

PASSING OF ABSOLUTE MONARCHY IN MANIFESTO OF RUSSIAN CZAR MARKS DAWN OF FREEDOM FOR DOWNTRODDEN PEOPLE

Emperor Nicholas Issues Ukase Fixing Time For Meeting of Representative Assembly Thus Recognizing the Right of the People to Participate in the Administration of the Government

IS MORE MOMENTOUS EVENT THAN THE LIBERATION OF THE SERFS

Heretofore Unlimited Power of Czar May be Held in Check by Douma, in Which Peasantry are Represented--First Convocation Will be Held in Mid-January According to Order Issued Yesterday

St. Petersburg, Aug. 18.—Russia's national representative assembly, the fruit of decades of stress and striving for reform, which endows the Russian people with the right of being consulted, through their chosen representatives, in the suggestion, preparation and repeal of legislation, today takes its place among the fundamental institutions of the empire.

In a solemn manifesto Emperor Nicholas announces this morning to his subjects the fruition of his plans summoning the representatives of the people as outlined by him in a rescript issued on March 3 last, and fixes the date for the first convocation as mid-January, and in a ukase addressed to the senate formally orders that body to register as the imperial will a law project formulating the nature, powers and procedure of the new governmental organization.

Momentous Event. The manifesto, ukase and project are published this morning in special editions of the Official Messenger in St. Petersburg and Moscow. They will be given out for publication at noon to all the newspapers throughout the empire, many of which are preparing to issue extra editions to signalize a momentous historical event, overshadowing in importance the liberation of the serfs in 1861.

The national assembly will be a consultative organization in connection with the council of the empire, and not a legislative body. The power of the emperor remains theoretically absolute. As the emperor is the supreme law and the autocrat, the decisions of the Douma have only a recommendatory and not a binding force, though the rejection of any legislative measure by a two-thirds majority of both houses is sufficient to prevent a measure from becoming a law.

People to Be Heard. The representatives of the people will have not only the right to be heard on any legislation proposed by the government, but can also voice their views on new laws and will have the right to exercise a certain supervision over budgetary appropriations.

The representation is not universal, it is based on property qualification, the peasantry having a vote through members in communal organizations. A considerable portion of the residents of cities possessing no lands, together with women, soldiers, civil functionaries, etc., are without suffrage.

The imperial manifesto says in part: "We reserve to ourselves entirely the care of perfecting the organization of the Douma and when the course of events shall have shown the necessity for changes corresponding completely to the needs of the times and the welfare of the empire we shall not fail to give at the proper moment the necessary directions."

"We are convinced that those who shall have been elected by the confidence of the people and who will thus be called upon to participate in the legislative work of the government will show themselves in the eyes of all Russia to be worthy of the imperial trust and that in perfect harmony with other institutions and authorities of the State established by us they will contribute profitably and zealously to our labors for the strengthening of the unity, the security and the greatness of the empire."

CITY OFFICIALS UP FOR BLACKMAIL

Another Case of Wholesale Corruption Said to Have Been Unearthed in Florida

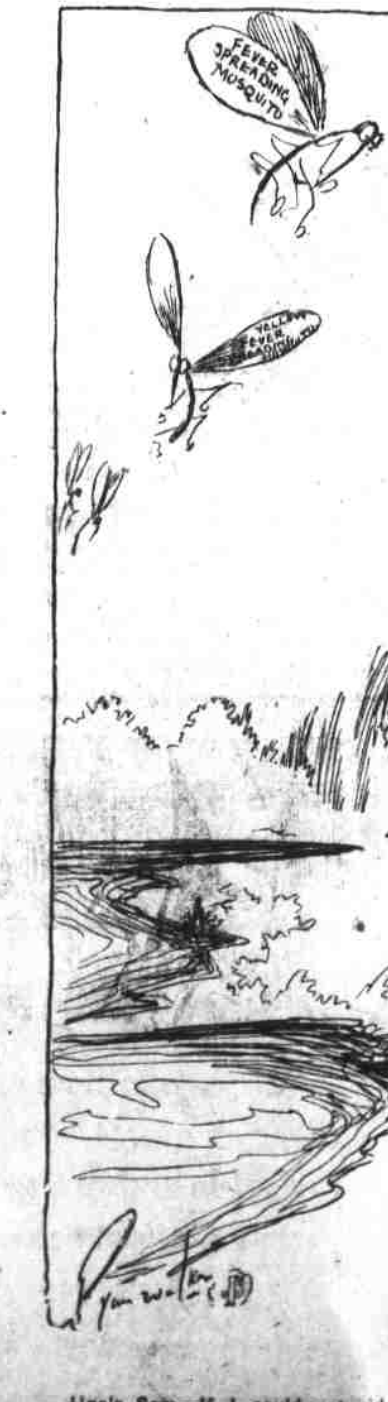
Tampa, Fla., Aug. 18.—What threatens to develop into a wholesale exposure of official misconduct in Ybor City was precipitated today by the arrest of Constables N. Madruga and Louis Callenberg on the charges of attempting to extort blackmail from the proprietors of hotels, or "cuban lottery games." The warrants were sworn out by Deputy Sheriff J. J. Stephens and the prisoners were released in \$1,000 bail each. It is stated that this is but the first step in the exposure of an elaborate system of blackmail.

LEGISLATURE IN FIGHT TO THE END

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 18.—Georgia's legislature adjourned at 9:45 o'clock tonight, closing its session constitutionally limited to 50 days. Until almost the last moment the fight lasted for several days between the two branches of the legislature, continuing over a bill fixing the general state liquor license, the senate contending for \$300 and the house for \$500. The former figure was agreed upon.

WILLIAMS IS FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER

Pensacola, Fla., Aug. 18.—After remaining in the jury room for only a few hours, the jury in the case of William P. Williams, charged with the murder of John White and Edwin C. Damsby, returned a verdict tonight of guilty of murder in the first degree, with a recommendation for mercy at the hands of the court. Williams was tried for the murder of White and the charge of having murdered Damsby is still against him, and may be called at once.



Uncle Sam—If I could get rid of you pests, I'd have less yellow fever in my system.

TUCKER WILL BE PRESIDENT

Distinguished Lawyer Chosen President of Jamestown Exposition

HIS ACCEPTANCE IS CERTAIN TO FOLLOW

Successor to General Lee Is Unanimously Selected by Directors

Norfolk, Va., Aug. 18.—Hon. Henry St. George Tucker, dean of the school of law and diplomacy of George Washington University, formerly Columbian University, was unanimously elected president of the Jamestown Exposition company this afternoon by the board of directors. When one of the officials of the company, Mr. Kieley, was asked if Mr. Tucker would take the place he said that the acceptance was practically certain. A committee was appointed to go to Washington and notify Mr. Tucker of his election.

The notification committee today addressed the following to Mr. Tucker: "The committee appointed by the board of directors of the Jamestown Exposition company to notify you of your election to the presidency of the company wired you as follows: 'At a meeting of the directors of the Jamestown Exposition company, just held, you were unanimously elected president to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Gen. Fitzhugh Lee. Your acceptance will maintain the high moral and educational standard of the exposition, which is our cardinal ambition, and thereby make it a fitting commemoration of the three hundredth anniversary of the nation's birth.'"

"We beg to confirm this telegram. Rarely, if ever, has the state of Virginia demanded a leader for an enterprise as great as the one you have been chosen to direct. The story of our great commonwealth brims with romance and bristles with decisive incidents. The plain tale of state is an epic, her story a drama, whose climaxes have been limited solely by occasion."

News from outside the city continues unfavorable. Dr. Brady, the medical inspector of the board of health, who was also health officer of Jefferson parish, spent most of the day in his parish on a still hunt, and found several cases. He found one case in Hanson City, just above Kenner, two cases in Shreveport, five miles from New Orleans, and one case in McDonoville, across the river from New Orleans. Dr. Brady also visited Pecan Grove plantation, in St. Charles parish, and found five cases in two houses.

Paterson reports six new cases and no deaths. Alexandria's one patient died today.

Dr. Goldberger, of the marine hospital service, has been assigned to take charge of the work at Alexandria. Dr. A. Devron left for Thibodaux this morning to visit the nest of infection at the mouth of Bayou LaFourche. It will be impossible to hear from him for at least three days. There are no new cases at Mississippi City.

ALABAMA SHUTS HER DOORS TO TRAVELLERS

Montgomery, Ala., Aug. 18.—State Health Officer Sanders said today that persons from infected yellow fever districts in other states who want to come

MANY CASES ARE REPORTED

Yellow Fever Is Found in Many Parishes Throughout Louisiana

SITUATION IN NEW ORLEANS UNCHANGED

Spread of Disease Continues Unchecked—Death Rate Still Low

New Orleans, Aug. 18.—The figures for the day show nothing of special interest. Even of the sixteen feet are above normal stage. Two more cases have appeared in the French asylum on St. Ann and Derbigny streets, making five in all. That is the only asylum affected up to date. Of the deaths two were in the charity hospital and two in the emergency hospital. One occurred in Algiers.

YESTERDAY'S RECORD.

New Orleans, Aug. 18.—Official report up to 6 p. m.: New cases, 22, total to date, 1,285. Deaths, 8, total to date, 188. New burials, 16, total to date, 278. Number of cases under treatment, 415.

News unfavorable. The Associated Press has reason to believe that the purpose of the president's conversation with Mr. Peirce was to arrange for one of the Russians to go to Oyster Bay. The president is understood to be already in communication with the Japanese through Baron Kanooko. The president is resolved to induce the warring countries to compromise.

At Tokyo and St. Petersburg the final issue will be decided. The Japanese have been implacable throughout the six days' sittings. They have listened and explained, but they have yielded not one iota of the substance of their original demands. Mr. Witte accepted outright seven of the twelve Japanese conditions, one in principle and four including the main issues, indemnity and Sakhalin, he rejected. The other two limitations of naval power and the surrender of interned warships, might have been arranged had there been any prospect of agreement on the two points upon which the divergence seemed irreconcilable.

In the oral discussion of the terms Mr. Witte yielded upon two articles, but substantially the result of thirteen sittings of the envoys has only been to emphasize the position taken by Mr. Witte in the written reply he presented last Saturday to the Japanese terms, and now both sides turn to home for the last word before the cards are thrown face upward upon the table next Tuesday, for the impasse reached today by the plenipotentiaries is recognized to be only a diplomatic fiction. If in the interim fresh instructions are received by either side compromise is yet possible. But the chances are recognized to be slim.

So far as the Russian plenipotentiaries are concerned there never was a chance of their yielding both indemnity and Sakhalin. The cession of Sakhalin without indemnity was, according to the best inside information, the extreme limit to which Mr. Witte would ever consent to go, and the emperor has not yet given the word to even concede that, and tonight suddenly a new factor has been introduced which in the opinion of those most competent to judge lessens materially the chances that he might do so, namely, the issuance of his manifesto granting a popular representative body to his subjects. The bearings of this "historic document" as Mr. Witte described it a few days ago, upon the issue are exceedingly comprehensible. It is bound to ameliorate the internal situation in Russia. The manifesto is Emperor Nicholas' answer to the Japanese demand for the payment of a war tribute. The grant of this broad reform is regarded as virtually an appeal to the Russian people for support to resist it.

At Tokyo it is impossible to tell what view will be taken. Peace probably can be even now secured by the sacrifice of the indemnity. Vague intimations tonight come from the Japanese side that "the demand for the cost of the war" might be moderated, but Mr. Witte's reply is that he will pay liberally for the maintenance of the Russian prisons in Japan but "not a copeck for tribute."

Tonight the situation can be summed up as follows:

Continued on page Four

HIGH HOPES OF PEACE REPLACED BY A FEELING OF BLACKEST PESSIMISM

Thought That Envoys Will Meet In "Seance d'Adieu" Tuesday

FINAL EFFORT WILL BE MADE FOR COMPROMISE

Powers Will Not Let Chance of Peace Slip by Without Final Effort

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 18.—Black pessimism reigns at Portsmouth tonight. The prevailing view is that the fate of the peace conference is already sealed; that it has ended in failure and that all that now remains is for the plenipotentiaries to meet on Tuesday, to which day they adjourned this afternoon upon completing the serious consideration of the Japanese terms, sign the final protocol, go through the conventions and bid each other farewell; in other words that the meeting Tuesday will be what diplomacy calls the "seance d'adieu" but there is still room for hope of a compromise. Neither President Roosevelt nor the powers will see the chance of peace slipping without a final effort and that pressure is being exerted especially at Tokio to induce Japan to moderate her terms beyond question. Just what is being done, or is to be done, has not transpired. King Edward is understood to be now lending a helping hand and the financiers of the world are known to be exerting all their influences.

Japs Unyielding. At Tokyo and St. Petersburg the final issue will be decided. The Japanese have been implacable throughout the six days' sittings. They have listened and explained, but they have yielded not one iota of the substance of their original demands. Mr. Witte accepted outright seven of the twelve Japanese conditions, one in principle and four including the main issues, indemnity and Sakhalin, he rejected. The other two limitations of naval power and the surrender of interned warships, might have been arranged had there been any prospect of agreement on the two points upon which the divergence seemed irreconcilable.

In the oral discussion of the terms Mr. Witte yielded upon two articles, but substantially the result of thirteen sittings of the envoys has only been to emphasize the position taken by Mr. Witte in the written reply he presented last Saturday to the Japanese terms, and now both sides turn to home for the last word before the cards are thrown face upward upon the table next Tuesday, for the impasse reached today by the plenipotentiaries is recognized to be only a diplomatic fiction. If in the interim fresh instructions are received by either side compromise is yet possible. But the chances are recognized to be slim.

So far as the Russian plenipotentiaries are concerned there never was a chance of their yielding both indemnity and Sakhalin. The cession of Sakhalin without indemnity was, according to the best inside information, the extreme limit to which Mr. Witte would ever consent to go, and the emperor has not yet given the word to even concede that, and tonight suddenly a new factor has been introduced which in the opinion of those most competent to judge lessens materially the chances that he might do so, namely, the issuance of his manifesto granting a popular representative body to his subjects. The bearings of this "historic document" as Mr. Witte described it a few days ago, upon the issue are exceedingly comprehensible. It is bound to ameliorate the internal situation in Russia. The manifesto is Emperor Nicholas' answer to the Japanese demand for the payment of a war tribute. The grant of this broad reform is regarded as virtually an appeal to the Russian people for support to resist it.

At Tokyo it is impossible to tell what view will be taken. Peace probably can be even now secured by the sacrifice of the indemnity. Vague intimations tonight come from the Japanese side that "the demand for the cost of the war" might be moderated, but Mr. Witte's reply is that he will pay liberally for the maintenance of the Russian prisons in Japan but "not a copeck for tribute."

Tonight the situation can be summed up as follows:

Continued on page Four

TUNNEL IN TALC GIVEN TO RIVER

MARINE DIVERS REFUSE TO ENTER FLOODED SHAFT.

Was Life Risking Job to Work Under Water 300 Feet From Shaft.

To stop the leak in the roof of a deep tunnel by which the water of the Nantahala river came down and flooded a small part of the Hewitt talc mines Hewitt's Station was too much of an undertaking, even for the experienced marine divers whom president F. R. Hewitt, of the North Carolina Talc and Mining company, had brought for this purpose from Norfolk.

The divers, with their diving suits, in which they had many times been under the surface of the ocean and in sunken ships, took a look at the situation. The tunnel, a big horizontal hole running under the river level for 300 feet, was full of water, and at the farther end was a fissure which was letting in water faster than the pumps could take it out. The divers declined to try to stop the leak, saying that the long distance from the air pump and the mud in the bottom of the tunnel made the work too hazardous.

This tunnel will now be abandoned and the bed of talc which it reaches will be tapped by sinking another tunnel, which will be bored through a mass of marble to reach the talc beyond it.

SHOT FROM AMBUSH. Huntington, W. Va., Aug. 18.—Robert Murphy, a deputy sheriff from Buckingham county, Va., was shot from ambush and instantly killed while riding on a railroad viaduct between Logan and Holden. Murphy had just brought Henry Harmon, who was arrested in Virginia, to Logan for trial, and it is supposed that the act was committed by some friend of Harmon's.

ELECTED SECRETARY. Duluth, Minn., Aug. 18.—James McFall of Roanoke, Va., was today elected secretary of the International Association of Fire Engineers.

NEW YORK BANKERS RECEIVE INFERNAL MACHINES BUT BOTH ESCAPE UNINJURED

New York, Aug. 18.—Two small infernal machines were sent to prominent New York brokers today. Jacob H. Schieff, the banker, was the target of the more dangerous of the machines, a contrivance capable of causing death. The other was received by M. Guggenheim's Sons, and was directed to the office of the American Smelting & Refining company. Mr. Schieff was absent from the city, being at Bar Harbor. The banking firm of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., of which he is a member, received by infernal machines were sent to prominent New York brokers today. Jacob H. Schieff, the banker, was the target of the more dangerous of the machines, a contrivance capable of causing death. The other was received by M. Guggenheim's Sons, and was directed to the office of the American Smelting & Refining company. Mr. Schieff was absent from the city, being at Bar Harbor. The banking firm of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., of which he is a member, received by