

FOREIGN OFFICE.

Denies that Britain and Germany are Negotiating for Peace.

STOESSEL INTERVIEWED EMPHATICALLY DENIES

Report that Port Arthur Was Surrendered Prematurely.

SOME SCRAPPING IN MANCHURIA.

(Special to the Daily Herald.)

Colomba, Ceylon, Feb. 4.—General Stoessel, former commander at Port Arthur, and other Russian officers arrived here today from Japan, via Shanghai, on board the French line steamer Australian.

Interviewed by a correspondent of the Associated Press, the General denied statements published to the effect that Port Arthur was surrendered prematurely. He was especially indignant at statements made in a London newspaper, Jan. 25, that at the time of the surrender there were 25,000 able bodied men at Port Arthur capable of making a sortie and hundreds of officers well nourished, plenty of ammunition, the largest magazine being untouched and full to the roof, and that there was an ample supply of food for three months.

He characterized these statements as unjustified and unsupported by facts.

Col. Reiss, who was among the negotiators of the surrender of the fort, said:—"The garrison could not have held out a moment longer. It would have been murder. Only fifteen roubles, (\$7.50), remained in the military treasury of 750,000 at the was the hero of the siege." Col. hundred men were dying daily in the hospitals, principally from wounds and scurvy. General Kondralenko was the hero of the sieges." Col. Reiss declared that the Japanese are admirable soldiers, but make poor use of the bayonet compared with the Russians and French.

General Stoessel and others of his party were transhipped at Port Said for Odessa.

New York, Feb. 4.—A special to the Sun from London says: "On the initiative of the German government a conference took place Monday between Chancellor Von Buelow and Sir Francis Lascelles, British Ambassador, and the former proposed that efforts be made in Germany and Great Britain to secure peace between Russia and Japan.

The Sun's informant believes the conference was preceded by an interchange of views between King Edward and the Kaiser.

A double motive for action is ascribed to the German Emperor. One is said to be damage to the alliance between France and Russia and the other that he desires to destroy the anti-German feeling in England.

London, Feb. 4.—The Foreign office declares there is no foundation for the report published that conferences have taken place in Berlin between Chancellor Von Buelow and the British Ambassador, Sir Frank Lascelles, with the object of bringing about peace between Russia and Japan. The officials know nothing about the proposal.

Tokio, Feb. 4.—Manchurian Head-Thursday, Feb. 2nd.—The enemy's quarters, telegraphing Feb. 3rd, says "Thursday Feb. 2nd.—The enemy's artillery bombarded several points of the right wing, otherwise the situation is unchanged.

Direction of centre 12.30 Friday morning, Feb. 3rd: One company of the enemy's infantry attacked outposts from Mukden road, and later another station was attacked in the neighborhood of Wanchiayantz. Both attacks were repulsed.

In the direction of the left the enemy has been attacking the neighborhood of Liuliaoku since the morning of Feb. 2nd. Their forces, which consisted on the first 5th rifle brigades, were driven back toward Chang Tan. The enemy's losses are estimated at 700. The Japanese witnessed the removal of over three hundred dead.

The Russian dead, already interred after the battle of Heikoutai in the

neighborhood of Sumapao, alone number 900.

St Petersburg, Feb. 4.—It is believed in military circles here that the succession of Lieut. General Myloff to command the second army in Manchuria necessarily mean that the position of second command in the far east devolved upon him. He was appointed to command the eighth corps in 1901 and went out to Manchuria with that corps from Odessa.

The eighth corps is one of the latest arrivals there.

Army officers confirm the report that General Gripenburg is in ill health and declare that he was seriously ill a year before his appointment to command the second army in Manchuria.

MARYSVILLE CURLERS.

Present Standing of the Rinks in Shute Cup Competition—Hockey Tonight.

The seventh match in the Shute cup series was played at the Marysville rink last evening between Skips Tapley and James Inch, and after a hard fought battle was won by Tapley, the score being 11 to 10. The rinks were made up as follows:

	Woo, lost. to play.	p.c.
Macpherson.....	3 1 1	75
Barker.....	2 1 2	66
Fisher.....	3 2 0	60
Tapley.....	3 2 0	60
Loeb.....	1 3 1	30
Merritt.....	1 4 0	20

Two more nights likely will wind up the series. Barker has Macpherson and Inch yet to play, while Tapley, Fisher and Merritt are through.

There is going to be a grand hockey match in the Marysville rink to-night between the weave room and mule room, and the boys will line up as follows:

Weave Room. Mule Room.

F Yeomans goal R Cain

M Dennison point G Markey

Manzer cover point W Brogan

H Robinson centre S Stafford

A Taylor rover A Tait

W Hovey right wing W Arnold

B Dennison left wing W Munn

Skating after the game with band.

MERCHANTS VS. ALLCOMERS.

Former Leading 11 Points With One Rink a Side Yet to Play.

The annual match of the Fredericton curlers, Merchants vs. All Comers, commenced on Wednesday, and interrupted Thursday by the match with the St. Andrew's club, was continued yesterday afternoon and will be concluded this evening.

At the close of Wednesday's play the Merchants had a lead of 24 points, but yesterday this was pulled down to 11.

The only rinks to play are those skipped by C. F. Randolph and A. R. Wetmore who will meet this evening. Following were the rinks and scores of yesterday:

Afternoon.

Merchants.	All Comers.
Neill, John	Brock
Croty	Winslow, F. E.
Edgcombe	Barker
Randolph, A. H.	Dr. Bridges,
skip 9.	skip 12

Evening.

Ryan, A. J.	Hughes
Vanwart	Atherton
Shute	Bridges, H. H.
Walker, skip 16	Dr. Scott, skip 9
Damon	Richey
Reid	Campbell
Kinghorn	Sharp
Crowe, skip 8	Massie, skip 15
Blackmer	Page
Boyer	McGrath
Weddall	McFarlane
Dibblee, skip 8	Harrison, skip 18

Totals.....41.....54

HOTEL BURNED.

And One of the Servants Missing.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

Pictou, N. S., Feb. 4.—The Revere Hotel was destroyed by fire this morning and one of the servants, Mary McEachern, is missing.

A girl who escaped states that the last she saw of Mary was when she started to leave the hotel.

Miss McEachern said she would follow her if she could.

Many of the guests jumped from the windows.

Rev. J. K. Smith, late pastor of Knox church at Galt, Ont., died last night of pneumonia. He was 77 years of age and had been in feeble health for some years. He was at one time pastor of Fort Massey church, Halifax.

NEW IMMIGRANTS.

Large Party Arrived in St. John This Morning.

Some of Them Coming Out Under Salvation Army Auspices.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

St. John, Feb. 4.—The Lake Manitoba arrived this morning from Liverpool with 714 passengers.

On board was Col. Taylor, one of the leaders of the Salvation Army work in London, who had in charge 12 families, 63 all told, who came out under the auspices of the Army. This includes several domestics.

The party was met at Sand Point by Col. Sharpe and Brigadier Howell of Toronto. The latter is in charge of the immigration project. The party will stay at the S. A. Home until positions are secured for them.

Col. Taylor says that thirty eight other families will follow shortly.

Make Hay While the Sun Shines.

Edgcombe's big sale of linens and cottons with ten per cent. discount and free hemming, will only continue for a short time. Housekeepers should not miss this opportunity.—d.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

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HOCKEY

AT THE

ARCTIC RINK.

MONDAY, Feb. 6th

TROJANS vs. U. N. B.

Will meet in the 2nd game of the local league series.
Game called promptly at 7.30. R. C. R. bands will be in attendance for skating.
Season tickets and usual admission

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