

WITTE THINKS PEACE CANNOT BE CONCLUDED

Peace Envoy Fears That Japan's Terms Will be Unacceptable... RUSSIA'S CONDITION IS MISREPRESENTED... Minister Declares Press Representatives do Not Ascertain all Facts

St. Petersburg, July 17.—M. Witte, the senior peace plenipotentiary, received the correspondent of the Associated Press at his villa at Yelagin Island today.

Witte spoke in French. After greetings, which were cordial, the conversation gravitated quickly to the high mission with which the Russian statesman is charged and the disposition of the foreign press to interpret his appointment as an indication that Russia has decided to make peace at any price.

"No, no," said he, straightening up in his chair and speaking slowly and distinctly, as if weighing the value of each word. "In the first place I have been designated by the emperor as his ambassador extraordinary for four plenipotentiaries, to ascertain whether it is possible to conclude a treaty of peace. My personal views are of secondary importance, but my ideas are in entire accord with those of my friend, Count Lamsdorff.

"In serving my emperor I have received precise instructions from his majesty, and shall follow them. The ultimate decision remains in the hands of the emperor and it is for him to decide the destiny of Russia. The emperor is the friend of peace and desires peace, but I very much fear that the Japanese terms will be such that we will be unable to reach an accord.

"Secondly, the world should disabuse its mind of the idea that Russia wants peace at any price. There are two parties in Russia. One favors the continuation of the war as a means to this end—a large and influential party. The other, to which I belong, favors peace. I favor it frankly, because telling the truth has always been my rule in politics. I was for peace before hostilities broke out.

When the war began the situation changed. Even though there are those parties as to the advisability of ending the war in the present circumstances would be united if the Japanese demands wounded the amour propre of the Russian people or jeopardized our future as a nation.

"I am sure that if I represent that the conditions of the Japanese cannot be accepted Russia will accept the verdict and the Russian people will be ready to continue the war for years if necessary.

"Thirdly, Russia is not crushed, as the foreign press has led the world to believe. The interior situation is very serious. I do not deny, but in Europe and America the true significance of what is happening is not understood.

OFFICERS CLASH OVER AN ARREST

Federal and State Officials Claim Possession of Negroes Wanted as Witnesses... Montgomery, Ala., July 17.—A clash between state and federal authorities has developed in Chambers county for possession of two negroes, who are wanted by the government as witnesses against Heath and Adams, the two white men for whom warrants have been issued on charges of peonage.

TWO SWIM RAPIDS BELOW NIAGARA

Venturesome Men Make the Hazardous Trip in Safety After One Narrow Escape... Niagara Falls, N. Y., July 17.—Charles D. Graham of this city and William J. Glover, Jr., of Baltimore, Md., today successfully swam the lower rapids of the Niagara river from the lower side of the whirlpool to Lewiston. The distance of four miles was covered in 26 minutes by Glover.

BYNUM SENTENCED TO SERVE 18 YEARS

Raleigh, N. C., July 17.—R. D. Bynum, whose counsel agreed to a verdict of murder in the second degree for the killing of James H. Alford December 29 last, was sentenced today to fourteen years in the state prison.

CHARITY WORKERS TALK OF STATE SUPERVISION

Portland, Ore., July 17.—The general session today of the conference on Charities and Corrections considered the subject of state supervision and administration, the topic being introduced by the report of the committee on state supervision and administration, read by Miss Julia Lathrop, of the Hull House, Chicago, chairman.

MAN ABOUT WHOM THE FORMER PANAMA CANAL SCANDAL CENTERED A SUICIDE

Paris, July 17.—Emil Arton, one of the principal figures in the old Panama canal scandal, was found dead in his apartment this morning under circumstances indicating suicide.

WILL EXHUME WIFE'S BODY

Causes of Mrs. Mary Carlton's Death to be Ascertained at Last... HUSBAND, CONFINED, AWAITS THE RESULT... Death of Two Wives by Tetanus Arouses Suspicion of Attorney

New York, July 17.—The body of Mrs. Mary Carlton, the second wife of Frederick E. Carlton of Brooklyn to die of lockjaw, is to be exhumed and subjected to minute examination for traces of poison.

Carlton said today that he welcomed the order which directed that his wife's body be exhumed, as it would result in quieting once for all rumors to the effect that she, as well as a former wife, died from poison.

The Brooklyn police announced today that a young woman with whom Carlton had lived just before his arrest is under surveillance, and that she will be questioned regarding several letters signed by her which were found in Carlton's possession.

The writer of the letter spoke of her arm paining her so that she felt it necessary to lie down and rest for the afternoon. The police say they will question the woman at the proper time regarding the pain in her arm to which she referred. They also are anxious to learn, they say, what it was that Carlton left in the writer's care.

KING OSCAR IS SATISFIED

Sweden's Ruler Declares Attempt to Restore Union Is Unwise... DOES NOT APPROVE OF APPOINTING A PRINCE... Says There be no Close Relationship Between Two Rulers

Berlin, July 17.—Dr. Hugo Ganz, correspondent of the Frankfurter Zeitung, has had an interview with King Oscar of Sweden at Stockholm, during which his majesty said he admired the way in which the Norwegian king had taken his stand all the European publicists with the view of benefiting their cause.

The correspondent remarked that he had heard only words of respect for the king in Norway, to which his majesty replied: "For my part I have forgiven the Norwegians, and hope to God that the Swedish people will also remain calm, for it would only be hanging a millstone about our necks to restore the union forcibly."

The king also said that appointing a Swedish prince to the Norwegian throne would certainly be the simplest solution of the difficulty, but the result would be to distrust in Sweden or in Norway. Every time public opinion either in Sweden or Norway was displeased with the sovereign's acts he cry would be raised that "the son does this to please the father," or "the father does this to please the son."

NEGROES TAKEN FROM REACH OF LYNCHERS

Pontgomery, Ala., July 17.—Following the attempt made last night by a mob at Gadsden to take from the jail five negroes, charged with murdering Mrs. S. J. Smith, the governor today ordered the alleged criminals taken to Anniston for safekeeping. They will be taken here to Birmingham, where they will remain until their trial.

RYAN TO SELL HIS INTEREST

Will Turn Over His Equitable Holdings to Company at Cost With Interest... DIRECTORS ACCEPTED WITH THIS PROVISION... Holder of Hyde's Stock Will Receive \$2,500,000 for Getting Out

New York, July 17.—From a director of the Equitable Life Assurance Society it was learned today that Thomas F. Ryan, who recently purchased the stock holdings of James H. Hyde, has made an agreement with the trustees of the Ryan holdings and the newly elected directors to sell the stock he purchased back to the Equitable Society.

There was a meeting of the executive committee of the society today, but at its conclusion Chairman Morton said there was no business of any moment transacted.

SOLDIERS HOLD UP STOREKEEPER

Montgomery, Ala., July 17.—At an early hour this morning a daring hold-up and loot occurred at the store of J. S. Holmes, a negro, on Red Bridge road, and members of the state troops, now in their annual encampment here, are charged with being the guilty parties.

MAYOR WEAVER TO BEGIN CRIMINAL ACTIONS SOON

Philadelphia's Mayor Intends to Prosecute Leading Officials... BELL'S REFUSAL WILL NOT STOP THE REFORM... Root Advises Municipal Chief to Bring the Criminals to Justice

Philadelphia, July 17.—As a result of advice received from Elihu Root, special counsel for Mayor Weaver, it is probable that the mayor will within a few days institute criminal prosecution against certain persons who are prominent in municipal affairs.

"Crimes committed by men who have political power are often sheltered behind official indifference and inactivity and then some one has to do more than his duty to secure justice and you will not be the first public officer who has done a great public service against the resistance of those from whom the price ought to come. There is more at stake here than the mere punishment of isolated offenses. There is the question whether your city shall continue to be governed by criminals or shall take its place on the list of American cities capable of honest government.

JURY INDICTS A GIRL FOR MURDER

New York, July 17.—Berthe Clanche, on trial by a coroner's jury for killing Emil Gerdon on July 8, was today held responsible for his death and was committed to the Tombs prison without bail. Subsequently she was indicted by the grand jury.

SECOND LEAKAGE INVESTIGATED

Washington, July 17.—Secretary Wilson of the department of agriculture has begun an investigation of a report that a certain female employee of his department has sold questions to be asked in civil service examinations prior to the holding of such examinations. A complaint has been made that this woman for several years has been aiding applicants for positions in this manner, and that in a number of cases the applicants have paid liberally for the service.

THREE KILLED IN MINE EXPLOSION

Meet ete, Wyo., July 17.—Three men were killed and four were injured today by an explosion in the Kirwin gold mine. There was no doubt of the fact that Thermopilla, 100 miles to the southeast, but Dr. Richards, at that place, covered the mountainous distance in a little less than eleven hours.

ITALIANS WALK BAREFOOT 30 MILES TO OBSERVE FEAST IN "LITTLE ITALY"

New York, July 17.—More than 100,000 Italians today congregated between One Hundred and Fourth and One Hundred and Sixteenth streets, the "Little Italy" of New York, to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

