

Official War Proclamation of Russia is Issued Today

It Expresses Russia's Indignation Against the Japanese for the Manner in Which Peace Negotiation Were Broken Off.

The Emperor, so the Official Report Says, Desired Peace Above Everything -- Russia was Totally Unprepared.

(By Associated Press)

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—The official proclamation explaining the unpopularity of Russia for war and the necessity for patience by her people, has been issued here. It says:

"Eight days have elapsed since all Russia was shaken by profound indignation against the enemy that suddenly broke off negotiations and by a treacherous attack, and tried to obtain easy successes in a war long desired.

"The Russian nation with natural indignation, desires prompt vengeance and avails feverishly the news from the Far East. The unity and strength of Russians leaves no room for doubt that Japan will receive the chastisement for her treachery and provocation to war when our beloved sovereign desired peace among the nations.

"The conditions under which hostilities are being carried on compel us to wait with patience the news of the success of our troops which cannot occur before decisive actions are fought by the Russian army.

"The distance of the territory and the desire of the Emperor to maintain peace were the causes of the impossibility for a more complete and effective preparation for war. Much time is now necessary to strike at Japan, but it is worthy the dignity and might of Russia."

British Steamer Arrives.

Tien-Tsin, Feb. 18.—The British steamer Hai-Ping, from Chin-Wang-Tai for Shanghai, which was believed to have been captured by the Russians, arrived today at Shanghai.

Broad Principles of Note Accepted.

London, Feb. 18.—The Associated Press learns that Great Britain's formal assent to Secretary Hay's note on the Chinese details, notably that the status of New Chung requires further attention. The Foreign Office says the answer already given is tantamount to

THE RUSSIAN DEAD.

Berlin, Feb. 18.—A dispatch from Chemulpo says 17 officers and 439 men of the Russian warships Variag and Korietz were either killed or drowned when these vessels were destroyed.

Passengers Detained Now Proceed.

Nagasaki, Feb. 18.—Five Russian passengers detained on the steamer Argenanodon have been released. All proceeded to their destination.

Russian Troops On Yalu River.

Seoul, Feb. 18.—T. ree thousand Russian troops are reported to have been encamped on Yalu river, opposite Wiju.

Fired on British Steamer.

Shanghai, Feb. 18.—The British steamer Hai-Ping that arrived today from Chin-Wang-Tai, reports that she was fired on by Russian ships and forts when she was seeking shelter in the outer roads off Port Arthur and then ordered to Dalny, where she was detained for four days in spite of the captain's protest.

The Russian gunboat Manjur remains at Shanghai in defiance of the orders of the Chinese officials to leave.

PANDEMONIUM REIGNS.

New York, Feb. 18.—A Times dispatch from Moscow says the revolutionary party is vigorously at work at Rostoff. Pandemonium reigns and the affairs in the Caucasus are very unsatisfactory. The Government is apprehensive as to the extension of the disorders.

THE KOREAN MINISTER TALKS.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—There is no official announcement of the disaster off Chemulpo, although the papers are printing the loss of the Variag and Korietz. The Korean minister announces that thirty-six thousand Korean troops are stationed at Seoul but that Korea preferred not to take up arms against Japan because Korea is neutral. He feels sure that Russia will soon drive out the Japanese.

at Che Foo on board the British steamer Winchow, give an account of the treatment at Port Arthur. On February 8th, the Japanese were forbidden to embark on the British steamer Bas Bera. All Japanese prohibited to leave the harbor.

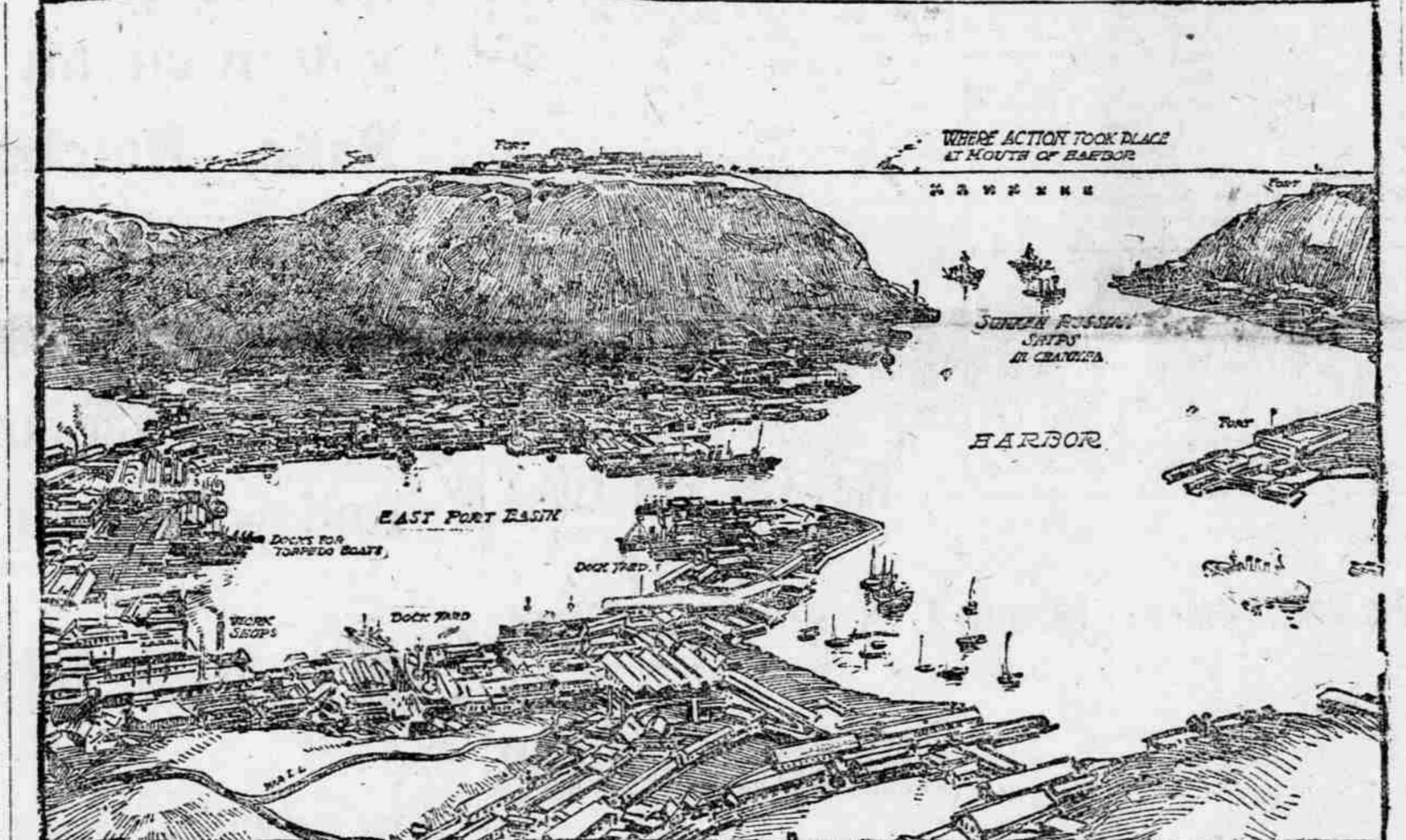
"February 8th eight Russian soldiers were placed to guard the Japanese on board the Winchow. No Japanese were allowed to land. The vessel was detained. Some 200 Japanese were on board and about to starve.

"February 10, after appeals to Vice-roy Alexieff, some rice and biscuit were sent aboard in the evening.

"February 11. No heed was taken by the Russians to repeated signals to give some food at least to infants and sick women. One hundred Japanese boarded the Winchow from Harbin. On the way they were robbed of all their baggage and rendered penniless. There are now 300 Japanese on the Winchow and their distressed condition is terrible."

Report Confirmed.

Seoul, Feb. 18.—The report that 3,000 Russian troops have arrived at Chung Tien, opposite Wiju, on the



PORT ARTHUR, WHERE THE RUSSIAN SHIPS WERE SUNK.

Russian Cruelty.

London, Feb. 18.—The Japanese legation today gave out the official cablegram from Tokio:

"A number of Japanese refugees from Port Arthur who arrived recently

NO PATRIOTIC SONGS.

New York, Feb. 18.—A World dispatch from London says that Lord Chamberlain has issued a circular to the leading music halls warning them against songs which might offend the susceptibilities of either the Russians or Japanese.

Yalu River, is confirmed as is the report that the Russians have occupied Wiju. They have 3,000 troops at Wiju and the first collision is expected some where in that vicinity.

Russia's Answer to Note.

Paris, Feb. 18.—Following another conference of Foreign Minister Delcasse and Ambassador Porter, it is said Russia's formal adhesion to the American note will be announced within a week. It now appears, with the exception of Manchuria from the operation note, Russia saw no objection to its acceptance. This is considered a sufficient permit that France will accept with reservation, concerning Manchuria, Russia's formal action, however, awaits the approval of the czar, who has been occupied with war operations. His approval is expected daily.

FOR LABORING ON SUNDAY.

Sixty-Two Workmen Arrested at Danville on This Charge.

(By Associated Press)

Danville, Feb. 17.—Sixty-two of the foremen and laborers engaged on the two million dollar plant of the Dan River Power and Manufacturing Company, in course of construction a mile above Danville, have been arrested for laboring on Sunday last at those works. The men claim the work was essential and that the works cannot be completed without some Sunday work.

The cases were partly heard tonight and an adjournment was taken without result until Friday morning.

DR. GRUM IS "IT."

Senate Committee On Commerce Report Favorably On His Nomination.

(By Associated Press)

Washington, Feb. 18.—The Senate Committee on Commerce today authorized a favorable report on the nomination of Dr. William Crum to be Collector of Customs of the Port of Charleston. All the members of the committee were not present, but there was a sufficient number of affirmative votes to insure a favorable action, should all absentees have voted against the nomination.

OUR SEA FIGHTERS.

They are Assembled in Guantanamo Bay, Admiral Sigsbee in Command.

(By Associated Press)

Guantanamo, Cuba, Feb. 18.—The United States South Atlantic Squadron is assembled in Guantanamo Bay. Rear Admiral Barker, commander of the North Atlantic Squadron, arrived today with the Massachusetts, Alabama, Illinois, and Scorpion. Others arrivals are the Topeka, Missouri and Maine. The latter is quarantined on account of measles aboard. The Minneapolis and Yankee sailed for Porto Plata, San Domingo yesterday.

Rear Admiral Sigsbee, with the Detroit and Newark, arrived today and succeeds Lambert in command of the South Atlantic Squadron.

DEAD SENATOR'S BODY.

Now Rests in His Native City of Cleveland.

(By Associated Press)

Cleveland, Feb. 18.—The special train from Washington carrying the body of the late Senator Hanna, members of the family and friends, arrived here at 11:05 o'clock this morning.

Thousands of citizens were gathered at the station.

A cordon of police extended the entire square around the station, maintaining perfect order.

In Honor of the Dead.

Washington, Feb. 18.—An order was issued today by the President closing all the Federal offices in Ohio during the hours for the funeral of Senator Hanna tomorrow.

Body in Pittsburgh.

Pittsburg, Feb. 18.—Train bearing remains Hanna passed at 7 o'clock this morning. Owing to the cold weather few persons were at the station.

Under One Inch of Ice.

Huntington, W. Va., Feb. 18.—The entire southern portion of the State is beneath a sheet of ice one inch thick, the result of twenty hours sleet. Trains are delayed and wires are down in every direction.

ONE MORE BID FOR LABOR VOTE BY PRESIDENT

President Roosevelt Wants Civil Service Suspended in Order to Give Baltimore Printers Jobs at Government Expense.

He is Trying to Square Himself on Account of the Bad Break He Made Regarding the Now Famous Miller Case.

(A. W. Hughes.)

Washington, Feb. 17.—The latest bid made by President Roosevelt for the labor vote of the country next fall is a regulation suspending the Civil Service rules in order to give the printers who were burned out of their jobs in the Baltimore fire, work in the Government Printing Office.

It will be remembered that it was through his influence in the Miller case, which, whatever its merit, was made to be handled by the Public Printer, and the Civil Service Commission, and over which the President had no jurisdiction, that Mr. Roosevelt incurred the disfavor of the labor unions, especially the printers' unions, and now by a violation of the very law which he claims to be such a strenuous advocate, he hopes to clothe himself in a mantle of charity.

It is not unlikely, however, that he may again overreach himself, for those printers who have stood examinations and are now on the eligible list of the Civil Service Commission, will not be pleased to see themselves set aside for others who have not.

Gen. Joseph Wheeler, who is here, is greatly interested in the struggle between Russia and Japan. He said today that he could not see how the Japanese could fail to win in the end unless Russia became determined to succeed in her plans at the expense of her entire resources. Gen. Wheeler said the Japanese would be able to put sufficient men into Manchuria to overcome the Russian armies at various points, and then attack and destroy the railroad. It is so important to Russian relief, he declared, that many thousands of men would be required to keep the railroad open so that Russia could obtain more troops and supplies.

TO PREVENT LYNCHING.

Local Militia at Columbus, Ga., Called Out.

(By Associated Press)

Columbus, Ga., Feb. 17.—The local militia was called out this afternoon to prevent the lynching of Willie Hudson, a negro, who pleaded guilty to a attempted criminal assault upon Emma Burton, a 12-year-old school girl, a week ago, the plea being entered at a special term of the Superior Court today. Hudson was given the limit of the law—20 years in the penitentiary. As the negro was being taken back to the jail, Martin Burton, the father of the lady, made a desperate attempt to get at the prisoner, but was overpowered by the officers. The trial had caused great excitement and fearing efforts would be made by friends of Burton to secure the negro, a company of State troops was ordered out.

Dodge to be Removed to Houston.

(By Associated Press)

Houston, Texas, Feb. 18.—At a conference held last night at Corpus Christi it was decided to remove C. F. Dodge, who is wanted in New York on a charge of perjury, to Houston tomorrow and to withdraw the application for habeas corpus pending before district judge Wilson.

The rangers are still in charge of the prisoner, but the Federal court has claimed jurisdiction. A deputy marshal and a New York detective will accompany the prisoner.

A Runaway Train.

(By Associated Press)

Piedmont, W. Va., Feb. 17.—A freight train of 18 loaded cars ran away on a 17-mile grade near Everett Tunnell, just west of this place, today, going over the embankment and wrecking the cars. Fireman Francis P. Egan was killed, his body being buried under wreckage. Porter Kenny, Engineer, sustained a broken leg. The train is a mass of tangled debris and the track much torn up.

To Relieve Rear Admiral Cotton.

(By Associated Press)

Newport, R. I., Feb. 18.—Rear Admiral Chadwick, on special duty at the Naval war college here, received telegraphic orders from the Navy Department at Washington to take command of the European squadron, relieving Rear Admiral Cotton. He will proceed at once to Gibraltar where his flagship, the Brooklyn will meet him.

Deadly Work of Bomb.

(By Associated Press)

Baku, Monday, Feb. 15.—During a patriotic service in the American church here today, just as the clergy had ended chanting a Te Deum and a prayer for the success of the Russian arms, a bomb was thrown at the officiating priest. Two priests were killed and several were injured.

AGED COUPLE WEDS.

Rev. Mr. Barrett and Mrs. Jennie Rickert Marry in Statesville.

(Special The News)

Statesville, Feb. 18.—Rev. Robt. W. Barrett, a well known preacher of the Methodist Conference, and the present pastor at E. Salisbury station, was last night married to Mrs. Jennie C. Rickert, of this place, by Rev. H. K. Boyer, pastor of the First Methodist church. The ages of the bride and groom, respectively, are 56 and 70 years old. The marriage of Mr. Barrett numbers the fourth time in his life. His first two wives were sisters, both being Misses Robbins, sisters of Maj. W. M. Robbins, of this place, and the last two were Misses Sharpes, previous to their marriages. Mr. Barrett's matrimonial connections have all been in prominent families of Ireddell. He is a native of Randolph.

It is said that Mr. Barrett, though many times married himself and a stern believer in matrimony, has married some of the oldest members of the Methodist Church in this section and about as many as any other divine. His last wife is a cousin of County Treasurer Feinster.

THREE PRESENTMENTS.

Superior Court Grand Jury After Brokerage Firms.

Today the grand jury in session here in connection with the present term of the Superior Court, made presentments against three of the leading stock brokers of this city on a charge of speculating or running a bucket shop.

It seems that the last grand jury took the matter up but reached no decision, but today entries were made in the clerk's books showing the presentments had been made against three well known stock brokers here.

While the grand jury had returned no true bill against any of the parties concerned up to the hour of going to press, it is rumored that they will take the matter up before the present term of court ends and either find no bill or a true bill in each of the cases.

It will be remembered that on several previous occasions the judges presiding at court have made severe arraignments of bucket shops and stock market speculating and it is thought that it is the purpose of the present grand jury and the solicitor to make test cases of the above. While there are at present none but legitimate members of the stock exchanges doing business here as agents of stock brokers, it is not known what construction may be put upon the matter by the grand jury if the matter is pushed further.

IMPORTANT DECISION.

In Superior Court Regarding Elopement Case—Other Work of Court.

Several important decisions were rendered in Superior Court today, the most important being that against W. T. Sutherland and Annie Jordan. It will be remembered that the two came to Charlotte some months ago from Anderson, S. C., and Sutherland secured board for himself and the woman, claiming that she was his wife. Sutherland and the woman were both married. Mrs. Jordan's young husband coming to Charlotte, heart-broken, when the news of the affair reached him. The two were given a preliminary hearing in the Recorder's court, and bound over to the present term of Superior Court.

The judge in charging the jury today so framed his charge that upon the strength of it the jury found the two not guilty and they were formally acquitted.

It seems that the law, if strictly interpreted, makes neither Sullivan nor the Jordan woman guilty unless it could be proved that he had lived with her, claiming her as his wife, for a considerable length of time, three days in the opinion of the jury being too short a time to admit of finding the parties amenable to law. This is regarded as an important decision here.

A. L. Fox, the depot agent at Newells, was found guilty of an assault upon John Newells, and fined \$30 and costs, in a similar case against him charging him with an assault upon Will Newells, judge's cost was suspended upon payment of costs.

Other cases disposed of were as follows:

Prince Grace, larceny, sentenced to six months on the roads.

Jo Knox, assault, sentenced to six months on the roads.

Lewis Plain, assault, judgment suspended upon payment of costs.

Will Statten and Mary Harris, violation, sentence of twelve months imposed at to Statten, and six months as to Mary Harris.

Ed Durham, colored, carrying a pistol, fined \$10 and costs.

True Bill Against Hunt.

(By Associated Press)

Columbus, Ga., Feb. 17.—The grand jury today returned an indictment for murder against Charles D. Hunt, for the killing of George H. Fontaine, in the Muskogee Club, on February 10. It is stated that Hunt had become involved in a difficulty with a man and when Fontaine attempted to separate the two, a pistol was discharged in some manner, the bullet striking Fontaine.

Troutman Still Lives.

(By Associated Press)

Macon, Ga., Feb. 17.—C. H. Troutman, cashier of the Merchants and Farmers' Bank of Milledgeville, who shot himself last night, is still living, but is in a sinking condition. In a letter to President J. T. Allen, of the bank, he said he had touched none of the bank's funds but had used \$23,000 of the State fund. This money was in his own possession as treasurer of the State Sanitarium. He had engaged in cotton speculation and while he had gained a large amount, he lost it and more in the slump. He was a past grand chancellor of the Knights of Pythias. The bank has been closed temporarily.

THE GREENSBORO FEMALE COLLEGE IS RAZED BY FIRE

Historic School for Women Laid Low by the Work of Angry Flames -- Students and Faculty All Escaped and Trunks are Saved.

The Fire Originated in the Sleeping Apartments--An Ashe County Girl Gives the Alarm--Students Will Return to Their Homes.

(Special The News)

Greensboro, Feb. 18.—The Greensboro Female College buildings were destroyed by fire at 9 o'clock this morning. There were 90 inmates, including the faculty, all of whom escaped without injury, saving their trunks and wearing apparel. Most of the furniture, bedding and such like were gotten out.

The hotels and private residences have opened their doors to the burned out students.

The fire originated back of the sleeping rooms, in the same locality of the fire there two weeks ago.

Miss Ella Transon, a student from Ashe county, was awakened by the smoke and gave the alarm. The fire department found the fire beyond control when it reached the scene.

Only two of the 20 pianos were saved.

The college property was transferred last week to the two Methodist Conferences of the State. It has a bonded indebtedness of \$40,000 and is valued at \$125,000. There is \$40,000 insurance on the buildings and equipments.

The students will go home pending the consideration of plans for reconstruction.

The college, next to Wesleyan, at Macon, Ga., was the first chartered college for women in the South and was burned 40 years ago.

CONTINENTAL MFG. CO.

New Mill Ready to Start With Over 12,000 Spindles.

The new Continental Manufacturing Company, successor to the Victor Cotton Mill, after being completely reorganized is now preparing to start up at once with a full equipment of spindles.

The Continental starts with 12,672 producing spindles and 6,200 twister spindles. The mill is in excellent shape having been completely overhauled and a large amount of new machinery installed.

The mill will manufacture coarse yarns, twines to thirties. These yarns will however be of the very best quality and the output of the mill will be greater than that of the Victor mill.

The president of the Continental Manufacturing Company is Mr. Geo. E. Wilson and the secretary and treasurer Mr. A. C. Hutchison.

The mill starts up with an excellent prospect of success.

ASHEVILLE HOTEL MAN.

Dies of Heart Disease in Mobile Today.

(By Associated Press)

Mobile, Ala., Feb. 18.—F. C. H. Duks, aged 74, connected with the Battery Park Hotel, of Asheville, N. C., was found dead in bed at the home of his son here today. Death was due to heart disease. The remains will be shipped to Asheville today.

COTTON OIL MILL AT LUMBERTON

Charter Granted Today by Secretary of State--Governor Aycock Pardons W. W. Blair of Chowan County--Charged With Perjury.

(Special The News)

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 18.—Governor Aycock granted a pardon this morning to W. W. Blair, of Chowan county, who has served one year of a two-year sentence in the penitentiary for perjury.

The Lumberton Cotton Oil and Ginning Company, of Lumberton, is chartered with \$100,000 capital authorized, \$12,000 subscribed, by O. C. Norment, B. Godwin, G. B. McLeod, R. D. Caldwell, Stephen McIntyre and others.

The name of Smith & Co., mercantile Company of Durham, has been changed to the J. C. Mathis Co.



MAP OF THE SCENE OF HOSTILITIES BETWEEN JAPAN AND RUSSIA.