

NO OVERTURES FOR PEACE

Japanese Too Busy to Talk on that Subject Now.

RUSSIANS WILL FIGHT HARDER.

General Stoessel Presents His Horse to General Nogi Who Accepts in Name of Army.

Japan has made no overtures for peace to Russia, directly or indirectly through the United States or any other power, and contemplates no such action, and now that Port Arthur has fallen, proposes to press the war in the north all the more vigorously by reinforcing the Japanese armies at Liao Yang with the greater part of the troops which have been besieging Port Arthur. This in brief represents the views of Kozoro Takahira, the Japanese minister, who has recently resumed charge of the legation at Washington after a long illness at New York.

"The fall of Port Arthur," said the minister, "is but a step in the war which Japan is waging for a principle. Certainly it is an important step but nothing could be further from the truth than the assumption that because Japan has captured a stronghold, the fall of which has long been expected, the Japanese government will now make overtures for peace. Japan is too busy fighting. We are as much in earnest today as we were at the outset of the war. We have made no overtures for peace either directly or indirectly nor have the powers approached us with any idea of intervention."

At the Russian embassy, it was reiterated that Russia would fight all the harder in view of the temporary loss of Port Arthur.

A special dispatch from Tokyo says that at the conclusion of the interview between Gen. Nogi and Stoessel, the latter begged to be allowed to present to Gen. Nogi his favorite Arabian charger. Gen. Nogi courteously declined personal acceptance pointing out that it came under the category of war material to be surrendered, but he consented to accept the animal in the name of the Japanese army.

The Russian battleships sunk at Port Arthur have not as yet been officially inspected. The portions of those destroyed by the Russians at the last moment seem limited above water. As there are no signs of interior explosion, it is hoped that the damage done to them will be repairable. The decks are partially destroyed and filled in, the gates also being damaged. The great cranes is intact and serviceable.

Conditions at Port Arthur.

Advices from Japanese sources say that the condition of Port Arthur is chaotic, but that Gen. Nogi and Gen. Stoessel are rapidly systematizing affairs there. Gen. Nogi is prepared through agents who have been recruiting for months, to put a horde of Chinese coolies at work in the fortifying of Port Arthur immediately that the Russians are disposed of. Vast quantities of cement and timber are ready on the Yalu river for this purpose, while steel plates and other manufactured necessities are ready in Japan for transportation to the fortress.

The Japanese are confident that the re-fortification of Port Arthur will place the fortress in a better condition than ever, with the Russian defects eliminated, long before Russia can besiege it, if such a thing ever occurs at all. Ammunition, food and medical supplies to last for years will be sent to Port Arthur, Japan being heedful of the mistakes made by the Russians.

Pretext Against Smoot.

The Ohio conference of the re-organized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints will be held in Columbus January 25 and 26. They will protest against the seating of Reed Smoot, or if Congress has already re-seated him by that time, they will forward a letter of approval of that action to the government.

JAPS TOOK 25,000 PRISONERS.

Number of Inhabitants at Port Arthur is 35,000, of Whom 20,000 Are Sick.

The Japanese captured 25,000 prisoners at Port Arthur, of whom 20,000 are sick. The following report was received from Gen. Nogi on the 4th inst:

"Order is maintained at Port Arthur by the officers. The people are quiet. Our minute investigation was not finished until Tuesday night. Common provisions and bread are plentiful, but there is a scarcity of meat and vegetables. There are no medical supplies at Port Arthur. The Japanese are strenuously succoring the people. The capitulation committees are pushing their respective works."

The weight of opinion in Japanese official circles seems to be against a belief in the early conclusion of peace, and doubt is expressed that the fall of Port Arthur will materially affect the situation. One of several officials who discussed the question with the correspondent of the Associated Press to-day voiced the sentiment of the majority when he said:

"We are confronting a situation which continues to be purely military. The present problem is created by Gen. Kuropatkin's army and by the Russian second Pacific squadron. We are devoting all attention to them. We anticipate that the Russians will renew more determinedly than ever their effort to drive Field Marshal Oyama back, and that they will strive to gain supremacy at sea. We are preparing to defeat both these objects. The situation makes talk of peace futile."

NEW YEAR STARTS WELL.

Spirit of Conservation Disappearing and Consumers Are Coming Forward With Orders.

R. G. Dan & Co.'s "Weekly Review of Trade" says: Aside from some hesitation at the South, owing to the recent fall in price of cotton, business conditions are favorable and optimistic sentiments are evidenced by extensive preparations for active trade. As annual reports appear it is found that the closing months of 1904 made a much better exhibit than the first half, which starts the new year with smaller stocks of goods in the hands of dealers, assuring liberal contracts in the near future for replenishing supplies.

Storms have again caused temporary delay to traffic, but the ample water supply is a beneficial influence more than offsetting any injury to the aggregate. Gross earnings of the railways in December were 6.4 per cent. larger than in the same month of 1903. Winter wheat conditions have improved, and the partial recovery in cotton may prevent the threatened curtailment in acreage. Buyers are arriving in the leading markets, and in another week liberal orders for spring delivery will be placed.

Dispatches from the other cities are generally encouraging. Inventories and repairs are completed, the various steadily extended operations and the sentiment is in striking contrast to the conservatism that prevailed a year ago. New business is gradually coming forward, the needs of consumers being felt in all sections of the market, while production is no longer retarded by adverse weather. Ample water has restored full output at coke ovens, removing the fuel difficulty, and also facilitating transportation. The market shows little evidence of inflation or artificial conditions, a more wholesome tone pervading the industry than at any recent date. Minor metals developed some irregularity, owing to annual statistics of supply, but the consumption of coal is very heavy, necessitating full operation of practically all collieries.

Failures for the week numbered 299 in the United States, against 400 last year, and 25 in Canada, compared with 37 a year ago.

COMPLAINT IS FAULTY.

Court Strikes Out Pleading of Oilman Against Standard Oil.

Judge Lanning, in the United States circuit court at Trenton, N. J., filed an opinion striking out the declaration in the suit brought by George Rice, of Marlinton, O., against the Standard Oil Company.

Rice sued for heavy damages under the Sherman anti-trust laws, claiming that the Standard Oil Company had driven him out of business from which he was making \$50,000 a year. The decision is based entirely upon technical defects of the bill of complaint, and does not go into the merits of Rice's complaint.

TERGE TELEGRAMS.

Forest fires on the hills opposite Harper's Ferry exploded some old shells that have lain there since the civil war.

A bill and resolution are introduced in the United States senate providing for federal regulation of railroad rates for interstate commerce.

At the New Year's reception at the White House President Roosevelt shook hands with 7,877 persons. The reception lasted three hours and 27 minutes.

It is said the booty which fell into the hands of the Japanese at Port Arthur only amounted to 8,000 tons of coal and two months' rations of rice.

Of 270 officers of the Russian army at Port Arthur at the beginning of the war, 180 have been killed or wounded, many of them while doing duty in the forts.

Gen. Stoessel was assured that neither Gen. Kuropatkin nor the Baltic fleet could aid him.

As the result of an assault made by two negroes on a farmer at Hone, Ark., one of the negroes, White Jetton, 17 years old, has been taken from a constable and lynched.

The British consul's residence outside Tangier was attacked by insurgents during the night of January 4. Guards drove the attackers away.

A civil service system, similar to that in operation in the Philippines, is expected to be instituted shortly in Porto Rico.

Gen. Stoessel reported to St. Petersburg that seventy and Japanese shells had reduced the defenders to 10,000 men. His position had become absolutely undefensible.

Mrs. John Alexander Dowle, wife of the prophet, and Mrs. Gladstone Dowle, have arrived in Havana.

An arbitration treaty between Spain and the United States has been signed by M. Ojeda, representing the former country, and Secretary of State John Hay for this country.

Bishop Hortsman, of the Cleveland diocese of the Roman Catholic church, has assigned Father Daniel Kirby to the pastorate of St. Patrick's church, Leetonia, to succeed Father E. J. Murphy.

Advices from Colombia report that the projected revolution has been successful, and that Gens. Joaquin Keles and Gonzalez Valencia, who were at the head of the movement, and others, have been imprisoned.

J. Frank Hunt, a Mormon, of Bannock, was elected Speaker of the House in the Idaho Legislature.

William H. Swank, engineer; Robert Turner, fireman, and Renick Mechem, a brakeman on a Lehigh Valley coal train, were killed near Weatherly, Pa., by the derailment of the engine and 28 loaded cars which it was hauling.

Statistics given out in New York show that more than \$230,000,000 worth of property was destroyed by fire during 1904. Baltimore's loss was the largest.

LIVES LOST BY EXPLOSION

Towboat on Ohio River Wrecked and Sunk.

BURNED TO THE WATER'S EDGE.

A Number of Sufferers Are Accounted For While Remaining Crew Is Missing.

The boilers of the towboat Defender exploded at Huntington, W. Va., and the wrecked vessel, together with several barges in her tow, burned and sank in the Ohio river. Several men lost their lives. Of the steamboat's crew of 36 men, only 8 escaped injury. Five men are seriously burned and scalded, and it is believed they will die. Six other members of the crew are missing, and it is believed their lifeless bodies now lie at the bottom of the river. Some of the bodies may never be recovered.

Among the known dead are: Unknown man, from Corcoran, Pa.; Thomas Duffy, of Pittsburg, W. Va.

The injured: Robert Holland, Pittsburg, W. Va., is horribly scalded. He is in the city hospital here. Joseph Moore, of Oakland, Pittsburg, a cook on the steamer, seriously injured and is in hospital.

At 11 o'clock at night the town people were startled by a terrific explosion, followed almost immediately by a hurricane which lighted up the heavens for miles around. Investigation showed that the towboat Defender and a number of the barges in tow were in flames. The fire department was called to the scene, but owing to the location of the boats it could do little and the big towboat was soon a mass of ruins.

The work of rescuing the killed and injured then began and it was soon found that the loss of life had been great. The fire continued for two hours and the woodwork of the boat burned clear to the water's edge. The Defender was one of the biggest towboats on the river. She had been one of the first boats out of Pittsburg on the recent ice and toward a heavy line of coal barges to the Cincinnati market.

The victims of the disaster were burned to a crisp and many can never be identified. The Defender soon after the explosion settled on the river bed, a total loss.

Capt. James Woodward, of Charleston, W. Va., was captain of the steamer and he was blown into the river, but after struggling in the icy waters was picked up by a rescuing party and taken to the Ohio shore and is now at the home of Dr. G. S. Groch. The extent of his injuries are unknown.

To Form a New Ohio Coal Pool.

Within the next two weeks a new coal pool will be formed by 16 mining companies of Harrison, Belmont and Jefferson counties, O. The pool will represent an output of about 6,000 tons of coal per day, and promises to be one of the most powerful factors in the coal fields of Eastern Ohio. There probably will be a meeting at Wheeling within a week.

TERMS OF SURRENDER.

Conditions Submitted to by Russia at Port Arthur.

Text of articles of capitulation made public by the Japanese. Russian soldiers, marines and civil officials become prisoners of war. Officers of the Russian army and navy retain swords and a limited quantity of personal property, and, on signing parole not to take up arms against Japan during continuance of war, may return to Russia. Non-commissioned officers and men remain prisoners.

The Russian sanitary corps must engage under the Japanese corps for an indeterminate period.

All positions of war, vessels and the like pass into the possession of the Japanese.

SQUADRON WILL WAIT.

Rejostvinsky Will Not Attempt to Reach Vladivostok.

It seems now to be definite that Vice Admiral Rejostvinsky's squadron will not attempt at present to reach Vladivostok. The decision has been reached that he will await the third Pacific squadron, on which work is proceeding night and day, and several ships of which are expected to be ready for service by the end of January. It is by no means certain that Rejostvinsky will return with his ships to European waters. He may await the third squadron off the coast of Madagascar and seize and make his base one of the uninhabited coral islands of Polynesia.

In view of the report that the Japanese intend to invest Vladivostok, Gen. Batloff has expressed the opinion that if Vladivostok should be blockaded Rejostvinsky would be compelled to return.

Andrew Carnegie has offered to give \$265,000 to rebuild Maryland institute, destroyed by the Baltimore fire last February. His contribution equals the present total assets of the school.

Successor to Cockrell.

Thomas K. Niedringhaus of St. Louis, chairman of the Republican State central committee, was nominated for United States senator to succeed Senator Cockrell. The nomination, which was made on the fifth ballot, insures the election of Mr. Niedringhaus.

George Fisk and Mrs. Clara Klappman were shot to death in New York and the woman's husband is under arrest, charged with the double murder.

TIME LIMIT ON MARRIAGE.

Ten Years the Period, According to Kansas Legislator.

Senator Frederick Dumont Smith has prepared a bill for introduction in the Kansas Legislature to make marriage a civil contract with a time limit. He says he prepared the measure at the request of a delegation of women. In his opinion the passage of the bill would do away with the scandal of divorce.

"Husbands and wives would get along like partners in a business affair," said Senator Smith, "and each would have more respect for the other." Senator Smith's bill is as follows:

"All marriages celebrated in the State of Kansas shall be deemed and held to be civil contracts for ten years, subject to all the laws of this State now in force relating to divorce and alimony. At any time within three months before the expiration of said contractual period parties to such marriage contract may, by filing a joint declaration, renew said marriage contract for a further period of ten years without further ceremony. In case the parties to a marriage contract shall fail or refuse to renew the same all property accumulated by such parties shall be divided equally between them and the wife may have all the property of her husband's estate in the same manner and by the same proceedings as are now provided by law."

MANY SKATERS DROWNED.

Boy and Three Girls Break Through Frail Ice.

Frail ice caused by an exhaust running from a manufacturing plant into the Ohio canal, was responsible for the drowning of four young skaters, one mile east of Barberton, O. The dead are: Ada Williams, daughter of Thomas Williams, of Lawndale; 17 years old; John Williams, a brother, 12 years old; Katherine Morrison, 13 years old, daughter of Edward Morrison, of Kenmore, an Akron suburb; Elizabeth Morrison, 16 years old, a sister.

The party started down the canal toward Akron and were near the manufacturing plant of Richard Taylor, when John Williams, who was ahead of the other members of the party, fell. His icy motionless and the others, evidently thinking that the boy had injured himself, rushed to him. The combined weight of the four caused the ice to give way and they all went under together. The bodies were recovered.

At Alliance, O., Clifford and Zap Kelly, brothers, 15 and 24 years old, respectively, broke the ice over the Mahoning river while skating and were drowned.

OFFICIAL CROP REPORT.

A Very General Improvement in Winter Wheat Is Noted.

The weather bureau's monthly crop report is as follows: The great part of the winter wheat belt was protected by snow covering most of the month, but was exposed during the cold period of December 27-29. The unfavorable effects of drought noted at the close of the previous months are now less marked, a very general improvement being indicated, especially in portions of the Ohio valley.

A decided improvement in the condition of winter wheat is generally reported throughout the middle Atlantic states. In Central and North-eastern California the condition of winter wheat is excellent, and while the wheat regions of Oregon and Washington have suffered from lack of moisture, the outlook for wheat in portions of these states is encouraging.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Senator Clay introduced a bill granting 15 days' annual leave of absence to rural delivery carriers.

Senator Platt of New York presented to the Senate a petition asking that provision be made for the collection of statistics relating to marriages and divorces.

Secretary Mitchell sent to the House a report as to the needs of the immigration service at the port of San Francisco and recommends the construction of a station on the Government reservation at Angel's Islands, at an estimated cost of \$250,000.

Japanese Sunk the Ships.

A further batch of dispatches from Gen. Stoessel, given out does not add much to what is already known. He reports the killing of Gen. Kronendank and other officers and the wounding of seven officers December 15 by an 11-inch shell, which exploded in the casemate of Fort No. 3. A dispatch of December 11, from Gen. Stoessel, settles the question of who sank the Russian warships, saying that all those in the inner harbor were sunk by 11-inch Japanese shells with the exception of the Sevastopol, which was removed to the outer harbor and for four nights repulsed Japanese torpedo boat attacks.

Train Hits Nitro-Glycerin.

Panhandle passenger train No. 19 struck a nitro-glycerin wagon at station No. 15, four miles east of Ulrichville, O. The wagon was thrown over an embankment and one horse was killed. The driver, Harry Ferman, was not injured. The wagon held 80 quarts of the explosive, but it was not set off by the accident. When the collision occurred Ferman jumped and caught the injured horse, which was starting to run.

Three Men Killed.

Three men were instantly killed by westbound train No. 165 of the Chartiers road at Washington, Pa.: Fritz Litzenwahn, of Ironton, O.; John Coakley, an oil man of Washington; Frank Friend, aged 35 years and married, of Washington. The men had been drinking at a local brewery and started to walk toward the center of the town up the railroad track. At Canton avenue they were run down by the train and horribly mangled.

Boston Wool Market.

A firm tone characterized the wool market, while there is a fair amount of buying, considering the small stock of wool available, Ohio and Pennsylvania, XX and above, 33¢@36¢; X, 30¢@31¢; No. 1, 28¢@29¢; No. 2, 26¢@27¢; fine unwashed, 24¢@25¢; 1/4-blood, unwashed, 27¢@28¢; unmerchanted, 29¢@30¢; fine washed delaine, 35¢@36¢; Michigan, fine and unwashed, 21¢@22¢; 1/4-blood, unwashed, 31¢@32¢; 1/2-blood, 31¢@32¢; 1/4-blood, delaine, 25¢@26¢.

PORT ARTHUR HAS FALLEN

Russians Finally Surrender Fortress to the Japanese.

FURTHER RESISTANCE USELESS.

Siege and Defense of Port Arthur Marked by Bravery, Gallantry and Desperation.

Port Arthur, whose hills have for months run red with the blood of the bravest of warlike nations, has at last succumbed to the fierce tenacity of the Japanese attack.

Gen. Stoessel, most stubborn in carrying out the will of his sovereign has seen the advance of the besieging army gain in momentum and energy until to hold out longer would be a crime against humanity.

To what extent the fall of Port Arthur will make for a restoration of peace is an open question. There is an encouraging note in the expression of Baron Hayashi, Japanese minister at London, of the "hope that in some way it will facilitate final peace" though the pacific note is perhaps lost in the later words of the minister which call attention to the fact that the besieging army will now be free to go north where it will be an offset to the reinforcements. Gen. Kuropatkin has been receiving from Russia since the battle of Shangkai.

At 9 o'clock Sunday night Gen. Nogi received from the Russian General Stoessel a note saying that any further resistance was useless and asking for a meeting to arrange terms of capitulation. The note was simple and direct, and the Japanese general immediately named commissioners to confer with representatives of the Russian commander. They met at Sunday Monday to arrange the conditions of surrender.

At 9:45 o'clock Monday night the commissioners completed the signing of the capitulation agreement. Both armies had suspended five hours earlier.

French military critics regard the surrender of Port Arthur as rendering Gen. Kuropatkin's position increasingly dangerous, as the besieging army of 80,000 men is now released and will reinforce the Japanese army in the North. It is expected that Vice Admiral Rojevatsky's squadron will proceed no further in the direction of the seat of war. The hope is expressed in some official quarters that the surrender of the fortress will hasten peace, but the prevailing view that the fall will accentuate Russia's reluctance.

A Chefoo dispatch to the "Temper" says the officers of the Russian torpedo boat destroyers which have arrived here report that the entire town of Port Arthur has been destroyed, including the hospital in the northwest section.

THE FINAL ASSAULT.

Japanese Kept Up Continual Fight for Five Days and Nights.

For five days without ceasing the final assault was maintained. Day and night the Japanese artillery continued to fire, and assault followed assault in unending succession, and the place was surrounded by an unceasing hail of fire. After repeated breaches in the fortifications the position became desperate. Great explosions around the forts proclaimed that the Russians were exploding their magazines. Flames and smoke in the harbor followed by explosion after explosion, revealed the destruction of the Russian ships. They destroyed rather than surrender them. They also apparently purpose to blow up two of their own forts. The Sevastopol was blown up, and other large Russian ships were destroyed as thoroughly as possible. The Retvizan, the Poltava and the Pallada caught fire, and the other ships were blown up inside of and near the entrance of the harbor.

At 12:30 o'clock on January 2, the Russians evacuated the East Khasan forts and the Japanese occupied N and M heights to the south of the fort. At 12:30 o'clock, noon, Monday, Tungejevanshap and M forts were blown up by the Russians.

Then came the word that Gen. Stoessel had offered to surrender, and fighting ceased.

FEARFUL LOSS OF LIFE.

Only a Remnant of Stoessel's Men Left at Port Arthur.

With the surrender of Port Arthur to General Nogi military experts are figuring on the losses sustained by the two contending armies in the siege, and all agree that, in the matter of carnage, it was one of the bloodiest sieges in the history of the world.

They estimate that between 65,000 and 100,000 lives were lost. When the siege started General Stoessel had an army of 45,000 men. At the surrender it is said that he had at his disposal only 8,000 men fit to fight, while 15,000 were in hospital, sick or wounded. This shows that 22,000 men at least succumbed to disease and to the bullets of the Japanese.

Experts declare that for every man killed behind the breastworks and in the awful struggles that marked every step of the Japanese advance, at least 16, or probably three, men were killed among the besiegers. This would mean, at the minimum figure, a Japanese loss of 64,000 men. But all military men agree this figure is too low, and that the Japanese loss is probably half as much again, making a total of 96,000 men lost in action.

Peace Proposals.

Among Russian officials here there is a feeling that any proposals of peace that may be made must be with the fact in view that in order that peace must be lasting Japan must recognize Russia's right to free transit of its ships through waters of the Far East. High Japanese officials declare that there is no probability of advances coming from their government looking toward peace negotiations.

Family of Nine Persons Perish.

Fire consumed the home of Frank Noweski, a Polish miner, in Morris Run, Pa., at an early hour and the entire family of 10, except the oldest son, was either burned to death or smothered. It is not known how the fire originated, but it is thought that a stove fell over and the burning coals set fire to the house.

Alexander Shrader, of South Buffalo township, has been appointed mercantile appraiser for 1905 by the Armstrong county commissioners.

At Plans, a suburb of Wilkesbarre, Robert Elliot plunged a knife into the neck of John Clarke. The jugular vein was severed and in one minute Clarke was dead. Elliot claims he used the knife in self-defense. Elliot surrendered to the officers and was committed to jail.

An explosion of molten metal at furnace "3" in the Edgar Thomson steel works, Braddock, resulted in the death of two men and the injury of several others. One man was killed almost instantly and another died while being taken to Mercy hospital.

STRIKE WILL GO ON.

Cotton Operators Vote to Continue the Struggle.

The labor unions involved since last July in a strike against a 12 1/2 per cent reduction in wages in the cotton mills, at Fall River, Mass., by a vote of approximately three to one approved a continuance of the contest. The total vote of the unions was 1,401 for continuing the strike and 420 opposed.

The manufacturers express disappointment. They said, however, there is no hope of restoration of the 12 1/2 per cent reduction, and they purpose to continue attempts to run the mills under the same conditions as they have for the last seven weeks.

DIAMOND PRICES BOOSTED.

De Beers Syndicate Adds Five Per Cent to Values.

By a stroke of a pen the value of the world's visible supply of diamonds was increased by at least \$50,000,000. For the eighth time within four years the selling syndicate of the De Beers Mining Company, which controls 95 per cent of the diamond output of the world, ordered an advance of 5 per cent in the cost of rough stones, making a total of 45 per cent increase since 1901.

As the value of the diamonds already cut is at least \$1,000,000,000, the increase in value, which many dealers believe to be arbitrary, within a comparatively short time is at least \$450,000,000.

Knox Chosen for Senate.

Philander C. Knox, of Pittsburg, the appointee of Gov. S. W. Pennypacker as United States Senator from Pennsylvania to succeed the late Matthew S. Quay, was unanimously nominated to succeed himself at a joint caucus of the Republican members of the Senate and House. The Republicans are in an overwhelming majority in both bodies and Mr. Knox's nomination is equivalent to an election.

CURRENT NEWS EVENTS.

The British steamer Drumelzier, which went aground on the sand bar off Oak Island during the storm last Sunday, has broken in two amidships, and it is believed much of her valuable cargo will be a total loss.

George Shaffer, 19 years old, while at work in an ash pit at Derry, Pa., was struck by a locomotive and was killed.

The clothing store of John Ross and a building owned by Maggie Murphy, adjoining at Johnstown, Pa., were destroyed by fire, the loss being about \$3,000, fully insured.

Mrs. Charlotte Briller, 67 years old, was found dead in the cellar of her home, at Wheeling, W. Va. When found she held a \$5 bill in her hand.

The office building and yards of the Wheeling and Lake Erie railroad at Massillon, O., was destroyed by fire the loss being estimated at \$2,000.

James Martin, of Summit township, Crawford county, Pa., was killed by a splinter from a falling tree striking him between the eyes.

By the wrecking of an engine in the continuous mill of the National rolling plant at McKeesport, one man was killed and four others were injured.

Fire destroyed a cage of an electric crane at the north works of the Carnegie Steel Company, at Sharon, Pa. The damage amounts to about \$1,000.

President Roosevelt selected J. Hampton Moore, a Philadelphia business man and president of the National League of Republican clubs, as chief of the bureau of manufacturers in the department of commerce and labor.

Two Submarines Ordered.

Two Holland submarine torpedo boats have been contracted for by Secretary of the Navy Paul Morton. At least two more will be contracted for within the next six months. The general characteristics of the new boats are kept secret beyond the fact that they cost \$200,000 and \$250,000 and are 81 and 105 feet in length respectively. They will be constructed by the Fore River Shipbuilding Company at Quincy, Mass. When completed the government will have 10 submarines.

STOESSEL'S PLEA.

Good Reasons Given for Surrendering the Fortress.

Stoessel's last dispatch, dated January 1, prior to the surrender of Port Arthur, details the Japanese attack of December 31, and concludes as follows:

"We shall be obliged to capitulate, but everything is in the hands of God. We have suffered fearful losses. Great sovereign, pardon us. We have done everything humanly possible. Judge us, but be merciful. Nearly 11 months of uninterrupted struggles have exhausted us. Only one quarter of the garrison is alive, and of this number the majority are blind and being obliged to act on the defensive without even short intervals for repose, are worn to shadows."

At the coroner's inquest into the death of George Shrader, who was killed while in the ash pit at Derry, the Pennsylvania railroad at Derry, Engleman E. G. Wolford, of Youngwood, was censured for alleged negligence.

John Bodnuck, 35 years old, employed at the Calumet plant of the H. C. Frick Coke company, was killed by a train on the Sewickley branch near Greensburg.

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