

# WAS BLOWN UP BY MINE

## Russian Torpedo Transport Destroyed

### By Accident.

#### NINETY-FIVE LIVES WERE LOST.

#### Cruciers From Vladivostok Sink a Japanese Steamer—Another Merchant Vessel Escapes to Port—Seizure of Masampo Deemed Important—Financial Situation is Very Critical.

St. Petersburg, (By Cable).—An official report has been received from Vice-roy Alexieff saying that the Russian torpedo transport Yenisei has been blown up as the result of accidentally striking a mine at Port Arthur.

The Yenisei sank and Captain Stepanoff, 8 officers and 91 men were lost.

An imperial ukase has been issued. It commands that all the troops in the military establishments in the Siberian military districts be placed in readiness for war; that all the divisions in the Far Eastern vicerealty be brought to war strength, and that the army and navy reserves in the Siberian and Kazan districts be called out for active service. The authorities are empowered to requisition the necessary horses.

In response to the appeal of the Dowager Czarina several grand duchesses and numerous other noble ladies have organized committees in St. Petersburg. The Official Messenger daily prints pages

Baron Hayashi said:

"Whatever may be the eventual result of the war, Russia, in allowing us to occupy and fortify Masampo, has created for herself another Dardanelles. With the fortification of Mesampo the integrity of Japan is assured forever."

"No fleet can now pass there against Japan's wishes. Even if we were beaten we will not give up Masampo."

It is understood that the Japanese troops are advancing rapidly toward the Yalu River. There, it is expected, they will meet and engage the Russian forces. The Japanese declare that the numbers of the Russian troops are greatly exaggerated.

The plan of the Japanese appear to be to take the road which leads almost straight to Mukden. They profess to have no doubt that they will be able to drive back the Russian forces toward Harbin.

Baron Hayashi points out that the Mukden road, though nominally under Russian military control, will be subject to constant raids from Chinese bands, who will swoop down from the hills. Proceeding diagonally, the Japanese intend to cut the line of communication between Port Arthur and the mainland of Manchuria, not only preventing reinforcements from reaching the Port Arthur garrison, but inflicting damage on the Manchurian railroad.

Referring in the House of Lords to the Russian charges on the subject of Wei-Hai-Wei, Foreign Minister Lansdowne declared the report that Great Britain had given Wei-Hai-Wei as a base for the

safety of our realm. Nevertheless, Russia, in disregard of her solemn treaty pledges to China and her repeated assurances that the act passed on the 30th day of April, A. D. 1915, commonly known as the "neutrality law," the acts are forbidden to be done, under severe penalties within the territory and jurisdiction of the United States.

The regulations of the neutrality laws are given.

SENATE AND PANAMA TREATY.

Executive Session Results in Decision to End Long Discussion.

Washington, (Special).—Behind closed doors the Senate reached an agreement to vote on the Panama canal treaty February 23.

After the executive session Senator Cullom, who has charge of the treaty, conferred with the leaders on the democratic side, with the result that when the doors were closed an agreement was speedily made looking to the termination of the long contest.

The correspondence which the President sent to the Senate in executive session was referred to the committee on foreign relations, and that committee will examine the documents and decide what portion shall be printed as an executive document. When this correspondence was received objection to its reference was made by Senator Cullom on the ground that it was of such a confidential nature that it should not be printed in any form. Discussions have disclosed the fact that some parts of the corres-

pondence should be prepared in form for use by the senators and it is expected that this matter will be so arranged.

The Senate was in executive session more than four hours, and after the agreement to vote on the treaty had been reached nearly the entire time was devoted to general discussion of the encroachments of the Senate and the President on each other's prerogative under the constitution.

MRS. LORENZ ACQUITTED.

Court Directed Jury That Evidence Was Not Sufficient to Convict.

Washington, (Special).—In the postal trial after the recess Justice Pitcheard directed the jury to find a verdict of not guilty in the case of Mrs. Lorenz, saying that there was not sufficient evidence to hold her. The Government, after presenting its rebuttal testimony, rested, and Mr. Kullmer moved that the jury be directed to return a verdict of not guilty as to Mrs. Lorenz.

Mr. Conrad said that at this stage of the case he would oppose the motion, but he added: "I think you might trust that much to us. He said he was going to deal in his argument with the utmost fairness as to which of the defendants in his opinion should be dealt leniently with and which should be dealt rigorously with."

District Attorney Beach also opposed the motion, whereupon Justice Pitcheard said he would consider the matter and announce his decision after the recess.

# BALTIMORE'S BIG FIRE

## Monumental City Recovering From Effects of Conflagration.

### TOTAL LOSS PUT AT \$125,000,000.

#### Confidence and Hope Has Been Restored to a High Degree by the Knowledge That All the Cash and Securities in the Vaults of the Destroyed Financial Institutions Are Safe and Sound.

Baltimore, Md., (Special).—Baltimore has experienced one of the greatest calamities that ever befell a city in this country. Hundreds of its handsomest buildings are in ruins, its business section almost totally destroyed, and thousands of people are thrown out of employment.

The fire started on Sunday morning at 10:30 a. m., and raged with unceasing vigor until Tuesday morning, when the city fire department aided by detachments from New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Wilmington and other cities, succeeded in getting it under control.

PERIL POINT SAFELY PASSED.

The city's banks are now open and are paying out money. Business houses are receiving orders and are confident of filling them. Streets in the ruined territory are being cleared by thousands of workmen and altogether great steps have been taken toward recovery from the effects of the conflagration.

Confidence and hope has been restored to a high degree by the knowledge that all the cash and securities in the vaults of the destroyed financial institutions are safe and sound and can be put to use immediately.

Federal troops have replaced the State militia and guard the wealth which is being taken from former depositories into temporary quarters where affairs are now being conducted.

Excitement and worry have given away to a new and enthusiastic hope for the work of making a new Baltimore.

# THE BUCCANEERS IN PANAMA

## MASONRY RELICS OF DRAKE AND MORGAN

### The Trip From Panama to Porto Bello—Columbus' Search For a Strait Connecting the Two Oceans—The Old Highway Across the Isthmus.

PANAMA.—There are moments when one can seem to comprehend, dimly, the interest of the Isthmus. Some carbozoid vase on the red-bug bites, some on the Chagres, or a tossing, heart-breaking press through uneasy seas in a rascally launch to Porto Bello—that "Mouth of the Treasure of the World," as Sir Henry Morgan called it—little adventures like these set one's fancy going. The Isthmus is not merely a small republic, by Jonah's gourd, as a horse-breeder would say, out of a bribe-bought revolution; it is the scene of acts that minds have delightfully dwelt upon, when young, during twenty generations. Here are the jungles, here are the seas, and here are the masonry settlements which Balboa cut through, the plate-fleets sailed, that Pizarro built, and that Drake and Morgan sacked. These were the seas in which Sir Francis Drake in two small pinaces had ravaged plate-fleets of Spain when "convoys by three armed galleons."

Bells rang when we reached Porto Bello; small dugout caycos put out all standing. When we entered one, from shore, like pieces of Columbus discovering America, the gunwales sank below water amidships. It took more than mere water and more water to affect us now. Drawn up on the shore were most of the villagers, and the American Consul, Rodriguez, who, I think, never has seen North America, like many another American Consul down by the equator. But he trades with New York, sends ivory nuts to be made into buttons, etc., and has the sense of hospitality highly developed. I wanted to go first to the Royal Treasury House, which was the Mecca (is it an anachronism to use the phrase?) of the brethren of the coast. Here it was—solid masonry. Tropical vines, which need only sun, rain and air to grow, had branched from its mortar, had separated the careful laying and cementing. The roof was off; there were openings which showed where the doors had been.

"Look at those arches," said the contractor, who had come along; "they have no keystones!" Of course they hadn't; ancient peoples had advanced ways of accomplishing ends. Consider the Pyramids; consider San Lorenzo, fort, up the Chagres River, in Panama. No one knows how they did it without steam, derricks, bigger than we are acquainted with. It's a fine old pile, this skeleton of a treasure house. "I mean to restore it as a custom house," remarked the contractor, pulling a red-blossoming plant from a crevice. "All I'll have to do is to supply doors and a roof."

We debouched upon a cobblestone street, a long street, connecting with jungle at both ends, with whitewashed coral-stone houses along it. Wild wigg-waggings attracted us to the American Consul's—Sr. Rodriguez's home, spacious, pretty (for those parts), showing wealth in its decoration—interesting chromes from an early American period, grasses in vases, mirrors with the name of his dead wife emblazoned at the bottom. There is no irony in this description—I am simply speaking literally; it should be read likewise. Sr. Rodriguez gave us more than any stretch of the meaning of hospitality in America, north or south, west or east, comprises; and he gave it out of his heart; he was what you honestly look for when a Spanish-blooded person says, in conventional fashion, "My house is yours." He showed us his family Bible, with the names and dates of his offspring written down. "Thirty-two children," he said, proudly, and we read their names. Against some of them was the record, "Died—." The mother, too, was dead.

Under guidance of the principal citizens we went to the two old churches—old beyond anything known in Christian America. One was in ruins; one is still worshipped in. The latter, indeed, was the church which rang its bells when it saw men with American raincoats coming ashore, thinking they were priests in cassocks. The chief citizens of the place for 400 years were buried under the flags of the floor. "I know it," said I, thinking of Mayor De Leon's calmness during our voyage; "here are De Leons to beat the band." They ranged, under our feet, back to 1600, twenty years before the Mayflower at Plymouth, New England.

Along here Columbus passed looking for "a strait connecting the Atlantic with another great ocean." Indians at Hopdras had told him of one, or so he understood them. What they really intended him of was that only a narrow neck of land here separated the two oceans; but his mind was fixed upon navigation, and he searched for a water passage, and stopped a few miles beyond Porto Bello at Nombre de Dios, from which point, some twelve years later, young Vasco Nunez del Balboa, noble but poor, energetic, engaging, and a wonder with the sword, made a march inland to that "peak in Darien" from which he discovered the Pacific Ocean, and fell down and prayed in emotion. Of supreme moments in the civilization of the world few are greater than this. Francisco Pizarro was with Balboa on this march, according to old Peter Martyr; and 150 men with arquebuses, cross-bows, swords, pikes and bloodhounds (the latter to track Indians). Balboa's own hound, which he called Leonica, kept always at his heels, even to the lone peak in Darien, and was allowed "share of the booty," which profited his master much.

Twelve days it took those mail-clad warriors, preceded by maroons cutting the way, to reach the peak. Some died, "from the most pestiferous climate in the world"; and there were skirmishes with the Indians, the same tribes who are now supposed to be allies of the United States, in spite of the fact that one great chief, Inzaquina, has gone to Cathartina to be entertained by Colombian officers. On September 25, 1513, Balboa saw the sea beyond, the sea that really reached to the East of Marco Polo, and he sent Pizarro ahead with scouts, following himself, wading waist deep into the surf to draw his sword and take possession for Castile and Leon. Very near the same spot at Acla, a settlement he founded. Balboa was put to death for treason. His treason was that long before he had started he had usurped the governor's place, and Spain did not hear of his marvelous discoveries till a new governor, with orders to execute Balboa had been sent to the Isthmus and had fulfilled the mission. Pizarro went on down the Pacific to the conquest of Peru; and the gold of the Incas presently came streaming back and over seas to Spain. At Porto Bello and at Nombre de Dios are the two split ends of the only path, except the fifty-year-old Panama Railroad, which even to this day exists across this junction of two continents.

The road, though paved with stone, is thick with bush now. Two years ago a mine owner had forty muleteers go ahead of him and clear a trail, and then by means of many relays of mules he made the journey to Panama in twenty hours. Drake heard of this road in 1570. He heard of the gold, silver and pearls that came over it for Spain. At that time the port of departure was Nombre de Dios. Just above here, and for that port Drake left Plymouth, England, with two ships and seventy-three men, and it is believed, the sanction of Queen Elizabeth. Leaving his ships out of sight, he used his pinnaces in scouting, and found the plate-fleet in the harbor, with her escort of three armed galleons, waiting for the cargo. One night he rushed the town, old John Oxenham, who was afterwards hanged in Lima as a pirate, his lieutenant. The Spanish fled. Silver was abundant; but Drake wanted gold and pearls. The Spanish returned for the church bell ringer was still faithfully pealing the alarm, and they took courage. Drake was wounded in the leg, and his men carried him away in retreat. For three years he waited his chance on the Isle of Pines, taking, meantime, with his pinnaces, several old ships, cutting out a treasure ship from her escort at Cathartina; and then got word of a rich train coming down the Panama road. Yellow fever had killed off all but forty-eight of his men; his surgeon had died, too, "of his own medicines."

The fortifications of Porto Bello are beautiful. In the style which Vauban brought to a climax in the days of Louis le Soleil of France, they have the rampart, the esplanade, the glacis, and the rest in lovely line and symmetry. Every point commands some other point; and underneath them is the dungeon, with on square opening, of historical romance. We found the walls, of course, scribbled with the dreads and wishes and farewells of innumerable prisoners. Ramparts scarce, by reached to the waistline of a man; and the sentry boxes, decorative little round-topped towers placed for architectural no less than for military effect, were hardly big enough for a man to turn around in. Red flowers, long and slim, like a folded morning glory, grew in the rifle slits. Small orchids thrived under the dislocated iron guns—so old that none of the marks tell the date of manufacture can be deciphered. People who fancy that ancient ruins are only to be encountered in the Old World should see these of Spanish America. They are European in character, with a story that seems almost Asiatic in age. At the other end of the town's waterfront stands the walls of the castle which Morgan sacked and rapped of its gold and pearls—making the priests and nuns of the place go ahead to put up scaling ladders and take the brunt of the arquebuses.—New York Evening Post.

It Wasn't His Fault.

A well-known Brooklyn politician owns a dizzy old frame building in one of the Jewish quarters of Manhattan. Not long ago his tenant, a small clothing merchant, summoned him hastily by telephone, telling him that the place was on fire. When the owner reached the ground he found that the fire department had extinguished the flames before they had done much of any damage. Somewhat annoyed at having been called from important business for so trivial a matter, he said rather sharply to his tenant:

"It's a pity the whole building didn't burn."

"Well," said the tenant, with a depressing gesture, "you can't blame me. It wasn't my fault. I didn't send 'em in de alarm."

Women Not Meant for Men.

Are women meant in giving them men? It cannot rightly be urged that they are. Women, after all, in buying or in giving, are commonly making use of money that others have earned. They have been trustees for other people's money for 2000 years, and long use has made them careful of their trust. Of course, the petty meanness of a certain kind of women have afforded infinite opportunities for men's jests and contempt, but those petty meannesses are nothing in comparison with the great meannesses of really rascals like any soldier, and "an equal

# Map Showing Full Extent of the Baltimore Fire.



of loyal addresses from Zemstvo and municipalities and Government and private corporations. The czar takes pains to personally thank the senders of addresses in each case.

The situation in financial circles here is slightly improved, but is still very critical.

## RUSSIANS SINK STEAMER.

### Whole Squadron Fires on Two Small Ships—One Escapes.

Washington, (Special).—The Japanese Legation received the following dispatch from Tokyo:

"Two small Japanese merchant ships Zensho Maru and Nakonoura Maru, while on their way to Otaru a port on the western coast of Yezo Island, from Sakata, a port on the northern coast of the main island of Japan, were fired on on February 11 by four Russian men-of-war off the coast of Amour prefecture, and the latter was sunk, while the former had a narrow escape."

"The Russian men-of-war are still seen off the western coast of Yezo Island. They are supposed to be the first-class cruciers which have been shut up at Vladivostok and tried some time ago to join the main squadron at Port Arthur."

## PORT ARTHUR BELIEVED DOOMED.

### The British Expect Its Fall Within Several Days.

London, (By Cable).—The British Government has information, which leads it to believe that Japan is likely to be in possession of Port Arthur a week from now. In the best informed Japanese circles here it is privately thought that the war will be over by July. Those British officials who are cognizant of the extraordinary thoroughness with which Japan prepared for the war are inclined to share the Japanese view regarding the duration of the struggle.

## China Will Be Neutral.

Washington, (Special).—Minister Cramer called the State Department from Peking that the Chinese Government would immediately issue a proclamation of neutrality, having received from the Russian Minister, the declaration of war. If this proclamation is observed it will of course prevent the threatened invasion of Manchuria by the Boxers. China also must prevent the use of her soil by either Russian or Japanese troops.

## Schoolgirl Killed Herself.

Chicago, (Special).—Florence Wellmer, a pretty girl of 15 years, killed herself because her step-father, George H. Bliss, interfered in a love affair which she was carrying on with a schoolboy. Before taking a draught of carbolic acid she wrote on the back of her photograph: "Don't blame H. M." Miss Wellmer was in her junior year at the High School, and was progressing well in her studies when her step-father said, he discovered that she was infatuated with a boy. He took the girl from the school and kept her almost constantly at home, where he frequently advised her to give up the lad. This she promised.

## IMPEROR PROCLAIMS WAR.

### Declares Russia Disregarded Solemn Pledges to Powers.

Tokyo, Japan, (By cable).—The existence of a state of war with Russia was formally announced by an imperial proclamation. The following is the text:

"We, by the grace of heaven Emperor of Japan, seated on the throne occupied by the same dynasty since time immemorial, hereby make proclamation to all our loyal and brave subjects, as follows:

"We hereby declare war against Russia, and we command our army and navy to carry on hostilities against her, in obedience to their duty, with all their strength, and we also command all our competent authorities to make every effort, in pursuance of their duties, to attain the national aim with all the means within the limits of the law of nations.

"We have already deemed it essential in international relations, and have made it our constant aim, to promote the peaceful progress of our empire in civilization, to strengthen our friendly ties with other states, and to establish a state of things which would maintain enduring peace in the Far East, and assure the future security of our dominion without injury to the rights or interests of other powers. Our competent authorities have also performed their duties in obedience to our will so that our relations with all the powers had been steadily growing in cordiality. It was then entirely against our expectations that we have unhappily come to open hostilities against Russia.

"The integrity of Korea is a matter of the gravest concern to this empire, not only because of our traditional relations with that country, but because the separate existence of Korea is essential to the

## MAY NOT IMPROVE AMERICAN LINES.

Seattle, Wash., (Special).—The Iyo Maru, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's Seattle Line, sailed from Yokohama for Seattle, The Aki Maru is scheduled to follow her February 23. There has been a persistent rumor about to the effect that the Japanese government would impress the Nippon Yusen Kaisha liners to serve as transports. The fact that one of them is now en route to Seattle is interpreted by local officials of the company to indicate that the American line of the company will not be disturbed.

## Money for Queen Lil.

Washington, (Special).—The Senate listened to the reading by Mr. Carmack of a speech prepared by Mr. Morgan in opposition to the President's policy with reference to an isthmian canal, and also considered the bill appropriating \$200,000 to ex-Queen Liliuokalani of Hawaii. Speeches in support of the bill were made by Mr. Blackburn and Mr. Mitchell, and in opposition by Mr. Spooner and Mr. Platt, of Connecticut. Mr. Spooner moved to recommend the measure, but the vote on this motion failed to develop a quorum, and the Senate was thus forced to adjourn.

## PROCLAMATION OF NEUTRALITY.

### President Roosevelt Declares Friendship of United States for Both Nations.

Washington, D. C., (Special).—President Roosevelt issued the proclamation declaring the neutrality of this government in the Russo-Japanese War. It says:

"Whereas, a state of war unhappily exists between Japan on the one side and Russia on the other side;

"And whereas, the United States are on terms of friendship and amity with both the contending powers, and with the persons inhabiting their several dominions; and whereas, there are citizens of the United States residing within the territories or dominions of each of the belligerents and carrying on commerce, trade or other business or pursuits therein, protected by the faith of treaties;

"And whereas, the persons who are subjects of the belligerents residing within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States, and carrying on commerce, trade or other business or pursuits therein;

"And whereas, the laws of the United States, without interfering with the free expression of opinion and sympathy or with the open manufacture or sale of arms or munitions of war, nevertheless impose upon all persons who may be within their territory and jurisdiction the duty of an impartial neutrality during the existence of the contest;

"And whereas, it is the duty of a neutral government not to permit or suffer the making of its waters subservient to the purposes of war;

"Now, therefore, I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, in order to preserve the neutrality of the United States and of their citizens and of persons within their territory and jurisdiction, and to enforce their laws, and in order that all persons being warned of the general tenor of the laws and treaties of the United States in this behalf, and

## Had Dynamite in Trunk.

Liverpool, (By Cable).—The customs officials found eighteen pounds of dynamite and 3,360 detonators in the possession of an Austrian emigrant on board the White Star Line steamer Majestic, which left New York February 1. The Austrian trunk had a false bottom, in which the dynamite was concealed. The man, who gave the name of Ivan Sjubaneolic, and who ostensibly was bound for Carlsbad, was arrested and remanded until February 20.

## Collier Nero is Smaashed.

San Francisco, (Special).—The mail steamer San Jose, just arrived from South American ports, brought the information that the United States navy collier Nero had been rammed by the gunboat Concord in the harbor of Panama. The injuries sustained by the collier was so serious that she had to be beached. The Concord was not injured.

## Will Take Cuban Loan.

Havana, (Special).—Speyer & Co. of New York have contracted to take the \$55,000,000 Cuban loan. The price to be paid for the bonds is 92, which is 2 per cent above the minimum.

## Senator Hanna's Fight for Life.

Washington, (Special).—Senator Hanna is battling for life, and despite the desperate condition in which he is from typhoid fever. Drs. Rixey, Osler and Carter say that he still has a chance, how great a chance they will not say. Sunday was a gloomy one at the Senator's home in this city, and those who had been by his bedside throughout the night continued as constantly throughout the day, as there was no telling at what minute the patient might become worse and his death ensue.

## \$400,000 Fire at Topeka.

Topeka, Kans., (Special).—Fire destroyed the Parkhurst & Davis Mercantile Company's building and stock at First and Kansas avenue, the Sells building adjoining, occupied by the McCormick Harvesting Company and W. I. Schick as a store for mattresses, and some smaller property. Total loss is estimated at \$400,000. The principal loss was sustained by the Parkhurst-Davis Company and is estimated at \$250,000, with \$125,000 insurance. During the progress of the fire several thousand cartridges stored on the third floor of the Parkhurst-Davis building exploded, and half a dozen spectators were hurt.

## WEEKLY REVIEW OF TRADE.

### War, Fire and Cotton Were Adverse Factors—Situation Encouraging.

R. G. Dunn & Co.'s weekly review of trade says:

War, fire and cotton were the adverse factors of the week, yet the country stood the shocks remarkably well and there are numerous encouraging symptoms.

To a large degree the outbreak of hostilities in the Orient and the collapse of the cotton boom had been discounted, and the disastrous loss of the conflagration was offset very largely by the stimulus it will give to many industries, notably structural steel. In restoring Baltimore there will be great activity in the building trades, while large stocks of goods must be replaced and orders filled by jobbers and manufacturers elsewhere. The labor situation throughout the country is almost devoid of friction. More or less traffic congestion results from the weather, and this factor accounts for the small loss of 1.7 per cent. in railway earnings during January.

Actual business is still restricted in the iron and steel industry, but there is more confidence in the future, and the extensive starting of plants by the leading producer suggests that foreign markets will be entered more aggressively than ever before. Structural steel projects have greatly improved because of the Baltimore fire, as it is certain that an enormous tonnage will be required to restore the ruined buildings. As to pig iron, no improvement is seen. Minor metals have developed irregularly, but hard coal is in good demand.

Failures this week in the United States are 228, against 246 last week, 302 the preceding week and 290 the corresponding week last year. Failures in Canada number 45, against 25 last week, 28 the preceding week and 20 last year.

## All Powers May Fight.

Chicago, Ill., (Special).—It is extremely probable that the United States—and each of the great powers—will do actual fighting before this war is over. The United States has taken a strong and courageous position." Dr. Toyokichi, formerly a secretary in the foreign department of the Japanese government, made the above prediction. Dr. Toyokichi has just completed a series of lectures in Chicago under the auspices of the University of Chicago.

## Sporting Brevities.

The season of the Connecticut State League opens on April 28.

The course for next year's automobile race for the Bennett trophy will be over a German course from Sandburg to Limburg.

Cluck golf is becoming popular in the South. "Dials" have been laid out at St. Augustine, Palm Beach, Grand Nassau and Miami.

It is assured that Yale will send a crew again next May to row the Annapolis Naval Cadet crew on the Susquehanna. The date is not fixed.