to place a vast sum at the disposal of the government if the occasion requires. Scores of millionaires are among them at Moscow, where they enjoy valuable concessions granted by Catherine the Great. As they are not believers in banks the money would have to come out of their private strong boxes.

A special dispatch from Port Arthur says Peking and Tien Tsin report that there is considerable dissatisfaction in certain Chinese circles at the neutrality of China, and that the Japanese minister, M. Ouchida, is trying to force China to side with Japan.

In an address Shih Kai, the Chinese commander-in-chief, is under Japanese influence, and that he secretly recommended an alliance between China and Japan on the ground that if Japan gets Korea she would not take Manchuria.

Gifts to Chicago Charities.

Chicago, Feb. 25.—"I return to Chicago all that I have derived from Chicago, and in going so am glad to be able to recognize the obligation that rests upon all good citizens voluntarily to contribute, according to their means, toward the moral education of the people which is most needed and is not provided for through our taxation and public schools."

In this language the will of Thomas D. Lowther, as filed for probate, distributes an estate of \$300,000 among Chicago institutions and individuals.

Mr. Lowther, whose fortune was made in the real estate business, died a bachelor and had few immediate relatives.

### TEN CHILDREN BURNED.

A Pastor's Desire to Add the  
Weird to a Story the Cause.

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 25.—An accident at the Richmond Street Christian church here tonight resulted in ten children being seriously burned and others painfully burned. Seven are in the city hospital, and it is thought that many whose names were not learned were badly burned.

The Sunday school rooms were crowded for an entertainment given by the pastor, Rev. Vernon Stauffer. The evening had been set apart for the

small boys, and a small crowd of girls gathered on the outside. The pastor was telling fairy stories. One of the stories was to have an air of mystery, with ghastly scenes. In order to make the story realistic the pastor provided a kettle which had salt in the bottom of it. This was saturated with alcohol and set afire for the weird light of the ghost story. When the boys were gathered around the weird fire suddenly a wind struck the stream of alcohol and an explosion followed. All those seated around the fire were burned.

Beside the seven taken to the hospital, three were taken home badly burned, and others not seriously injured were bandaged up and taken home.

Those taken to the city hospital were George Mangelo, aged 6 years; Carl Bertram, aged 6; Earl Carson, aged 12; Arthur Massar, aged 9; Edward Young, aged 12; Waldo Larkby, aged 15, and Walter Merrill, aged 12.

Among those taken to their homes who were badly burned were Freddie Brennan, aged 12 years; Harry Bort-

ram, aged 11, and Freddie Bertram, aged 12.

Official Takes French Leave.  
Santa Cruz, Mex., Feb. 25.—Charles La Roussie, chancellor of the French legation at Mexico City, who left his post a few days ago, it is alleged, having embezzled \$8,000 from funds partly belonging to the legation and partly to the French minister personally, has been arrested here.

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gents to dry the secretions and cause constipation.
- 5 It prevents Pneumonia and Consumption, strengthens the lungs and cures LaGrippe and its after effects.
- 6 It will cure Consumption and Asthma in the early stages and give comfort and relief in the most hopeless cases.
- 7 It is pleasant to take and at once produces a soothing and strengthening effect on the lungs.

### A Severe Cold For Three Months.

The following letter from A. J. Nusbaum, of Bates-  
ville, Ind., tells its own story: "I suffered for three  
months with a severe cold. A druggist prepared me  
some medicine, and a physician prescribed for me,  
yet I did not improve. I then tried FOLEY'S HONEY  
AND TAR, and eight doses cured me."

### A Chattanooga Druggist's Statement.

Robert J. Miller, proprietor of the Read House Drug  
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ment is to wear an Allcock's Plaster as  
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