

SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 1904

War Spirit in the Two Capitals.

Tokio Continues its Quiet Work of Sending Army after Army to the Front, Fully Recognizing the Gigantic Task that Has Been Undertaken by Japan.

By FREDERICK PALMER (Collier's Correspondent with the Japanese General Staff.)

Tokio, March 15, 1904.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the first home papers with accounts of the early days of the war. They convince us of what we had supposed from the first: that New York and London are far more excited over the war than Tokio.

It takes imagination for any dweller in this peaceful town to realize that he is in the capital of a nation engaged in the most stupendous struggle of modern times. Last week I wrote that we were still waiting; this week I write the same.

But many weeks may pass before we see any fighting. The winter campaign, which delighted the fearful fancy of some of the rumor-mongers on the China coast, seems to be in the domain of military practice in the Orient.

The city was no sooner empty of one lot of reservists than another appeared. In the last few days we have seen a repetition of the scenes of the first week of the war.

One incident, not characteristic of all, but nevertheless significant of the steel that is in the blood of a race which sacrifices everything to patriotism: When one of the twelve-year men was called, he succeeded in placing all of his children in the care of relatives except one little girl.

"If that is so," said the officer in charge, "you can prove it by taking my life." The man drew his small knife and declared his willingness to plunge it into his abdomen there and then.

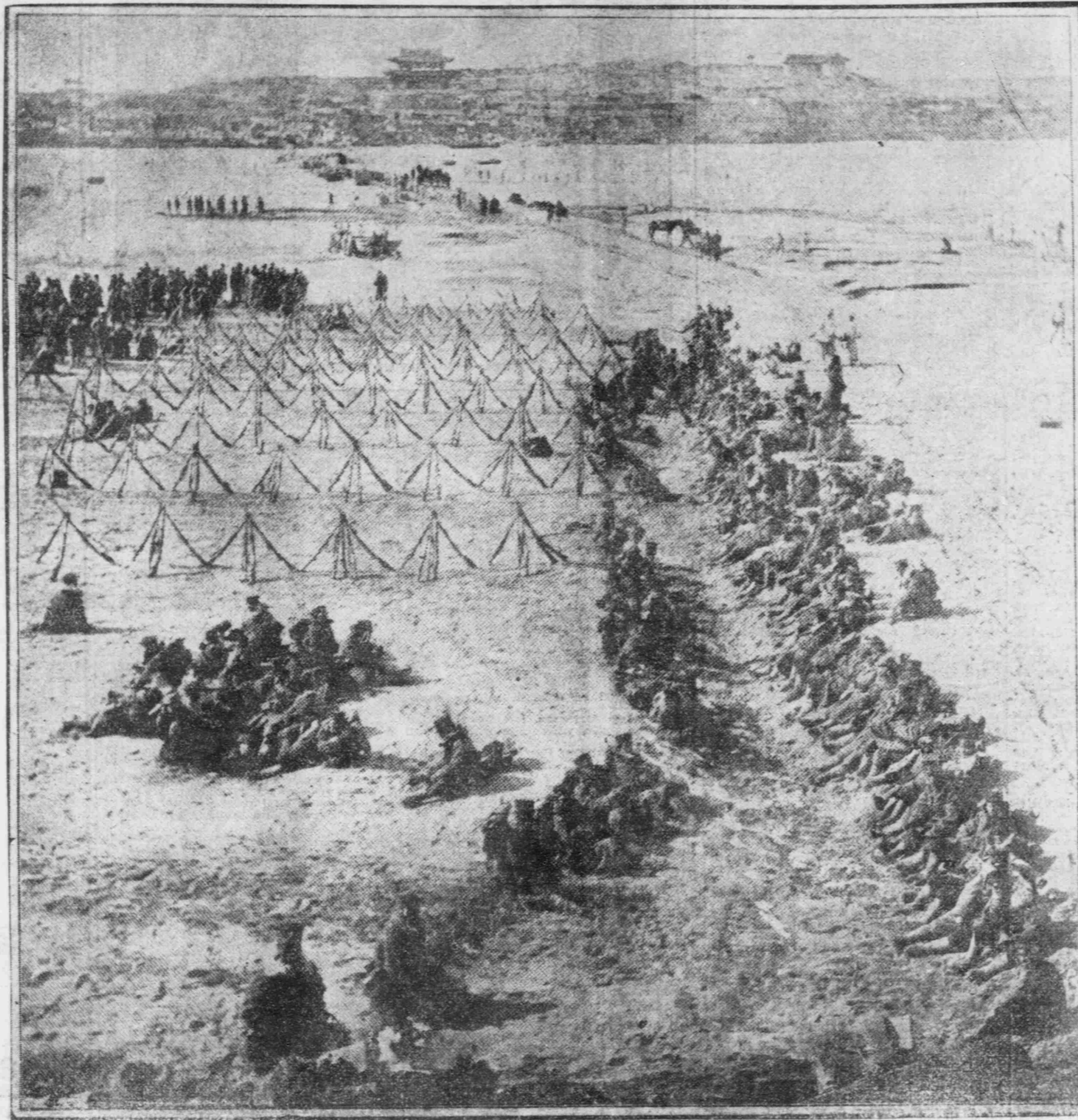
Nothing is more significant of where the news in the home papers comes from than the infrequency and the brevity of the dispatches from Tokio. The cable correspondent never sends a dispatch unless he has something to report.

Japanese Not Over-Confident.

What is now most impressive to the foreigner is that the elation of victory has left no aftermath of over-confidence. Before the naval engagements, the Japanese asked themselves the question, "What if Russia should win on the sea?"

"When I saw the Spanish ships coming out," he said, "I remember thinking that in ten minutes the scuppers would be running with blood. When it was all over I couldn't quite realize that I was still alive."

(Continued on Page 4, Section 2.)



Japanese Infantry Waiting to Enter Ping-Yang.

The picture shows a company of the Fourteenth infantry resting on the frozen sand by the side of the highway over which they marched 130 miles northward from Seoul. The clumsy native ferry crossing the Tai-Tong river at this point, Son Kion, was hopeless for troop transport, and the force was in bivouac while the engineers and sapper companies and hundreds of Korean coolies threw a bridge across this approach to Ping-Yang.

BOTTLED UP IN TOKIO WHERE NO ONE HEARS OF WAR

By RICHARD HARDING DAVIS, Collier's Special War Correspondent in Japan

Tokio, March 21, 1904.

IN NEW YORK, the writer was one of the mistaken few who prophesied there would be no war. In Tokio, he is inclined to go further and protest that there is no war. He admits when he was in New York there was a war.

out of an alkali desert to ask what was the latest from "the war." At water tanks in Arizona, and at every one of Fred Harvey's eating houses from Santa Fe to the Pacific coast, the proprietor kindly warned us against Russian cruisers lying just outside of the Golden Gate.

But somewhere between Honolulu and Yokohama, somewhere in the deepest part of the Pacific, we lost the war overboard, and we have neither seen it nor heard of it since. I do not mean to say that if you go to the war office here you will not see the entry, nor do I deny that if you go inside you will see two orderlies.

(Continued on Page 4, Section 2.)

St. Petersburg Looks Forward Calmly and Confidently to the Concentration of a Great Army Which Must, the Russians Believe, Eventually Crush Japan.

By JOHN C. O'LAUGHLIN (Collier's Special War Correspondent at St. Petersburg.)

IN THE UNIFORM of a Cossack general, Gen. Nicholai reviewed the other day a regiment of infantry, which swung by the Winter Palace under orders to the far east.

These two acts of the emperor, ordinarily of little importance, brought to mind the question which at St. Petersburg has been discussing since the outbreak of the war: What is Russia's plan of operations?

Every military expert knows that the question of men does not concern Russia; it is the question of supplying those finally concentrated upon the battlefield which is causing chief concern. General Kuropatkin has particularly charged himself to look after his army's communications, and his experience as chief of staff in past wars will be invaluable to him in the campaign upon which he is about to embark.

General Kuropatkin recognizes that this army is not large enough. Before he left St. Petersburg he asked for a fighting force of 600,000 men. His request was not fully complied with. He was informed that he should have 400,000 men, with a reserve of 200,000.

The assignment of four cruisers to Vladivostok, and the damages sustained by the Retvizan, Zarevitch, and the other Russian cruisers, were the subject of a report to Admiral Togo. The Pallada, which was gotten into dock, is again in active service. The Zarevitch, which had a large section of her bottom ripped out by the explosion of a torpedo, is being repaired in the harbor.

Russia believes that Japan's fate will be decided by the new fleet, which is to be formed in the Baltic, and which will arrive in the far east the last of July or early in August. This fleet will comprise five first-class and three second-class battleships, one armored and five protected cruisers, six auxiliary cruisers, twenty-one torpedo-boat destroyers, and a number of oil ships and colliers.

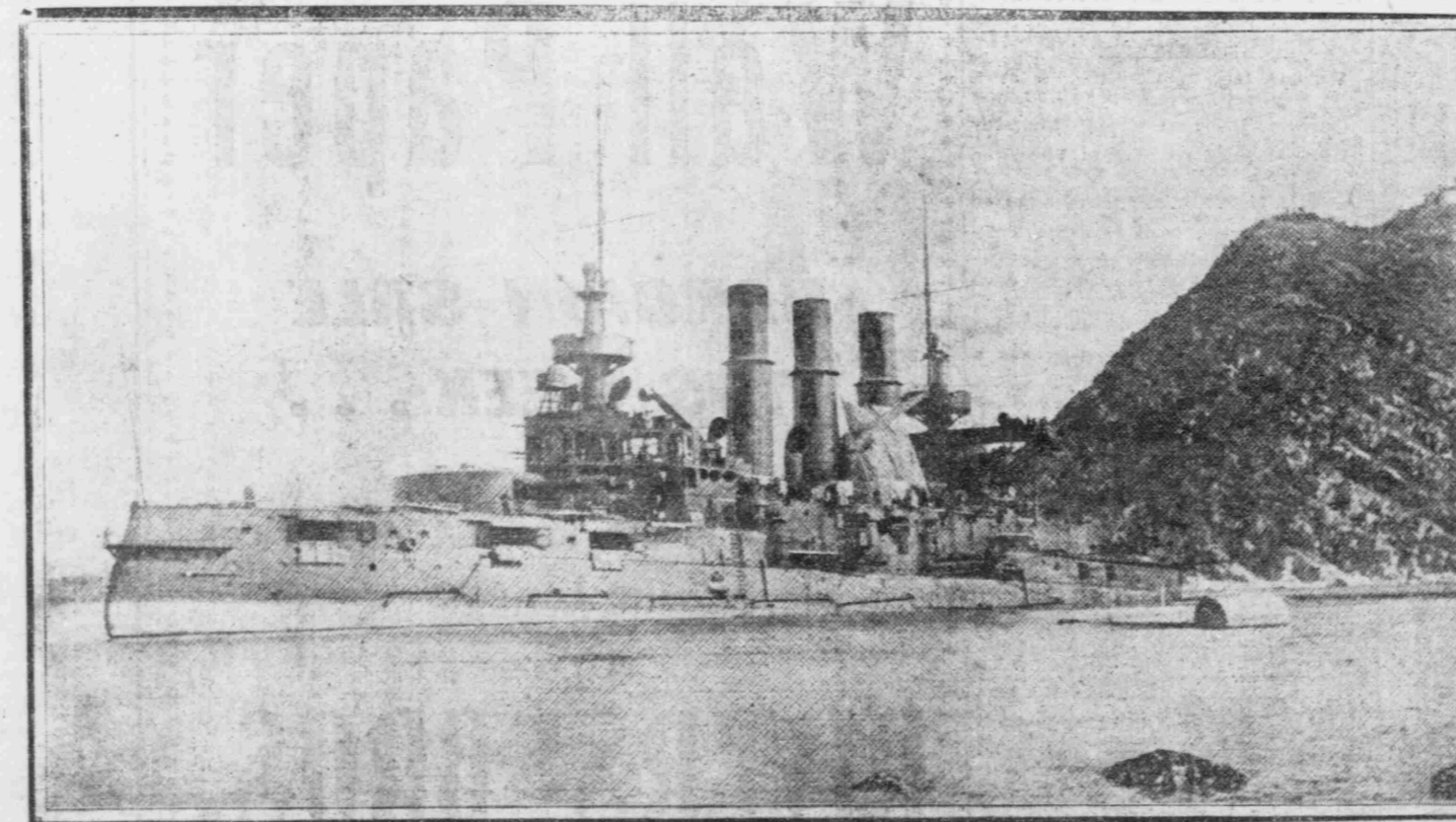
The Retvizan is of 9,000 tons and was built ten years ago. Her armor is partly of the old compound type, and her main battery includes four 12-inch, twelve 6-inch, and six 4-inch guns. The Borodino is ready at the new admiralty yard and was inspected by the emperor, but her draft is so great that in order to get her out of the Neva it will be necessary to remove her turret guns and install them again at Cronstadt.

Ships of the Baltic Fleet.

There is but one armored cruiser available for the new Russian fleet—the Baltic fleet, as it is called. This is the Dmitri Donskoi, built twenty years ago and partially reconstructed in 1885. The Dmitri Donskoi is only of 5,000 tons, her greatest speed is 15 knots, and her heaviest guns are only six inches in calibre.

In anticipation of the despatch of this fleet to the far east, men are being drilled, especially in gunnery, in the Baltic training squadron. "The Japanese are getting plenty of practice by their bombardments of Port Arthur," said an officer to me. "It was this practice that enabled the American squadron to do such effective work at Santiago when the Spanish squadron attempted to escape."

(Continued on Page 4, Section 2.)



The Russian Battleship "Retvizan" on the Rocks at the Harbor Entrance, Port Arthur.

This vessel was one of the three warships that were torpedoed by the Japanese on the night of Feb. 8, the opening engagement of the war. She was run ashore in a sinking condition, but settled in shallow water and has done service in subsequent engagements, acting as a floating battery. She has been of much assistance in defeating Admiral Togo's attempts to block the harbor entrance. The "Retvizan" was built at the Cramp's shipyard in Philadelphia in 1890, and was one of the best ships in the Russian navy.