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# DESERET EVENING NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1904. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

FIFTY-FOURTH YEAR.

## IN FIRST ENCOUNTER JAPAN STRIKES RUSSIA A STAGGERING BLOW

### RUSSIAN NAVY SUFFERS SEVERELY.

Two Battleships and a Cruiser are Put Hors de Combat by the Japanese.

ALL THE RUSSIANS AROUSED.

Czar Accepts the Mikado's Gage and is Prepared to Go to War.

HE WILL DECLARE STATE OF WAR

All Hope of a Peaceable Arrangement of Differences Has Now Been Abandoned.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 9.—The announcement of the sinking of 11 Japanese ships and that Port Arthur was in flames was given out in St. Petersburg at 2:50 o'clock this afternoon as official, but investigation showed the report to be untrue. The only confirmed official communication is that from Admiral Alexieff, issued earlier, announcing that Japanese torpedo boats had made a sudden attack on the Russian squadron on the outer roads of the fortress of Port Arthur, in which the battleships Retvizan and Czarovitch and the cruiser Pallada had been damaged.

The Russian battleship Retvizan was built by the Cramps at Philadelphia. She is of 12,700 tons displacement, has 16,000 indicated horse power, and had a speed of 18 knots per hour. Her armor is of Krupp steel, from 4 to 10 inches in thickness, and her armament consists of four 12-inch guns, 12 six-inch guns, 20 three-inch guns and 25 smaller rapid fire guns. The Czarovitch is a battleship of 13,000 tons, built in France. In armor, armament and speed she about equals the Retvizan. The Pallada is a cruiser of 6,650 tons, she was built in Germany and completed in 1902. Her armament consisted of six six-inch guns, 20 three-inch guns and eight 1.4-inch guns. Her speed is estimated at 20 knots.

THE PALLADA SUNK. Paris, Feb. 9, 4:45 p. m.—It was announced at the French foreign office this afternoon that the Russian cruiser Pallada was sunk in the torpedo attack made by the Japanese on the Russian fleet off Port Arthur. The injuries sustained by the Retvizan and Czarovitch are not known. It was reported on the same authority that the cable from Vladivostok had been cut.

CZAR ACCEPTS GAGE.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 9 (3 p. m.).—The news that Japan had duplicated her tactics at the opening of the China-Japanese war by a torpedo attack on the Russian ships off Port Arthur, created intense excitement. Details of the attack are anxiously awaited. Extra editions of the morning papers printed early in the forenoon, after the appearance of the Official Messenger, contained the intelligence to the population of the capital and dispelled any lingering hopes that war could be averted. The czar and his ministers, who had been informed yesterday of the receipt of Viceroy Alexieff's telegram, accepted the gage and prepared to face the reality of war. The czar's manifesto declaring a state of war to exist is expected to be issued tomorrow at the latest.

Fervent activity reigned at all the ministries and war preparations were rushed in all directions. The Russian Red Cross society already has sent 2,000 beds to the east and Sisters of Mercy are leaving. The temper of the people which was indicated in the great personal demonstration accorded to their majesties at the imperial opera house yesterday, the audience rising and singing "God Save the Czar and Give Him Victory," was further manifested this morning after the arrival of the news from Port Arthur in the crowds of volunteers who besieged the general staff offices.

The naval reserves have been called out. The action of the Japanese in attacking the Russian fleet without a declaration of war is denounced as an outrage by the Russians generally and the result, instead of discouraging them, seems to have been to furnish the spark necessary to fire Russian patriotism. From the larger centers throughout European Russia, comes information that the country is already aroused by the Japanese action in breaking off the negotiations. Commenting on the address of loyalty from the provincial council of the government of Yaroslavl, the Novoe Vremya says it indicates the sentiments of the whole Russian people, adding, "We believe Japan."

ENDS EFFORTS AT PEACE.

Paris, Feb. 9.—The news of the first Japanese attack with torpedo boats on the Russian fleet off Port Arthur created consternation here. The officials of the foreign office were among the first to receive the information and the advice were similar to those of the St. Petersburg Official Gazette, showing that the Russian battleships and one cruiser were damaged and also showing that four torpedo boats made the attack. An official of the foreign office said: "It is profoundly to be regretted that such a decisive step has been taken, as it terminates the efforts the powers might have made to avert actual warfare."

Information has been received here showing that the British government will issue a declaration of neutrality with a few days, perhaps immediately, and that France will take the same course within a day or two.

At a conference of ministers held at the Elysee palace today under the presidency of M. Loubet, Foreign Minister Delcasse communicated the news of the first Japanese attack with torpedo boats on the Russian fleet off Port Arthur, and announced that the French minister at Tokyo had been instructed to insure the protection of Russian subjects and their interests in Japan.

The attitude of the French government in view of the war is now definitely determined on. France will maintain neutrality under all circumstances. The Franco-Russian alliance being constructed as not requiring France to intervene in behalf of Russia even should Great Britain or any third power intervene in behalf of Japan.

The naval engagement off Port Arthur is said to have mainly occupied the attention of the council of ministers. The impression prevailed that the three battleships torpedoed are so badly disabled as to be useless for the remainder of the war, thus placing the Russian fleet in a state of manifest inferiority. It is said that members of the council of ministers expressed astonishment at the alleged negligence of commanders of the Russian ships in

permitting the Japanese to surprise them.

The Japanese legation announced that Japan has requested China to declare a state of neutrality.

Baron Hayashi added:

"Russia is making desperate efforts, through the various embassies, to have the powers intervene. Russia is now willing to concede everything but the offer comes too late."

"I learn on good authority that the reply Russia intended to send merely reiterated all the cardinal points to which Japan consistently objected."

Baron Hayashi informed the Associated Press today that he had received this morning a cable dispatch announcing the departure of the Japanese fleet for the Yellow sea. While he had no news of the engagement off Port Arthur, the minister was aware that the Japanese intended throughout this war to employ torpedo boats to the fullest extent. He had not heard of the landing of Japanese troops in Korea.

JAPANESE NAVAL PLANS.

London, Feb. 9.—Baron Hayashi says the Japanese fleet is not likely to blockade Port Arthur. His knowledge of the Japanese naval plans, as tentatively prepared, leads him and others to believe that the Japanese fleet is now lying between Chefoo and the Yalu river, screening the landing of the troops, one army corps at Fusan and two at Pen Yang, Korea.

Night torpedo attacks on the part of the Japanese fleet will, it is believed, be kept up so long as the Russian fleet maintains its necessarily open position outside of Port Arthur. This will be done in the hope of breaking up the Russians' nerve.

The troops landing at Pen Yang will be pushed towards the Manchurian frontier. Those at Fusan will proceed to Seoul.

Unless Viceroy Alexieff assumes the aggressive no serious naval battle is expected until the disembarkation of the Japanese troops is completed.

A dispatch from Rome saying the Japanese government had purchased the Chilean battleship Captain Prat, the cruiser Chacabuco and the gunboat Mirante Condell, was pronounced untrue by Baron Hayashi.

The Nippon company's London agents have heard nothing of the alleged capture of the steamer Inaba Maru near Hong Kong by Russian warships, as reported by a news agency in London today. It is asserted here today that Russia has no warships in the vicinity of Hong Kong and that therefore the Inaba Maru cannot have been captured.

PORT ARTHUR ATTACKED.

Chefoo, Feb. 9.—The Japanese fleet attacked Port Arthur at midnight on Monday. Two Russian battleships and one Russian cruiser were disabled by torpedoes.

The battle is being continued this morning at a range of three miles. But there has been no further damage.

RUSSIAN MAU, STEAMER CAPTURED.

London, Feb. 9, 1:10 p. m.—A dispatch to Reuters Telegram Company from Shanghai says it is credibly reported that the Russian mail steamer Mon-goia, which left Shanghai Sunday has been captured by the Japanese off the coast of Korea.

A dispatch from London from New Chungking after confirming the reports of the departure of the Japanese and an-

ouncing the preparations to close the Yokohama specie bank adds:

"Owing to the enormous trade interests involved, the powers should demand that Russia surrender the port of New Chungking and agree to the neutralization thereof."

STRENGTH OF RUSSIAN FLEET.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 6.—The latest returns of Russian warships in the far east total 16, including eight battleships, 10 cruisers, seven gunboats and 50 torpedo boat destroyers and torpedo boats.

Three more battleships and nine tor-

FOR CITY ENGINEER,  
Geo. W. Snow



FOR CITY PHYSICIAN,  
Dr. C. I. Douglas



FOR SUPT. OF WATERWORKS  
Eli A. Folland



FOR CHIEF OF FIRE DEPT.  
W. F. Bywater



FOR LAND AND WATER COMMISSIONER  
Ben D. Luce

FIVE OF THE MEN NAMED BY MAYOR MORRIS LAST NIGHT FOR DEPARTMENT HEADS.

### Mikado's Utah Subjects Keen Observers.

While They Are Extremely Patriotic Most of Them Are Married Men and They are Not Anxious to Leave the United States, Besides Japan Has Not Yet Called for Their Return.

Although the small number of Japanese in Salt Lake and Utah are watching with the keenest interest developments in the orient, it is believed that extremely few of them will leave this country to take up arms. They have plenty of "kinger" and a great abundance of patriotism, but many of them are married and the journey to Korea is a long one. They ask with considerable reason who is going to provide for their families and who will pay their transportation, going and coming.

For as yet, so far as can be learned, the Japanese government has not made any call for Japanese natives in this part of the country to return. There is a law under which that government might do so, the penalty being the forfeiture of all rights as a citizen of Japan; but until the government requests the return of her citizens, it is quite likely that the 200 or 400 Japs employed by the railroads in this state will continue to break the soil and lay ties.

As before stated, the Japanese lacks

neither patriotism nor pluck. When the report was bulletined that the Russian guns had sunk eleven Japanese warships off Port Arthur, the anguish of one native of the flowery kingdom in town, at least, was pitiful. The more he reflected on the awful news, the gloomier he became until, finally, without any effort at concealment, he burst into tears. When the later report came, denying the first and stating that Japan had practically put three of the czar's vessels out of commission, this display of grief quickly changed to merriment.

### JAPAN'S INITIAL SUCCESS IS VERY GREAT.

Torpedo Boat Attack on Russian Fleet Off Port Arthur Has Produced a Deep Impression on the People and Military Critics of Europe—Deed Was Daringly and Skillfully Done.

London, Feb. 9.—The naval men in London regarded the result of Japan's first attack with torpedo boats on the Russian fleet off Port Arthur as being a staggering one. They pointed out that Viceroy Alexieff's reference to "mines" obviously meant "torpedoes," and said that if the Russian vessels had been struck by "Whitehead torpedoes," they probably have been sunk or are resting in the mud in Port Arthur, in any case hopelessly out of action for a considerable time.

Berlin, Feb. 9.—Japan's initial success in the first attack with torpedo boats on the Russian fleet off Port Arthur produced a deep impression both on the people and military and naval critics here. Groups gathered around the distributors of the extras in the streets and read the news almost with exclamations of gladness. The comment at the marine department was that even the temporary disablement of three warships placed the Russians at a great disadvantage in the future operations. It was added that the torpedoing of the enemy's vessels lying under powerful land batteries must have been carried out daringly and skillfully. As Viceroy Alexieff did not mention any Japanese losses in his first dispatch, the common talk of the naval officers was that the Japanese have shown that they can handle their ships better than the Russians.

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pado boats are to go to the far east in the spring.

RUSSIAN STEAMERS START.

Odessa, Feb. 8.—The Russian volunteer cruiser Tancard sailed today with a full cargo for the far east. The Russian steamers Kieff and Vladivostok are starting for the far east this week.

MURDOCK ARE ESTHETIC.

Moscow, Feb. 8.—The Murdock are animated by the patriotic sentiment which have been strengthened by the actual outbreak of war. The Red Cross society is besieged by women who are

offering their services to nurse the wounded. Prices on the Moscow stock exchange are falling.

AGED COUPLE BURNED TO DEATH.

Chicago, Feb. 8.—Lying side by side in bed, 85 years old David Hincheloff and his wife were found today burned to death. The fire was caused by the explosion of a lamp.

COTTON GINNED BULLETIN.

Washington, Feb. 8.—The census bureau today issued a report showing the

amount of cotton ginned from the crop grown in 1903 up to and including Jan. 18, 1904. There were 39,171 active ginneries in operation. Square bales amounted to 9,039,830; round bales 747,480 and sea island crop, 72,967. Total commercial bales, 9,859,277.

TROUBLE AT COAL CREEK.

Gov. Frazer Leaves to Make an Investigation of It.

Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 9.—Gov. Frazer left today for Coal Creek to investigate the trouble between the miners and operators which resulted in the killing and wounding of several persons Sunday. Several companies of military are being held in readiness to go to Coal Creek.

MEMBERS OF CONSTABULARY DESERT, TAKING RIFLES.

Go from Vigan, Carrying With Them 50 Guns, 5,000 Rounds of Ammunition and \$700 Got by Looting.

Manila, Feb. 9.—Seventeen members of the constabulary stationed at Vigan, one of the leading business centers of Luzon, have deserted, taking with them 50 rifles, 5,000 pounds of ammunition and \$700 obtained by looting the commissary departments. The number of fugitives

### UNITED STATES MAY TAKE A HAND

Secy. Hay Addresses a Note to Several European Powers on Eastern Situation.

AFFECTS CHINA'S INTEGRITY.

Wants to Know if They Are Willing To Join in a Notice to Russia And Japan.

EXCHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE.

Matter Has Created a Great Sensation in Diplomatic Circles in Washington.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Secy. Hay has addressed an identical note to a number of the European powers to ascertain if they are willing to join in a notice to Russia and Japan that during hostilities and thereafter the neutrality and integrity of China must be recognized. Details of the note are not obtainable in advance of the receipt of replies.

It is known, however, that exchanges already have taken place which justify the state department in expecting favorable responses to its note.

The matter has created a great sensation in diplomatic circles here.

WILL GUARD JAPAN'S INTERESTS.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 9.—United States Ambassador McCormick was notified this morning that Russia had no objection to the United States looking after Japan's interests in Russia. No current business will be left by Mr. Kurino, the retiring minister of Japan. Mr. McCormick's principal duties will be to protect the few Japanese who reside in European Russia. There are only 20 of them in St. Petersburg and five in Moscow, but there may be difficulty in Asiatic Russia.

The Associated Press learned that M. Kurino recommended his government, instead of the action taken to suspend negotiations with Russia and to offer to submit the controversy to The Hague arbitration tribunal, but it is believed here that the Japanese feared that on account of the excited condition of the people they would not support the government in such a course.

The Russian authorities declare that the Russian response was in Baron de Rosen's hands at Tokyo—and was being translated—when Japan's notification of the severance of diplomatic relations arrived.

ORDERS TO ADMIRAL EVANS.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Orders will be cabled today to Rear Admiral Evans to send his cruiser squadron, consisting of the Albatross, New Orleans, Raleigh and Cincinnati, from Subic Bay, to some point in Chinese waters yet to be determined, for the purpose of observing the naval operations. It is expected that the squadron can coal and get under way within two days. Admiral Evans is expected to keep the battleship squadron in Philippine waters through the period of hostilities between Russia and Japan. This decision was reached at the cabinet meeting today after long consideration. It has been definitely settled that the cruiser squadron will not go to Port Arthur.

CHINA WILL BE NEUTRAL.

Paris, Feb. 9.—China, it is understood, has given official assurances, that she will immediately issue a declaration of neutrality. This is considered highly important, in view of the possibility of China, impressed by the Japanese success at Port Arthur, joining the Japanese.

CABINET CONSIDERS SITUATION.

Washington, Feb. 9.—At the cabinet meeting today long and careful consideration was given to the situation developed by the Russo-Japanese war. It is not anticipated that the United States government will be drawn into the conflict, although its progress will be watched closely and anxiously by this government. Early today the president and Secy. Hay, as well as Secretaries Taft and Moody, were placed in possession of the news carried by the Associated Press of the naval conflict near Port Arthur. Prior to this, the cabinet meeting that was the only information concerning the battle which had been received by the administration. Disputations from United States Minister Allyn at Seoul, Korea, received this morning did not mention the naval engagement.

It was decided that the United States should preserve absolute neutrality between the combatants but it is scarcely likely that a proclamation formally announcing that a decision will be made until official advice of the actual beginning of hostilities have been received. Admiral Evans' cruiser squadron will observe the naval operations of the war.

The cabinet also discussed briefly the Panama canal situation but no information concerning it in details of the discussion were disclosed.

Secy. Hay, who attended today's meeting, is much improved in health, and took an active part in the deliberations.

Lived Over a Hundred Years.

Dayton, Ohio, Feb. 9.—Philip Keifer, a wealthy retired manufacturer, who celebrated the 120th birthday a few days ago, died today.

A COLLISION IN CANADA.

Reported That Nine Persons Were Killed.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 8.—A report has reached here of a collision between two trains on the Canadian Pacific railway at Sand Point, in which 15 persons are said to have been killed.

The latest report received from Sand Point is that nine persons were killed