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# DESERET EVENING NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

10 PAGES—LAST EDITION.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1904. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

FIFTY-FOURTH YEAR.

## MASS MEETING AT MURRAY TODAY

Farmers and Smelters of Salt  
Lake Valley in Important  
Conference.

EVERY TOWN IS REPRESENTED.

Agitations Are at Critical Juncture  
And May Be Broken Off Abruptly  
This Afternoon.

THEN ALL WILL GO TO COURTS.

Legislative Enactment Will Follow  
After That—Farmers Are Fighting  
to Save Their Homes.

The most decisive action in the conflict of interests between the operators of the Murray smelters and the residents of Salt Lake valley occurs in a mass meeting today at 2 o'clock in the Murray assembly rooms. The committee of farmers representing every village in the valley present to the people the reply of the smelters to their demand that relief be had, and that the smelters state what they are willing to do without pressure from legislative and legal sources. The statement of the smelters is far from offering anything definite. It is considered to be the same diplomatic evasion of the problem that has brought a cessation of action against them on two previous attempts to compel the expenditure of money in improving conditions at Murray.

It is probable that the outcome of the meeting today will be the cessation of efforts to settle the matter out of court, and the breaking off of all friendly negotiations with the smelters. In that event two committees are already preparing plans for carrying on the fight, one in the courts, and the other in the Legislature.

**COURTS AND LEGISLATURE.**  
The committee on carrying the matter before the courts is composed of John C. Mackay, Wm. D. Park, and Jas. G. Gifford, and the committee to bring the matter up in the Legislature is composed of G. P. Miller, Geo. D. Gifford and Mahon Spencer. In addition to these committees a committee on finance, consisting of Henry F. Burton, Jas. R. Carlyle and Alex. E. Lee has the matter in hand of raising funds for an extended campaign if this becomes necessary.

**FIGHTING FOR THEIR HOMES.**  
All of these men have been closely connected with the problem from its beginning, and are now ready to go ahead with whatever course of action seems desirable. One of them expressed the view of the committee today when he said: "We are not fighting for the abatement of any mere smoke nuisance, but to save our homes from desolation. The only outcome of this fight is the abandonment of our homes, or the controlling of the smoke."

**SMELTERMEN'S OFFER.**  
The proposition of the smeltermen printed below gives the farmers an opportunity to appoint one member of a committee of experts to investigate the smoke problem. It is not probable that this opportunity will be accepted at today's meeting, because the feeling is general that experiments in controlling the smoke are matters for the smeltermen alone to consider. A plan is being prepared, looking to further attempts to bring about action on the part of the smeltermen without recourse to force. It is to accept the proposition made today, and allow them

time to experiment, if they will agree to another proposition, allowing the farmers cash compensation for damages incurred until the commission of experts solve the problem.

**TEXT OF AGREEMENT.**  
The text of the agreement submitted by the smelter operators is as follows:

Salt Lake City Utah, Oct. 19, 1904.  
John C. Mackay, Chairman, Farmers Committee, Culder's Station, Salt Lake County, Utah:

Dear Sir—Conforming with the request of your committee expressed this morning to put in writing our proposition for the control of the fumes issuing from the stacks of the respective smelters of the undersigned, the undersigned, to amicably adjust, so far as possible, the differences between the parties interested, beg to submit the following:

You will understand that the various smelting plants of the undersigned are working on different classes of ore; that each is arranged differently for the working of ore; that in each different processes are used for the reduction of ore; so that any scheme that might be recommended as feasible for adoption at one of the plants might not be at all feasible for adoption at another plant; and again, it is possible that some one plan can be devised to handle the fumes from all the plants.

We propose that a body of experts shall be appointed for the purpose of examining into conditions at the various smelting plants, and into the known and proposed methods for controlling fumes, for the purpose of recommending to the smelters, either collectively or severally, some feasible plan to be adopted by the smelters jointly or severally, for the control of such fumes, and if any plan recommended by the body of experts be commercially feasible, then we will respectively adopt the same. Your committee shall have the right to name one of the number composing the body of experts, if your committee shall so desire. We would expect the body of experts named to make the most thorough investigation possible and would render them any and all aid within our power respectively, and would expect them to make a report as soon as they could.

Please indicate the acceptance by your committee of this proposition, and designate the person, if you decide to name one, who is to represent you as expert, as soon as possible. The undersigned will, if you desire it, pay the entire expense of the investigation. Very respectfully,

UTAH CONSOLIDATED MINING CO.—By R. H. Channing, Jr.  
UNITED STATES SMELTING COMPANY—By C. E. Allen.  
BINGHAM COPPER & GOLD MINING CO.—By Duncan McVie.  
AMERICAN SMELTING & REFINING CO.—By C. W. Whitley.

### HARRIS-CHIPMAN CASE.

Was Opened Anew in the United States District Court This Morning.

The celebrated case of Harris & Co. against James Chipman, of the American Fork bank, for \$75,000 damages claimed to be due as the result of misappropriation of funds, was opened anew in the United States district court this morning. Testimony in the case was represented by four huge volumes of typewritten manuscript, and this morning's session was consumed in reading the opening argument of the attorneys for the plaintiff. It is expected that the hearing of the case will occupy the court for a full week. Harris & Co. are represented by Attorney Breckenridge and Hopwood, the former having arrived from Omaha yesterday.

### UTAH LAKE LEVEL.

It is Just One Foot Higher Than It Was a Year Ago at This Time.

Utah lake is 3.5 feet below compromise point, or one foot higher than it was last year at this time. Commissioner J. Fawcett Smith reports that 20,000 more acre feet were taken from the lake this season than last; and in view of the present status there as to level, he feels that water users have every reason to be encouraged. He is inclined to believe that the level will reach and likely rise above compromise point by another year; in which event there is apprehension that users in the valley below may not support the government scheme to make the Utah lake a reservoir on the ground that there is plenty of water, so "what's the use?" Mr. Smith would call the attention of such short sighted people to the fact that there is no certainty of any continuation of such rainy winters as last; and in the event of one or more successive dry winters there would be a shortage of water for irrigation in the spring following.

## Mysterious Fifteen Thousand Dollar Fire.

Packing House Plant of Knight & Company Completely Destroyed This Morning—  
Origin of Fire is a Mystery and Incendiarism is Strongly Suspected—No  
Water at Hand and Fire Department Helpless.

A fire that ruined at least \$15,000 worth of property occurred this morning shortly after 4 o'clock. The alarm was turned in at 4:15. The blaze was at the slaughter and packing plant of Knight & Co., at North Salt Lake, above the hot springs. The entire plant, consisting of two buildings and all the corals, the former containing between \$5,000 and \$7,000 worth of meat, was completely destroyed by the ravaging flames, and the fire department was powerless to check the fierce onslaught by reason of the fact that the water supply had been shut off, and there was not a drop within a mile of the burning buildings.

The cause of the fire is not definitely known, but there is a suspicion that its origin was of incendiary nature, and it is being thoroughly investigated by the proper authorities.

When the alarm was turned in by headquarters, Chief Bywater and the steamer from No. 1, and the hose wagon and crew from No. 2, responded quickly and made a speedy run to the place. When the firemen arrived on the scene, it was only to discover that they were powerless to do anything to check the destroying flames. As stated, there was no water.

At what point the fire started could not be learned, as the plant, consisting of two buildings, one of them a three

department structure, and corals, were soon wrapped in flames. So fiercely did the fire burn, that the country for miles around was illuminated by the blaze. In speaking of the fire this morning Chief Bywater said:

"It was a long run out there, but we made it in good time. When we got there, the storage building was all in flames. We soon discovered that we were helpless. There was not enough water there to water a horse. We had the steamer, and had there been water within any reasonable distance, we could have saved at least \$5,000. The only thing we could do was to go to work tearing down the fences to keep the fire from spreading any more. If I say \$300 had been spent to give the steamer a water supply, we could have checked the progress of the fire in short order. The alarm was turned in by a quarryman who saw the flames. As to the statement that there is suspicion that the building was fired purposely, I can say nothing. It is impossible to determine anything of that nature from the fire, because everything is destroyed, but we are investigating it carefully, and of course there may be some developments before long."

When Manager West was asked for a statement at noon today he said:

"Well, the whole plant is destroyed. The two buildings were worth between \$8,000 and \$10,000, and the contents were worth between \$5,000 and \$7,000. Yes, the buildings and contents were insured, but for what amount I cannot tell you at this time. I cannot even tell you in what company or companies we had insurance. No, the insurance does not cover the loss. The loss over and above insurance will reach perhaps \$7,000. In the cold storage building there were about 60 head of cattle, meat in storage, between 20 and 30 head of mutton and about 30 head of lambs."

With reference to the cause of the fire, Mr. West said:

"Yes, we regard the fire with suspicion. We do suspect some one, but at that point I can not talk at this time. Manager Papworth of the slaughter house was the last one to leave the place last night. He left between 2 o'clock, and everything was all right at that time, except that our water supply had been cut off by the Oregon Short Line Railway company."

"We had been using water furnished us by George R. Jones of the Nineteenth ward. He has several dowsing rods out in the neighborhood of the slaughterhouse, and the water was piped out here. The pipe line ran through some of the railroad company's property, and yesterday morning the line was cut. It was repaired yesterday afternoon, but was cut again before night, thus cutting off our water supply."

"There was no livestock destroyed, although there were several head at the place when the fire broke out. The firemen succeeded in driving the stock to a place of safety."

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## CHARTER GAVE THE NEEDED CLUE.

Didn't Intend to Betray Hiding  
Place of His Friend "Doctor"

Attias.

BUT HE DID SO ALL THE SAME.

It Was a Dead Easy Give Away, and  
There is a Suggestion that He, Too,  
May Be Taken Into Custody.

The bluff of "Dr." P. G. Attias, Hamilton, Smith or whatever his name is, and that of the mysterious member of the Western Federation of Miners, has been called.

"Dr." Attias was arrested this morning by Deputy Sheriff Booth in the room where he had been hiding since he learned that there was a warrant out against him.

The arrest was a very simple problem to solve, following the interview in the Tribune with a "mysterious labor union man" that appeared this morning. The interview was as follows:

"Dr. Attias has not skipped out because of this charge. In a few days he will be ready to appear in court and answer all the allegations and insinuations made against him. But at present he is too busy helping us to spend his time in defending this trumped up charge. The bad faith of the complaint is evident to any fair-minded man. It was issued at the instigation of the labor agent, Skirris, simply because Skirris wants to hamper any movement which will make the Greeks independent and self-respecting workmen and citizens. Don't worry about Dr. Attias."

With this as a clue the officers simply shadowed A. W. Chas. the secretary of the Union, whom they were confident was the individual quoted. It was too easy. Charter simply walked along First South until he came to No. 694 west, and then walked upstairs and entered room 15. Of course, inside was the much wanted "doctor."

### DEAD EASY GIVEAWAY.

Shortly afterwards Deputy Sheriff Booth walked in and placed his man under arrest.

Attias took his medicine with some what bad grace, laughed uneasily, but did not demur as to getting out of bed, dressing, and accompanying the officer to the county jail, where he was placed in a cell pending his appearance at Bingham Junction, where the warrant for his arrest had been issued from the court of Justice J. J. Williams.

### ARRESTED AT THE "REST."

It appears that as soon as "the celebrated Greek explorer" to quote some handbills which were issued by the labor agent in Denver, some time ago, learned that there was a warrant out for his arrest on the charge of practicing medicine without authority from the state medical board he went under cover at "The Rest," furnished apartments in the Kimball block on west First South. Here he remained until his arrest, not even daring to leave his room for meals, which were brought up to him, or to get his mail, which was also taken to him. It is said, by Secy. Charter of the Western Federation of Miners, who also stands a good chance of being arrested on the charge of assisting a man to evade the law.

### LANDLADY WAS SORRY.

The most surprised person was Mrs. P. M. M. Harper, the landlady of the rooming establishment, who was horrified to find that she had been harboring an alleged law breaker who was wanted.

"It is too bad," she said afterwards, "to think that such a nice young man should be arrested."

### WHAT CHICAGO EDITOR SAYS.

In answer to a letter addressed to D. Eutaxias, editor and proprietor of the Hellenic Star, a Greek paper published at 71 North Clark street, Chicago, the following warning against Attias was received this morning over his signature:

"In reply to your letter we have to tell you that from everything we know about Attias that he is, first, lacking science and secondly he is a blood-drawing character among the Greeks and if any Greek patient is in your city, for God's sake let him avoid this false doctor. In order to describe his life there are not only hundreds of volumes but that many sacks to receive his voluminous action of deceit, flattery and other indispensable adjuncts to a bad character."

## GEN. FUNSTON DEFINES HIS IDEA OF PATRIOTISM.

Chicago, Oct. 20.—The enactment of a federal law to prevent desecrating the American flag and caricaturing the uniform of the soldier has been advocated by Brig.-Gen. Frederick Funston at a banquet of the Illinois society, Sons of American Revolution, at the Hamilton club.

"The patriotism I believe in is to fight corruption at the primaries and the polls," he said. "There is no better way of emulating the founders of the republic."

The banquet was in commemoration of the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

## THE CAPTURE OF MANIAC MURCHIE.

Run Down in the Mountains Near  
Hardscrabble Canyon by  
Deputy Sheriffs.

TRACKED HIM IN THE SNOW.

Met Father of the Man Who Gave Of-  
ficers the Evidence They Wanted  
—Offered No Resistance.

Maniac Thomas Murchie, recently of Provo was captured in Hardscrabble canyon yesterday afternoon, and at 1:30 o'clock this morning was landed in the county jail, to await return to the asylum. Deputy Sheriff Joseph C. Sharp and Guard David Bonnet of the Provo mental hospital, accompanied the watermen after a search which lasted since Sunday night. Yesterday morning at 10 o'clock the two officers left Salt Lake to explore City Creek canyon, after returning the day before from a futile search of the hills behind Farmington. A few miles beyond the upper waterworks they located tracks in the snow, which had fallen during Sunday and Monday. At the cabins a mile south of the Hardscrabble divide the tracks turned aside from the trail, and evidence showed that the maniac had stopped there for rest. From that point the snow was from eight to ten inches deep, and yet the tracks continued, not even turning aside from the trail for a long distance. Soon after crossing the divide the officers met a man so closely resembling Murchie that Deputy Sharp asked him where his son was, an when he had arrived in Hardscrabble.

"How did you know he was here?" was the reply by which Murchie's father made himself known.

"Well, we tracked him here through the snow. Don't you consider him a little dangerous?" asked the deputy sheriff.

"Yes, I do," replied Murchie. "He brought a gun and some food, and I finally got the gun away from him, but could not get him to give up the cartridges. He has gone down to Porterville now, to buy provisions and I wish you could catch him before he returns."

The two officers rode on after receiving this information, four or five miles down the canyon, when on turning a sharp corner in the road they met Murchie, himself, in the road, with his arms filled with provisions. He made no effort to escape. The officers assured him that they were his friends, and asked him what sort of a trick he played on them by running away Sunday night. He replied quite rationally that he didn't want to go back. "Well, you'll have to go back," said the deputy sheriff, "but we won't hurt you."

Deputy Sheriff Sharp then dismounted and handcuffed Murchie, who submitted to the operation quite willingly. Sharp then told him that he would take him to Morgan, and bring him to Salt Lake on the first train. Murchie was willing to go, but refused to walk the distance, and also refused to ride behind the officer. Sharp then rode down to a ranch belonging to a man named Taylor, and rented a buggy. In this Murchie was placed and driven down to Morgan, the officers following on horseback.

Guard Bonnet did not come down on the train, but is following with his and Sheriff's horse. Tonight he will return with his man to Provo.

Murchie had been out in the snow all night Sunday, and had nothing to eat from the time he escaped from the officers at the Grape street house until he arrived at his father's cabin in Hardscrabble Monday night.

### NEW SHORT LINE BRANCH

Work to Commence on Minidoka  
Line in Two Weeks.

Preparations are being made by the Oregon Short Line engineering department to commence work on the long proposed Minidoka branch within the next two weeks. The surveys have all been completed some time back, and the shipment of grading outfit will commence in a few days to Minidoka on the main line. The work will in all probability be done by the Utah Construction company.

The drawing for lands to come under the big irrigation canal took place at noon today at Twin Falls City, and it is estimated that by the time the branch road to the new district is completed, the settlers will commence to flock in in great numbers.

### CHINESE TRADE MARKS ACT IS UNSATISFACTORY.

Peking, Oct. 20, Afternoon.—The trade marks registration act which will come into operation on Oct. 23, is regarded as unsatisfactory by the commercial communities of Shanghai and Tien Tsin. There is no objection to the principle of the act, for legislation in this connection has been universally desired, but it is considered that the act in its present shape is not workable.

In the first place the scale of fees is looked upon as being too elaborate, and the fees themselves too heavy. In the second place, it is considered that it will be impossible for the Chinese government to carry out the scheme, owing to the absence of an adequate and properly trained bureau.

If the act goes into operation on the

23rd inst., as contemplated, it is expected that it will give rise to much confusion and dissatisfaction.

The governments of Great Britain and the United States approved the draft of the measure, which was largely of Japanese construction, without, it is alleged, adequately consulting the mercantile communities which would be affected by it.

With the view of preventing the enforcement of an immature and defective scheme, the German minister, Baron Munin von Schwarzenberg, though cordially welcoming the general principles of the act, endeavored to obtain a postponement of its operation, so that opportunity might be given for its reconstruction. Up to this date, official sanction for such postponement has not been obtained, but the correspondent of the Associated Press learned today that the British minister, Sir E. M. Satow, has been instructed to endeavor to have the operation of the act deferred.

There is a possibility, therefore, that the act will be reconstructed. It is considered on all sides that it would be much better to re-cast the act on lines which would be acceptable generally than to precipitately enforce an unsatisfactory measure, especially as there is no pressing urgency for such enforcement.

### MOHONK CONFERENCE.

Today's Session Devoted to Dis-  
cussing Philippine Problem.

Lake Mohonk, N. Y., Oct. 20.—Today's session of the Mohonk Indian convention was devoted to the consideration of problems in the Philippines. Dr. Fred W. Atkinson, of the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, who organized the American public school system in the Philippines, was the first speaker today.

Dr. Atkinson was followed by W. Leon Pepperman, of the Philippine Bureau of Education, and G. A. Goodale followed Mr. Pepperman.

Dr. Samuel McCune Lindsay, former commissioner of education for Porto Rico, and now professor of sociology of the University of Pennsylvania, who has just returned from a nearly three years' residence in Porto Rico, said that progress in the public school system in Porto Rico has been steady, and in many ways remarkable. He continued:

"The military government at the outset in 1898 was able to place the school system on a sound basis. Today we have approximately 1,500 schools in operation, involving an annual outlay of \$500,000. The 1,500 schools, which have a total enrollment of 100,000 children, are only one-fifth of the population of school age. Do the American people desire to assume the responsibility for the government of an island, where four children out of five are denied the privileges of elementary school education? If not, there is only one solution, and that is national aid from the federal treasury for the public schools of Porto Rico."

M. C. Brombaugh, professor in the University of Pennsylvania, first commissioner of education in Porto Rico, spoke of the enthusiasm displayed by Porto Ricans for education service with our government took over the islands, and said:

"It is perhaps fair to claim that no people under this flag are today more sincerely devoted to universal public education than those of Porto Rico. They regard the public school as the agency through which they will eventually win territorial recognition and ultimately statehood in the federal union. They are learning what we everywhere need to teach—that the door to statehood in this federal union lies in the door of the free American public school."

### MONEY ORDERS.

Total Number Issued in Last Fiscal Year Passed 50,000,000.

Washington, Oct. 20.—The total number of money orders issued by this government during the last fiscal year passed the 50,000,000 mark for the first time in history, as shown by the annual report of the superintendent of the money order system. The net revenue of the money order business was \$3,324,444, an increase of \$28,494, as compared with the previous fiscal year. The gross revenue was \$3,826,678, an increase of \$376,252.

The number of domestic orders issued was 35,392,554, aggregating \$3,784,738, and international money orders issued numbered 2,038,344, aggregating \$42,550,150. Domestic money orders paid and repaid numbered 50,550,368, aggregating \$3,831,441; international paid and repaid, \$95,836; fees received from issue of 2,038,344 orders were \$3,039,440; net international, \$444,988. There were 26,031 domestic and 6,933 international money order offices in operation up to today, against 24,547 domestic and 6,322 international in operation June 30, 1903. The issue of domestic orders increased 4,604 in number and \$2,158,849 in amount, while international orders issued increased 294,195 and \$7,312,215 respectively.

### SERGT. TOOLEY KILLED.

Soldiers Had a Row in a House  
Of Ill Repute.

Monterey, Cal., Oct. 20.—Late last night Sergeant Tooley, K Troop, Fourth United States cavalry, was shot and killed in a house of ill-repute, and another member of the same regiment, whose name is not yet known, was dangerously wounded. Their bodies were members of the First squadron, Ninth United States cavalry (colored). Within an hour after the shooting, a house in which it took place was used by a mob of 50 infuriated soldiers, and was burned to the ground.

### Innocent Party May Remarry.

Boston, Oct. 20.—The house of deputies at the Episcopal general convention today adopted by a large majority the resolution on the divorce question, by which the innocent party in a divorce for adultery may remarry after one year on the presentation of satisfactory evidence of the fact.

### Inter-Collegiate Golf Tournament

Hamilton, Mass., Oct. 20.—Play in the inter-collegiate golf tournament for the individual championship, began today. It was raining when 24 players started for the qualifying round of 15 holes. Reinhardt of Princeton and Walter and H. Chandler Esch, both of Harvard, were regarded as among the leaders for the championship honors.

### War Risks Are Weaker.

New York, Oct. 20.—In spite of the fact that the Baltic squadron is at sea, says a Times dispatch from London, war risks on clothing, etc., for Japan are weaker. This seems rather absurd, the correspondent declares, since the squadron will certainly be capable of intercepting merchant vessels carrying contraband goods for Japan.

The Cape route as the way by which the big ships will go is indicated by the purchase of the British steamer Maori King. This steamer recently arrived at Liverpool from the River Plate with an immense cargo of meat. She has been bought without unloaded by French intermediaries and sails at once for the cape with her cargo of meat. The Maori King is to be re-named L'Esperance.

## JAPANESE CAPTURE RUSSIAN SUPPLIES

They Include Ammunition for  
Rifles and Field Guns, Rifles,  
Tents, Etc.

### OPERATIONS NOT RESUMED

Hinted That the Next Developments  
Should be Looked for  
Eastward.

### MAYBE BY RUSSIANS, MAYBE JAPS

No Confirmation of Report of Annihila-  
tion of a Russian Battalion While  
Re-crossing the Taitse River.

Tokio, Oct. 20, 3 p. m.—It is announced at headquarters here that the left Japanese army captured near Lang Tou-chieh six ammunition carts, 5,374 rifles, 4,920 rounds of field gun ammunition, 7,920 rounds of rifle ammunition and tents, clothing, sabres and implements. Additional casualties of the center army just reported are 12 officers killed and 20 wounded.

### OPERATIONS STILL SUSPENDED.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 20, 2 p. m.—The suspension of operations below Mukden continues. It is hinted in military circles that the next developments should be looked for eastward, but whether on the part of the Japanese or Russians is not revealed.

No news has reached the war office of the reported annihilation of a Russian battalion while recrossing the Taitse river.

A dispatch from Gen. Sakharoff, dated last night, reports that all was quiet along the front yesterday and that, in spite of the soggy condition of the country roads, which are described as seas of mud, the Russian scouts continue to show great enterprise in examining the Japanese positions. A detachment of 200 Cossacks Tuesday night reconnoitered the Japanese left, southwestward along a line extending westward from the railroad, where it crosses the Schill river, through the villages of Haisan-tai, Tadousamp and Sandepu, the latter fifteen miles west of the railroad. The Japanese continued firing and retreated as the Cossacks rode rapidly along the line, but near Sandepu the Cossacks unexpectedly ran into a good sized Japanese force, with machine guns. The latter opened a murderous fire on the Russians, killing many horses and mortally wounding Capt. Turgenieff, but all the Cossacks succeeded in getting away. Not one was killed on the field.

No statement is made as to what is transpiring on the Russian left.

The war office is now disposed to believe that the Tokio report of the drubbing given to Gen. Yamada's brigade in the Japanese version of the capture of Lone Tree hill, nicely tends to minimize its importance.

The reports of Gen. Rennenkampf and Meyendorff are wounded are denied. The former's chief of staff, Col. Roselsky, was wounded.

### NEWS FROM PORT ARTHUR.

Chefoo, Oct. 20, 8:30 p. m.—A junk which left Liangt promontory yesterday was driven by a gale and arrived here tonight, bringing 100 coolies who left Port Arthur because they feared injury from the Japanese shells.

These reports that on Oct. 13 there was fierce fighting for several hours on the slopes of Tihlung mountain between comparatively small forces, during which the Japanese lost 300 killed or wounded. The coolies were unable to give details of the fighting, but apparently it was the result of one of the numerous sorties made by the Russians against the Japanese who were attempting to advance from their trenches.

Japanese wounded say that the soldiers in the trenches suffer severely from lack of food, although the Japanese army is now almost completely supplied with winter outfits.

It is said that the Port Arthur garrison is frantic for news of the operations of Gen. Kuropatkin, from whom the defenders expect relief.

### JAP BATTALION SURROUNDED.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 20.—A dispatch to the Bourne Gazette from Mukden dated Oct. 19 says that on Oct. 18 a detachment of the Russian vanguard on the west front surrounded a Japanese battalion and compelled it to lay down its arms.

### BATTLE YEARS ITSELF OUT.

Mukden, Oct. 20, via Peking.—The big battle has practically worn itself out, leaving the two armies facing each other with the Shalkie river as the dividing line.

An exchange of artillery fire continued all day on Oct. 18 and all day on Oct. 19, the Russian center advancing slightly each day under a heavy shell fire.

On the left the Russians are in a good position on a high hill overlooking the Shalkie river, which they have held since Oct. 16, despite an almost continuous bombardment and subsequent infantry attacks.

On the right the Russians are using mortars in an endeavor to dislodge the Japanese from a small hill in the plain.

The recent rains have flooded the rivers, owing to these floods it would be necessary to use pontoons to cross the Shalkie river, which has not been bridged.

### Standard Scales on Water Front.

San Francisco, Oct. 20.—The board of harbor commissioners has granted the request of the federal government for permission to erect three sets of standard scales along the city water front. The scales will be operated solely by government employees and they will have a