

JAPAN AND RUSSIA EACH CLAIMS VICTORY

Alexieff and Togo Send Official Reports of Latest Battle—Japs Declare They Sunk One Destroyer—One Seaman Wounded.

Viceroy Alexieff and Vice-Admiral Togo made their respective reports on the latest naval fight off Port Arthur, both claiming victory. The Viceroy declared the Russian ships chased the Japs, while Togo stated that his guns had sunk a Russian torpedo boat destroyer.

Several Japanese naval officers and sailors landed at Chefoo from an open boat, and were supposed either to belong to a gunboat which was damaged during the fight off Port Arthur and which sank with the crew, or to be members of the crew of the merchant steamer sunk near the entrance of Port Arthur for the purpose of blocking it.

It was said that Japan had landed 40 transport loads of troops since February 10.

St. Petersburg, (By Cable).—The czar has received the following from Viceroy Alexieff, dated Port Arthur, February 25: "After the moon had set early in the morning of February 25 the Russian fleet repelled several attacks of the enemy's torpedo boats, two of which are believed to have sunk in the open sea. Our torpedo boats, under Captain of the First Rank Matsuzvitch and Captain of the Second Rank Prince Lieven, unsupported, encountered and pursued the enemy's torpedo boat flotilla. They sighted no large warships.

"Later in the morning of February 25 the cruisers Bayan, Diana, Askold and Novik were sent out to prevent the Japanese cruisers from pursuing a portion of our returning torpedo-boat flotilla. One of our torpedo boats, which was cut off by four Japanese cruisers, sought shelter in Dove Bay, where it was subjected to a long distance fire by the enemy. It had no casualties.

"The Japanese fleet on sighting our cruisers came in close to the forts, which, together with our ships, opened fire at 10.50. Our cruisers, still firing, entered the harbor, where our torpedo boats had already safely reached.

"The enemy's shells for the most part fell short. One seaman was wounded, but we sustained no other casualties.

"The Japanese fleet consisted of 17 large warships and 8 torpedo boats."

Tokio, (By Cable).—The official report of the attempt made last Tuesday night to block the harbor of Port Arthur has reached Tokyo. The report was written by Vice-Admiral Kamimura, division commander under Admiral Togo.

The report recites that at a certain point near Port Arthur a number of merchant steamers, escorted by a torpedo flotilla, were dispatched for the purpose of closing the entrance to the harbor. The torpedo flotilla rejoined the fleet at 10 A. M. Wednesday at sea at a rendezvous previously agreed upon and reported that the steamer Hokoku Maru had been sunk at the foot of the light-house on the left side of the entrance. The Bushu was sunk outside, beyond the Hokoku Maru. The Tenshin Maru and the Buoy Maru and Jinsen Maru were sunk at the foot of Laotche hill almost side by side.

All the above mentioned steamers were sunk by their own crews, who were all safely rescued.

A bombardment of the inner harbor was then ordered, and for 15 minutes all the heavy guns of the Japanese fleet threw shells over the hills to the harbor. The Japanese were unable to determine the effect of the bombardment.

In the meantime the Japanese cruiser squadron discovered two Russian torpedo destroyers at the foot of Laotche Hill and the crew of one of the destroyers escaped, but the other was pursued into Pigeon bay, where it was sunk.

Rochester, N. Y., (Special).—The worst conflagration in the history of Rochester started a few minutes before 5 o'clock A. M. in the basement of the Rochester Dry Goods Company's store at Nos. 126-166 Main street East. The fire, which, according to the night watchman in the store, Thomas Connors, was discovered soon after it started, spread with such rapidity that by the time an alarm was turned in the entire front of the store was a mass of flames. Assistant Chief Jaynes realized at once the dangerous nature of the fire and turned in a general alarm. By this time the flames had spread to the building occupied by the dry goods firm of Beadle & Sherburne Co.

Chief Little arrived on the scene shortly after the general alarm was sounded. He realized that the flames were beyond the control of the local department, and appeals for more fire apparatus were sent to the chiefs of the Buffalo and Syracuse departments. Nearly five hours later four steamers arrived from Syracuse.

Within an hour after being discovered the fire had spread to the big Granite building occupied by the firm of Sibley, Lindsey & Carr, and by hundreds of business and professional men. The flames also spread to the buildings in the rear of the Granite block. The extreme cold made fire fighting almost a hazardous task, as the ladders were coated with ice.

Assistant Chief Frank A. James was hurt about 9 o'clock, and was removed to Habnemann Hospital. He was struck in the head by a falling piece of brick. This was the only accident reported.

LOSS ABOUT \$5,000,000.

The loss is estimated at between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000, most of which fell on the Sibley, Lindsey & Carr Company, the Beadle & Sherburne Company, the Rochester Dry Goods Company and the Walker Shoe Company. The loss to the business offices in the Granite Building cannot be estimated at this writing. The plans and estimates for the mammoth new block that the Sibley, Lindsey & Carr Company contemplated building in the spring, and the original plans and specifications for the new Granite school were destroyed. Almost the entire tenth floor of the Granite Building was occupied by the Vacuum Oil Company, a branch of the Standard Oil Company. The Bradstreet Mercantile Agency also had offices in this building.

SELF PROTECTORS AND STRUCKERS.

Several engines from the Buffalo Fire Department arrived at 11 o'clock. At that hour the fire was still burning fiercely, but Chief Little believed that the flames could be kept under control.

ROCHESTER'S BUSINESS SECTION FIRE-SWEPT

Property to the Value of \$5,000,000 Destroyed by the Worst Conflagration in the History of the City—Dynamite Used to Check Flames.

as there was no wind blowing. The firemen used dynamite early in the morning, but the use of explosives was soon abandoned. A portion of the Kirby Building, occupied by the Rochester Dry Goods Company, fell. The front of the building occupied by the Beadle & Sherburne Company also fell into the street with a dull roar, carrying with it a mass of burning timbers, brick and plaster. Trolley wires broke and eight firemen had narrow escapes from injury.

The fire in the store was guarded by large details of police. Had there been even a moderately high wind, the firemen say, nothing could have prevented a repetition of the Baltimore disaster.

The extreme cold this winter has frozen up many of the mains, and for the past two weeks the firemen have been engaged in thawing out the pipes. On account of the lack of proper apparatus this work has been slow.

At 7 o'clock Chief Little and Commissioner of Public Safety Gilmann were telegraphed to Buffalo and Syracuse for assistance, and at 10:07 the Syracuse fire fighters arrived. They had been delayed on account of the severe cold which was delaying traffic on all the railroads in this part of the state.

THE GROWS IN INTENSITY.

The fire started so early in the morning that few people were on the streets, but by 6 o'clock there were thousands crowding the scene of the disaster. The explosion of dynamite used to check the spread of the flames was supplemented by the thunder of falling walls. At 9 o'clock an Commissioner of Public Safety Gilmann were on the scene shortly after the fire was discovered. Commissioner Gilmann estimated the loss at about \$5,000,000.

THE GRANITE BUILDING BELONGING TO SIBLEY, LINDSEY & CURR CO., the upper stories of which were occupied by hundreds of professional men, lawyers, doctors, dentists and business men, was gutted from the basement to the tenth story by the fire. The Sibley, Lindsey & Carr Company was situated in a large drug department. There have been several mysterious explosions in the burning buildings.

ESTER BUSINESS SECTION THREATENED.

The Granite building will be a total loss. Across St. Paul street to the west is another dry goods store, Burke, Fitzsimmons, Hone & Co. The efforts of the fire department were centered on the west wall of the Granite building to prevent it falling and spreading the fire to the west side of St. Paul street.

Madison, Wis., (Special).—The Wisconsin State Capitol Building was badly damaged by fire, with a loss estimated at \$600,000. The State carries only partial insurance, being in the process of change from insurance companies to a system of State insurance. The fire may involve the building of a new capitol, a special session of the legislature and the probable removal of the capitol from Madison to Milwaukee.

American Beef Seized.

Nagasaki, (By Cable).—The Japanese government has seized 679 tons of mess beef which was shipped from San Francisco on the steamer Korea, February 2, and which was consigned to the Russian government at Vladivostok. It is thought that the Japanese government will purchase the beef.

Omaha, (Special).—Horace G. Hurt, former president of the Union Pacific Railroad, and Mrs. Hurt were passengers on the steamer Korea, reported seized by the Japanese at Nagasaki.

HANNA'S ESTATE WORTH \$7,000,000.

Investigation By Late Senator's Son Shows Double Recent Value.

Cleveland, O., (Special).—Dan R. Hanna and his attorney reported to probate court in this city that the estate of the late Senator M. A. Hanna showed a valuation of \$7,000,000, more than double the amount reported at the time of the presentation of will for probate.

The holdings of the late Senator in the Cleveland Electric Railway Company are valued at \$2,000,000. He was also a heavy stockholder in the American Ship-building Company, Pittsburgh Coal Company, Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad, as well as in the M. A. Hanna Company. His interest in the Pittsburgh Steamship Company, the operating wing of the United States Steel Corporation, was disposed of a short time before his death.

Local bank stocks represented a portion of his wealth.

Washington, D. C., (Special).—Justice Jeter C. Pritchard, after denying a motion for a new trial and an arrest of judgment, imposed a sentence of two years in the Moundsville (W. Va.) Penitentiary and a fine of \$10,000 each upon August W. Machen, George E. Lorenz and Diller B. Groff, three of the defendants in the postoffice conspiracy case, who were convicted Friday by Samuel A. Groff, who also was convicted, will not be sentenced until his motion for a new trial is heard.

Attorney C. A. Douglas, of counsel for the defense, noted an appeal to the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia. Attorney Samuel Maddox entered a motion for a new trial and an arrest of judgment in the case of Samuel A. Groff, and the case will be heard by Judge Pritchard within four days.

In entering his motion, Attorney Maddox said to the court that the verdict in the case of Samuel A. Groff was so astounding and so entirely unexpected in view of Mr. Conrad's statement to the jury respecting the Government's willingness to drop his case, that counsel for the defense had not thought it necessary to move that the jury court direct the jury to acquit.

The defendant were released on \$20,000 bail each. G. Stapples and David Moore, of this city, qualified as surety for Machen, Arthur E. Baker and Thomas R. Marshall for Lorenz, and S. A. Drury and Thomas H. Pickford for Diller B. Groff.

NEWS IN SHORT ORDER

The Latest Happenings Condensed for Rapid Reading.

Domestic.

Wallace H. Ham, Boston agent of the American Surety Company, is charged with the embezzlement of \$100,000.

Harry A. Zillfiro was hanged for murder at Kittanning, Pa.

The Massachusetts Grand Lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen is declared in revolt against the Supreme Lodge.

Rev. James J. Hartley was consecrated Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio.

Special Attorney Conrad stated the evidence will not hold Samuel A. Groff, accused in connection with the postoffice cases.

A number of names have been suggested, but no candidate has yet been selected for the position of Republican national chairman.

The International Society of State and Municipal Building Commissioners and Inspectors is organized in Washington.

The wife of W. C. Whitney leaves Harry Payne Whitney in charge of the estate.

Baron M. von Schlosser, a former German officer, was killed by a bear while hunting in Washington State.

Mayor Harrison testified at the murder trial of the Chicago car-barn bandits.

May wheat broke 5 cents then fluctuated widely in the Chicago wheat pit.

Senator Hanna's will leaves his estate of \$3,000,000 to his family, none being devoted to charity.

Failing to agree in St. Louis, committee of the Farmers of the Populist party may call two separate conventions.

Two men asleep in a caboose at Will hampson, Pa., were killed by the explosion of a locomotive.

Mme. Eleanor Petralli, a once famous opera singer, died in want in Chicago.

Seven persons were injured in a railway wreck near Bridgeport, Tenn.

Robert J. Rich of Iowa, a Yale student was found dead at the foot of a cliff in a New Haven park.

Cecil Frederick Myers, 71 years old, and a negro nurse were arrested upon the discovery that the former's wife had died of poison.

President Don Parry addressed the Citizens' Industrial Association at Indianapolis in opposition to the proposed Eight Hour bill now before Congress.

TEN CHILDREN BURNED.

Explosion of Alcohol Occurred at a Sunday-School Entertainment.

Cincinnati, (Special).—An accident at the Richmond Street Christian Church here resulted in ten children being seriously burned and others painfully injured. Seven of those burned are in the City Hospital, and it is thought many others have been hurt.

The Sunday-school room was crowded for the entertainment given by the pastor, Rev. Vernon Stauffer. The evening had been set apart for the small boys, and quite a crowd of girls gathered on the outside. The pastor was telling fairy stories, and in order to make them realistic provided a kettle, with salt in the bottom of it, saturated with alcohol. This was set aside to furnish weird lights for the fairy stories.

Suddenly a draft struck the stream of alcohol and an explosion followed. All of those seated around the fire were burned. Besides the seven taken to the hospital three were taken home badly burned, and others not seriously injured were bandaged up and taken home.

The blame for the draft is charged to the little girls who had been excited and were opening doors to look in.

RELIEF FOR TOBACCO GROWERS.

At a hearing before the House Committee on Ways and Means Internal Revenue Commissioner Yerkes said he saw no reason why relief should not be extended to the tobacco growers of the South by removing the tax of 6 cents a pound on leaf tobacco.

This would allow the grower to sell his product to a merchant or anyone else, although Mr. Yerkes said that if this tobacco should be sold to a manufacturer the tax would be charged. This proposition is contained in a pending bill introduced by Representative Gaines, of Tennessee.

E. M. Flach, of Hopkinsville, Ky., and ex-Representative Washington, representing the Robinson County (Tenn.) Tobacco Growers' Association, told the committee that there was great distress in the "black tobacco belt" of Kentucky, where 140,000,000 pounds of tobacco was produced annually. From 80 to 85 per cent of this tobacco is exported, it was stated, but there seemed to be a combination among the foreign buyers which kept the price very low. If the internal revenue tax were removed it would develop a domestic market for this tobacco, it was believed.

RUSHING ENGINES TO KOREA.

Philadelphia Firm Makes Seven in One Day for Fusan-Soo Line.

Philadelphia, (Special).—In consequence of a rush order from the Japanese Government for locomotives a locomotive plant here has established a new record by the construction of seven locomotives in a day.

The engines ordered by Japan are for the military railroad that will connect Fusan, on the southern coast of Korea, with Seoul, the capital. The line will be about 225 miles in length. The order, which called for 20 locomotives to be completed within 30 days, was received late in January. Eight of them have been shipped to Fusan. The remaining 12 will be shipped this week. Six will be sent overland to San Francisco and will be loaded aboard a steamship for Fusan, while the remaining six will go by the all-water route from New York by way of the Suez canal.

HANGED FOR MURDER OF HIS WIFE.

Harry A. Zillfiro Pays the Penalty of a Brutal Crime.

Kittanning, Pa., (Special).—Harry A. Zillfiro was hanged in the county jail yard here. The trap was sprung at 10:10 and death by strangulation followed in ten minutes. He was cool and collected on the scaffold and had nothing to say. Zillfiro was scarcely 21 years old. The crime for which he paid the death penalty was the killing of his young wife, who was living with her parents in the county. On February 4, 1903, Zillfiro hired a team and drove 20 miles in the country to his wife's home stopping on the way to borrow cartridges and a shotgun. Seizing himself near the house he waited and shot his wife dead as she stepped out on the porch.

When arrested he admitted the killing but refused to assign a reason for the deed.

Earthquakes in New Mexico.

Albuquerque, N. M., (Special).—The people living in the vicinity of Socorro, south of here, are becoming alarmed at the frequent recurrence of earthquake shocks. Three severe shocks have occurred during the last two weeks, and the great lava beds east of San Marcial, known as the Mal Pais, or Bad Lands, have been disturbed, great waves appearing on the surface.

Eight Break Jail at Aniston.

Aniston, Ala., (Special).—Eight prisoners made their escape from the city jail here. They were put in the jail corridor to take baths, being left there while the warden attended to duties in another part of the jail. The men pried open a window and dropped 13 feet to the ground. Acting Warden Boselle has been suspended on account of the escape. Several of the escaped prisoners were serving long sentences for misdemeanors.

Tragedy Ends Romance.

Asheville, N. C., (Special).—At Calf Creek, Madison county, Tom Kess shot his daughter and was killed by her husband, a young man named Hensley. Some days ago Hensley and Miss Kess eloped and were married. Kess, who had objected to the marriage, sent word to them to come home. They arrived at night, and upon their appearance at the house Kess drew a pistol and shot his daughter, inflicting injuries that will prove fatal. The young bridegroom wrestled the pistol from Kess' hand and fired, killing his father-in-law instantly.

JAIL AND HEAVY FINE

Machen, Lorenz and B. B. Groff are Sentenced.

EACH GETS TWO YEARS AND \$10,000.

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SAYS HECLA IS INSOLVENT.

Broker Wants Receiver for Famous Montana Mine.

Indianapolis, Ind., (Special).—The Hecla Consolidated Mining Company, which in the 22 years of its existence has paid, it is said, \$2,500,000 in dividends, was made defendant in a suit for a receiver, brought by Newton Todd, a broker of this city.

Todd declares that the company is insolvent. He charges a scheme on the part of the directors of the company to secure a preferred debt against the corporation and thus wipe out minority stockholders. He says no dividends have been paid in the last three years. Henry Knippenberg, president of the company, and John McCutcheon, secretary, deny the charges. It is set out that Todd owns 100 shares in the corporation, which is engaged in the business of copper mining in Montana.

LIVE WASHINGTON AFFAIRS

No American Slave Dealers in the Philippines.

Canal Board Completed.

President Roosevelt has completed practically the personnel of the Isthmian Canal Commission. Assurances have been received that C. Ewald Grunsky, a San Francisco hydraulic engineer, who was tendered an appointment after the declaration of Mr. Garber, will accept, although his formal acceptance has not been received.

It is probable that the seventh member of the commission will be Benjamin M. Harrod, of New Orleans, a member of the Mississippi River Commission. Some charges were made against Mr. Harrod, involving his capacity rather than his integrity, but thus far they are not taken very seriously by the President.

It has not been determined definitely what the compensation of the members of the commission will be, but it is known that the President intends that they shall be well paid for their services.

President Roosevelt signed the ratifications to be exchanged between the United States and the Republic of Panama on the Isthmian canal treaty. The exchanges will be made at the State Department between Secretary Hay, acting for the United States, and M. Bunau-Varilla, the Minister of Panama. The President himself does not sign a treaty. Subsequently a proclamation will be issued by the President announcing the conclusion of the convention and putting it into effect.

ISLE OF PINES TREATY.

Failure of Ratification Attributed in Havana to Oversight.

Havana, (Special).—The lapsing of the Isle of Pines treaty on account of its not being ratified within the time limit is regarded here to be mainly due to the fact that the State Department at Washington did not call attention to the matter. It would also appear, however, that the Cuban state department failed to remember this time limit.

The treaty was signed in Havana July 2, 1903, and was ratified by the Cuban Senate on July 16 since when it has been pending in the United States Senate. The last condition of the treaty was to the effect that the ratification be exchanged in Washington within seven months of the date of signing.

Persons interested in securing American sovereignty for the Isle of Pines are jubilant at this development, considering it to be a setback which gives additional promise of the final defeat of the proposition that the island remain under Cuban sovereignty.

RELIEF FOR FIRE SUFFERERS.

Maryland House of Delegates Authorizes Appropriation of \$250,000.

Baltimore, Md., (Special).—In the house of delegates at Annapolis a bill was introduced authorizing a contingent fund of \$250,000 for the relief of cases of destitution caused by the fire in Baltimore. The money is placed at the disposal of Gov. Warfield, with authority to employ such persons or agencies as he may think best for relieving those in need.

The special commission appointed to consider the condition of the burned skyscrapers reported that the Continental Trust and Union Trust buildings, the two tallest structures in the city, were not seriously injured so far as their steel frameworks are concerned.

All the hotels here are crowded with guests made up largely of building contractors and supply manufacturers, insurance officials, and merchants from other cities. The loss committee of the insurance companies reported that 1,600 claims have been settled.

UNITED STATES LED THEM ALL.

Got Nearly 400 More Awards Than Any Other Nation at Paris.

New York, (Special).—The official report of the French Government relating to the "Paris Exposition of 1900," shows that this country carried off the honors at that exposition. The awards accorded to exhibitors of the United States were 2,379. Germany, 1,983; Great Britain, 1,865; Russia, 1,754; Hungary, 1,351; Japan, 1,307; Austria, 875; and a number of smaller nations of lesser importance.

This country's awards comprised 221 grand prizes, 563 gold medals, 725 silver, 929 bronze and 341 honorable mentions.

Bear Kills a Baron.

Port Angeles, Wash., (Special).—The body of Baron Martin von Schlosser, formerly an officer in the German Army and for many years a resident of this city, has been found on a range south of the Hot Springs near the body of a dead bear. The Baron while hunting unintentionally had been killed by the bear.

Two Killed in Capitol.

Des Moines, Iowa, (Special).—Mrs. C. B. Fountain and her mother, Mrs. A. Block, of Valley Junction, were killed in one of the State House elevators while accompanying Senator A. B. Funk, of the Capitol Improvement Commission. Their screams were heard in the capitol halls. Legislative business was suspended and disorder ensued.

Burned to Death in Jail.

Guthrie, Okla., (Special).—Carl Black and Cecil Hogert, two young men, were burned to death in the City Jail at Mountain View. They had been arrested for drunkenness, and it is thought that the bedding caught fire from a lighted cigarette. The fire had made strong headway before the cries of the two men attracted attention. By the time rescuers reached the jail the two prisoners had ceased to beat against the iron bars and the entire building was in flames.

9 Bulls-Eyes in 10 Shots.

Maells, (By Cable).—The battleship Wisconsin has beaten the world's record with 13-inch guns, its expert gunners having made nine bull-eyes out of ten shots fired within ten minutes.

Four Squares of Houses Slain.

Sheridan, Pa., (Special).—Cave-in of abandoned workings in the Bellevue mine have damaged 30 houses on Elyon and Hampton streets in West Scranton. The disturbed areas covered several acres, on which are many houses.

THE TREATY IS RATIFIED

Overwhelming Majority in the Senate for Panama Canal.

Democratic Senators Were Almost Evenly Divided on the Question, But Only Fourteen Votes Were Cast in Opposition—The Closing Debate—Work to Be Commenced Soon After Commission is Appointed.

Washington, D. C., (Special).—By the decisive vote of 66 to 14 the United States Senate ratified the Panama Canal treaty. All amendments were rejected. The formal ratification will be exchanged immediately between the Governments of the United States and the Republic of Panama, represented by Secretary of State Hay and Minister Buena-Varilla.

Thus an end is reached at last of the seemingly interminable period of deliberation and discussion in the United States over the construction of an inter-oceanic canal.

Now comes the era of actual work. Within a few days President Roosevelt will announce the names of the members of the Panama Canal Commission, at the head of which is to be Rear Admiral Walker, U. S. N. (retired). Congress will speedily pass the necessary additional legislation authorizing the payment of the money to the Panama Republic and making other provisions. Within a short time the energies of the United States will be in motion to start the actual work of construction upon the greatest engineering project and the greatest construction of nature's topographical interference with commerce ever known upon the face of the globe.

Epochal, and indeed, almost epic, as was the moment of the ratification of the treaty, the business passed off in the Senate almost as if it were an every day affair. There was no applause; there were no sensational or dramatic incidents, and of course, there were no outside spectators of the big event.

THREE KILLED BY EXPLOSION.

A Large Tube Full of Blast-Furnace Gas Blew Up.

Buffalo, N. Y., (Special).—Two men were asphyxiated, one was burned to death and several were seriously injured in an explosion of blast-furnace gas at the plant of the Lackawanna Steel Company.

The explosion occurred near power house No. 2. A large reservoir is situated there. The reservoir is a tube 100 feet long and about 10 feet in diameter, and it was stored with gas to be used as motive power for a large blower engine.

Smith and Reynolds were working in the reservoir behind a bulkhead. A piece of the bulkhead was removed in the course of their operations, and the valve which the men thought had been closed allowed gas to flow into the tank. They tried to escape, but were overcome before they could reach the exit. A torch used by the men was left behind and when the gas reached it a terrific explosion occurred. Frank Prenatt and three men were trying to remove one of the unconscious men when the explosion occurred. All of them were hurled into the air.

REFUSE AMERICAN GOODS

Feeling in Russia Against United States Has Become Intense.

St. Petersburg, (By Cable).—The irritation against the United States on account of the supposed unfriendly attitude of that country toward Russia, which was slightly noticeable throughout the negotiations, seems to have become daily more pronounced, and since the Vicksburg incident at Chemulpo (when the commander of this American gunboat is said to have refused to unite with the commanders of other foreign warships at Chemulpo to protest against the fighting which resulted in the loss of the Russian warships Varieg and Korietz, and the fact that the Vicksburg did not take aboard survivors of the Russian ships), American business men here are really alarmed concerning the possible effect upon American trade.

Within the last few days orders for American goods have been countermanded, the only explanation given being that the prospective purchasers did not desire to buy American goods under the present circumstances. United States Consul General Watts has been appealed to in the case of an American firm which had a large contract for school uniforms, the contract having been peremptorily canceled.

Orders for the importation of a big consignment of wood pulp have also been countermanded. The interesting purchaser saying in his letter that he could not be expected to do business with America after the Vicksburg incident.

Mr. Watts has felt it to be his duty to write to the state department, pointing out the state of public feeling and the great prospective damage to American trade unless measures were taken to allay the irritation.

Americans here believe that an official explanation of the Vicksburg incident would be of great value in having an effect. The government officially has not taken notice of the incident, being without direct official advice from the Far East on the subject. In government circles here it has been seen plainly that Russian susceptibility has been wounded, and the fear is expressed that should Washington now disregard Russia and procure exequaturs for the newly appointed American consuls at Mukden and Antung from Peking, and attempt to send those officials to their posts, a really unpleasant incident might be created.

Russia does not want to be placed in the position of refusing to allow these consuls to enter upon their duties, but, with a state of public feeling and commerce at a standstill, military considerations are paramount, and Russia might consider herself warranted in interpreting such a course on the part of the United States to be political rather than commercial.

The refusal of Russia to allow Mr. Morgan, the newly appointed American consul at Port Dalny, to go to his post at present is based solely on the military situation, which may compel all foreigners to leave Port Dalny.

The sincere hope is expressed that the United States will not embarrass Russia further by pressing the question of consular representation at this time.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

Settlement of All Matters in Dispute is Being Arranged.

London, (By Cable).—Premier Balfour had sufficiently recovered his health to come from Brighton to this city to preside at a Cabinet meeting at noon. Prior to the meeting the French ambassador, M. Cambon, called at the French Office and had an hour's talk with Foreign Secretary Lansdowne.

The Ambassador returned here from Paris and, apart from an exchange of views in regard to the most recent developments of the war, on which subject the two cabinets are keeping in the closest touch with each other, there is good reason to believe that a settlement of all matters in dispute between France and Great Britain is on the eve of being arranged.

Such questions as Egypt, Morocco, Newfoundland, etc., have been fully discussed by the two Governments for some months and the differences are being gradually eliminated until practically nothing remains to prevent an early signature of a treaty removing all outstanding obstacles to a complete accord between the two powers.

Loan is Over-subscribed.

London, (By Cable).—Tokio, Osaka and Yokohama, says the Times' correspondent in the Japanese capital, are ready to subscribe 100,000,000 yen (\$75,000,000) toward the 100,000,000 yen loan. The Emperor has given orders that the whole of the Japanese Imperial Treasury's large stock of old gold and silver coins and bullion be handed to the Bank of Japan for the purpose of strengthening the specie reserve.

\$100,000 For Murder.

Winchester, Ky., (Special).—Mrs. Annabella Marcell, for herself and children, filed suit in the Circuit Court against Jas. Hargis, Alexander Hargis, Edward Callahan and B. F. French for \$100,000 damages. She alleges in her petition that the defendants entered into a conspiracy with Curtis Jett and Thomas White to murder her husband. The late J. A. Marcell Callahan was formerly Sheriff of Breathitt county. Jett and White are now in jail in Louisville.

The Port of the Lugo River, in the mouth of the Lugo river, is the greatest bean market in the world.