

THE NATIONS AT PEACE

Plenipotentiaries at Portsmouth Put Pens to Parchment

EVENT MAKES HISTORY

The Affair Made Spectacular With Marines, Music and Booming of Cannon--When Signing Took Place the News Was Flashed Around the World

Portsmouth, N. H., Sept. 5.—Peace came to Russia and Japan today as simply and quietly and as unostentatiously as great things do come when the edge has been taken off by foreknowledge and all that remains is a formal act to round out that which has been previously done. Four dignified gentlemen, each anxious to perform the final perfunctory duty that would relieve him from the arduous labors performed in this quaint old American community, signed his name to four pieces of parchment, drank some champagne, exchanged compliments that were all meant for the moment, but which might not bear the analysis of absolute sincerity, and listened while they drank to the booming of big guns that were supposed, like the famous shots of the Concord meeting, to sound the news around the world. It was all cut and dried, this signing of the peace treaty that brought to an end the greatest conflict of modern times, and those who participated in it were apparently glad when it was through and done with.

It took thirteen minutes of 4 o'clock this afternoon of rain and sunshine when the treaty of Portsmouth was officially concluded through the action of the plenipotentiaries of Russia and Japan in attaching their signatures to their personal seals to the agreement that had required just four weeks to complete. A clerk of the state department at Washington rushed out from the red brick building where the ceremony had taken place and announced the news to the group of waiting newspaper correspondents. An elderly man of the navy waved a red flag to the saluting battery fifty yards away, a gun crashed out, the bells of the churches of Portsmouth pealed, and in quicker time than it takes to tell of it the news that was being performed and that they were witnesses of a scene never to be forgotten. There was more of the spectacular perhaps than there was in the modest library of the White House on that August day seven years ago when William McKinley and Jules Cambon signed the treaty that brought the Spanish-American war to an end, but the attempted ostentations of the preparation did not serve to make less impressive the events that will make this day famous in Japan and Russia, and, by its overlooking, in proud little Portsmouth.

The time set for the signing of the treaty was past, but that was merely diplomatic carelessness. It meant that the ceremonies were to be begun at that hour. Even up to the last minute there were rumors that threatened great delay. Not until after 2 o'clock was the protocol of the last day's session of the peace conference completed and signed. After this followed the formal reading of the minutes of the proceedings that ended with the agreement of the envoys upon every point of difference. The final protocol was dictated by all the envoys in M. Witte's room at the Wentworth Hotel before the start for the conference hall was made. Then everybody concerned hastened to put the finishing touches to his toilet and to hurry away to do his part in the last great act of making peace.

Those who had charge of today's ceremonies were determined to make them as formal and spectacular as possible. No detail was overlooked that would add to the impressiveness of the occasion. Officials of the American Government had never been furnished such an opportunity, and they made the most of it.

Long before the hour for the final scene to begin the marine battalion of the navy yard had been turned out, looking smart and soldierly as the marines always do, whether in action or on parade. It was a fine appearing body of blue uniformed young Americans that stood at rest at the west side of "Peace Building," for so they call it now in Portsmouth, although officially it is known as the "general storage warehouse" or "No. 86" of the Portsmouth navy yard. It may be worth while to repeat at this point, and for the last time, in the interest of historical accuracy, that the Portsmouth navy yard is not in Portsmouth or even in New Hampshire, but is situated on an island that sometimes comes within the geographical limit of the town of Kittery, Maine.

At the rear of the marines was their band, and a little way back the saluting battery that was to boom out the peace. Employees of the yard, white dressed sailor men of duty, some women and a little group of newspaper correspondents, some of whom had come thousands of miles from across the sea to chronicle the doings of the peace conference, stood opposite the doorway of the general storage warehouse, at which the envoys and the witnesses to the ceremony of signing were to enter. Non-commissioned officers of the marines, guarded by their entrance and their unofficial policeman that he would have to stand on the other side of the yard. Two or three carriages with photographers mounted on them had places behind the correspondents.

The hour for the ceremony was at hand, but nobody of consequence appeared. When at five minutes of three the commanding officer of the marines, Major Franklin J. Moses, gave a sharp word of command his men stiffened to attention and the members of the band got their instruments ready. Two anxious dashes past the marines, and around the corner of the conference building "present arms" came from Major Moses. Then the band burst forth into four ruffles and finished with a few bars of a march. The Russian envoys had arrived.

M. Witte and Baron Rosen were in the second auto. In the first was H. D. Prince, third assistant secretary of state, and master of ceremonies for and in behalf of the government. Frook-coated and silk-hatted, he stepped out of his vehicle in time to greet M. Witte and Baron Rosen as they alighted. M. Witte, grim and gray, wore a short overcoat. He lifted his hat in a surprised and embarrassed sort of way as he went up the steps to the entrance. Baron Rosen, as debonnaire an ever, wore a gray rain coat. He, too, bowed to the crowd which silently responded. Rear Admiral Meade, commandant of the navy yard, escorted the two Russian envoys up the stairway leading to the conference room. He was in the splendid full dress of his grade. Mr. Planchon, one of the secretaries of the conference, was with M. Witte and Baron Rosen. He carried a portfolio.

Five minutes later, just at 3 o'clock, a carriage drawn by two horses arrived at the conference building. The marines did not salute this time and the band did not play. In the carriage were Mr. Sato, official mouthpiece of Japan in dealing with the reporters, and two more secretaries of the mikado's mission.

After that arrivals were thick and fast, but there were no more salutes until 3:15 o'clock when the Japanese plenipotentiaries arrived. It was rather crowded in the automobile in which the mikado's emissaries made their trip from the Wentworth Hotel to the navy yard. Mr. Dennison, the American adviser of the Japanese foreign office, who has served in a similar capacity to Baron Komura and Mr. Takahira during the negotiations, sat with the chauffeur. Besides him were Baron Komura, Mr. Takahira and Mr. Yamazaki, director of the political bureau of the Japanese ministry of foreign affairs.

Admiral Meade greeted the Japanese while the band played more ruffles and marches, and the marines presented

arms again. Baron Komura, Mr. Takahira, Mr. Dennison and Mr. Yamazaki wore frock coats and silk hats. When Baron Komura and Mr. Takahira reached the second floor of the building they were taken to the main waiting room. There they found Mr. Witte and Baron Rosen, who arose from their chairs and greeted their former adversaries courteously. It was beyond the hour set for the meeting, so no time was lost in formalities. All that was necessary was the reading of the final protocol and the envoys decided to entrust the rather perfunctory proceeding to their secretaries. Appreciating the necessity for haste, the secretaries hurried through the reading of the French and the English texts of the convention, and in less than half an hour reported to their respective chiefs that everything was ready for the act of signing.

M. Witte, Baron Rosen, Baron Komura and Mr. Takahira went at once to the big chamber where the conferences have been conducted. In the center of the room is a long mahogany table. Those who had been invited to witness the ceremony were already there—a select group that seemed smaller than it really was in that spacious apartment. The envoys bowed to the gathering and the gathering bowed back. Then M. Witte and Baron Rosen took seats on one side of the table and Baron Komura and Mr. Takahira on the other.

No particular order was observed in the grouping. Standing around the room, some on one side and some on the other of the table, were the plenipotentiaries of the two nations. There were Governor McLane of New Hampshire, Rear Admiral Meade, Assistant Secretary Pierce, Mayor Marvin of Portsmouth, Commander Winslow of the United States ship Mayflower, Lieutenant Commander Gibbon of the United States ship Dolphin, Mr. Shippenbarch, the Russian consul general at Chicago, and the attaches of the Russian and Japanese missions. The copies of the treaty were in the hands of the respective secretaries, who laid them in front of the envoys. There were four of these copies—two each in English and French. The French drafts were laid before Baron Komura and those in English before Baron Rosen. Both signed simultaneously. When M. Witte had signed he passed the parchment over to Baron Rosen. Baron Komura passed his over to Mr. Takahira. The French drafts were handed across the table to Baron Komura and the English drafts were laid before M. Witte. Each envoy signed his name in ink, and each attached his private seal. M. Witte's seal, a formidable affair, was handed to him by Secretary Planchon.

Everybody in the room breathed a sigh of relief when the last scratch of the pen was made. There was silence for a second or two. It was Baron Rosen who broke it. Rising in his place and leaning across the table to Mr. Takahira, he said in English: "I shake hands with an old friend, and now with a new one." Baron Rosen and Mr. Takahira had known each other well when the former was Russian minister to Tokio. Their warm clasp and the Russian's cordial words broke the ice. In a minute there was a general exchange of congratulations. M. Witte and Baron Komura did not forget to follow the example of Baron Rosen and Mr. Takahira. Then Baron Rosen read a little speech in English for M. Witte and himself and Baron Komura responded.

Meanwhile the crowd outside the conference hall was wondering what all the delay was about. It was just ten minutes to 4 o'clock when its impatience was relieved. Wallace McCathran, one of the state department clerks who is helping Assistant Secretary Pierce, came rushing out of the main doorway. "All signed at 3:47," he shouted. A one-armed petty officer of the navy standing by quickly grasped a red flag and waved it vigorously to the commander of the saluting battery. Bang went the first of the nineteen guns, an ambassador's salute, that greeted the new made peace. "Present arms," cried the commandant of the marines. The band burst out into a fanfare. At Portsmouth the bells of the churches were set ringing. All the steam vessels in the harbor tooted their whistles, and that is how the first news of the ending of the Russian-Japanese war was made known and celebrated. While the band was playing, the guns fluting, the bells ringing and the whistles tooting, Assistant Secretary Pierce was talking over the long distance telephone with the town of Oyster Bay. He was the first to send the news to the president, and to make sure he sent again by telegraph.

At the same time a cable operator in the conference building was sending to the czar at Peterhof a message from M. Witte, that had been prepared in advance. It told the perturbed monarch that his far eastern adventure was ended. A Japanese secretary telegraphed to the Wentworth, to be cabled thence, a dispatch from Komura to the mikado at Tokio. They were drinking champagne while these things were happening. There was a luncheon served in the conference building when the treaty makers and the others got through saying pleasant things to one another.

Five o'clock came around before anybody realized it. Then there was a

rush to say good-bye. M. Witte and Baron Rosen bade farewell to the two Japanese envoys and the others present and hurried off to keep their engagement for the thanksgiving service. Baron Komura and Mr. Takahira followed fifteen minutes later. The peace conference was over for good and all. Half the population of Portsmouth stood in Christ church yard seeking admittance to the thanksgiving service of the Russians. Bishop Potter was there, having come from New York to take part in the closing scene of the peace conference. There were seven Russian priests and a large choir drawn from Russian churches of Boston, New York and Philadelphia. The service was begun with the feastal even song and was followed by a part of the Greek ceremony with a solemn Te-Deum laudamus. The first part of the ceremony was the ordinary evening service of the Protestant Episcopal church. The first lesson was from the fifth chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, which contains the Beatitudes. This dwelt particularly on "blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God."

After a short reception following the service the envoys departed. Baron Rosen, in a speech after the signing of the treaty, said: "We have just now signed an act which will forever have a place in the annals of history. As negotiators, both on behalf of the empire of Russia and of the empire of Japan, we may say with a tranquil conscience that we have done everything in our power, in order to bring about the peace for which the whole world was longing. As plenipotentiaries of Russia we fulfilled a most agreeable duty in acknowledging that in negotiation without our former adversaries and from this hour our friends, we have been dealing with true and thorough gentlemen. We earnestly hope that friendly relations henceforth between both empires will be firmly established, and we trust that his excellency, (Continued on Page Two.)

LAND OF TORNADES

The Kaiser Made a Bad Guess Talking to Congressmen

Berlin, Sept. 5.—Congressmen Bartholdt, Littlefield, Norris, Borchfield, Waldo and McNary were introduced to the kaiser today by H. Percival Dodge, the secretary of American legation. The Americans drove in imperial carriages to a review on the Tempelhoer field, where the introduction took place.

The kaiser, using English, spoke to Mr. Bartholdt about American and German railways, on both of which subjects he showed himself to be excellently informed. Referring to Maine, he said to Mr. Littlefield: "The tornadoes come." Mr. Littlefield pointed to Mr. Norris and answered: "No, they come from his state." Mr. Norris defended his state. "That is wrong," he said. "We have in Nebraska the most fertile soil in the world." Alluding to Borchfield's gaunt stature, the kaiser smilingly said: "If you had lived two hundred years ago Frederick William I would have impressed you for his regiment of tall fellows."

The conversation then turned upon industrial conditions in Germany and America. Answering Mr. Waldo's praise of the progress of German industry, the kaiser said he did whatever he could to further it.

The probable consequences of the Russo-Japanese war were discussed in detail. The kaiser expressed his satisfaction at the increase of the American navy. Finally, he requested his guests to give his kind regards to President Roosevelt, to whom, he said, he was extremely grateful for his efforts to strengthen the good relations between Germany and America.

MAE WOOD'S CHARGES

Three Officials Reported for Squelching Her "Love Letter" Book

Washington, Sept. 5.—It became known today that the state department is making an investigation of charges filed with the department by Miss Mae Wood, who alleges that J. Martin Miller, United States consul at Aix-La-Chapelle, Germany, and Robert J. Wynne, consul general at London, together with William Loeb, Jr., took from her under false pretense the manuscript of a book she was writing. The book was to be called "Love Letters of a Boss," which were said to be letters written by Senator Platt. The state department refuses to tell what the charges Miss Wood has made, or who they involve. In public, however, Miss Wood has made the charges against Mr. Loeb, Mr. Wynne and Mr. Miller, and it is supposed that she has incorporated these charges in those she has made to the state department. It was said at the state department today that the charges had been there for a month or more.

Miss Wood charged that Mr. Miller took the manuscript from her with the promised intention of having it published in book form, but did not do so. Miss Wood believed that she could have made a large amount of money out of her proposed book. Mr. Miller is now in the country and is expected to arrive in Washington soon to make an explanation to the state department of the reasons assigned by the German government for refusing to grant his exequatur as consul at Aix-La-Chapelle. Though appointed in March Mr. Miller has never assumed the duties of his mission although he has been in Aix-La-Chapelle for many months.

NEW SURVEY OF INLAND ROUTE

Engineering Board Will Visit North Carolina

WILL SEEK INFORMATION

Railroads and Refrigerator Car Lines Answer the Charge of Imposing Excessive Rates—Canal Commission Establishes a Publicity Bureau—Free Delivery

By THOMAS J. PENCE

Washington, Sept. 5.—Special.—The engineering board designated by the secretary of war to make a new survey of the proposed inland water way will visit Norfolk and North Carolina points in October, for the purpose of holding hearings, so that the best opinion of the people with reference to a selection of route can be secured. This information was obtained today by Representative Small, who called at the war department and conferred with Colonel Smith Leach, president of the board. He said that the board would visit Norfolk, Elizabeth City, Edenton, Washington, New Bern and Beaufort. It is possible that Baltimore and Wilmington may be included in the itinerary. Local interests will be given an opportunity to be heard at all of these points. Mr. Small is much gratified over the decision of the board to make the trip and he will be present at all the hearings. The previous survey was made two years ago and at the time a sixteen foot waterway was contemplated. Congress has authorized the new survey on a 10 and 12 foot basis and the board is undertaking the work of collecting the necessary details before the survey is begun.

Mr. Small did a number of departments during the day, attending to matters of interest to his constituents. Among other things he secured the promise that an inspector of rural free delivery would be sent to his district, Washington, N. C., having passed the ten thousand population mark. Mr. Small was assured that the city would be given a city delivery system at an early date.

Formal answers were received today by the inter-state commerce commission from some of the railroads which with the refrigerator car line are charged with imposing excessive rates on fruits and vegetables from California and southwestern points to New York and other eastern cities. This is the case upon which the commission will test the joint liability of the railroads and the refrigerator line for violating the law. Among the answers to the charges received today were those of the Seaboard Air Line, the Atlantic Coast Line and the Central Railroad of Georgia.

The press agent as a factor in official life was today formally recognized when Chairman Shonts announced the appointment of Joseph Buckland Bishop as executive secretary of the commission with headquarters in this city. Mr. Bishop is an editorial writer on the New York Globe and a friend of President Roosevelt.

In making the announcement Mr. Shonts said: "Mr. Bishop will have charge of the publicity and literary branch of the work. He will prepare the various statements, which I, as chairman, or the commission as a body may desire to make public, and will furnish all proper information to the press and public. He will also be the official historian of the canal in preparing and compiling the authentic and authoritative record of its construction.

The wedding of Mrs. E. E. Glover, daughter of Colonel T. M. R. Thompson, of Southport, N. C., and Surgeon Fred Benton, United States Navy, took place at the Rochambeau this evening, the ceremony being performed by Surgeon Frank Thompson. The bride is a great grand niece of John Randolph of Virginia.

WAR IN THE CAUCASUS

Serious Engagements Fought by Tartars and Armenians

Tiflis, Sept. 5.—The whole southeast of the Caucasus is terrorized by Tartar refugees who are pouring in from Bakau, Elisabepol and Shushua districts. Details from Shushua show that a series of engagements was fought there between Tartars and Armenians behind regular positions. The combatants strove to reach their quarters in order to sack, burn and kill a considerable part of the town. The town was seen in flames. An official estimate places the number of houses burned at over two hundred. An offi-

cial account says that two hundred were killed and injured, but private advices show that the casualties were much higher.

The fighting extended to the suburbs and country side. The news from Bakau is becoming worse hour by hour. The black town—the factory quarter—is in flames. Innumerable other incendiary fires have broken out. The troops are acting with the utmost vigor, but have not succeeded in restoring order.

RICKETTS AND HAY

The Keep Commission to Inquire into Their Affairs

Washington, Sept. 5.—By order of President Roosevelt the action of Public Printer Palmer in calling upon Oscar J. Ricketts, former of printing office, for their resignations, has been temporarily suspended pending an investigation by the Keep commission. While Ricketts and Hay appealed their cases to the president and the civil service commission, whatever action may be taken will be dictated by the Keep commission. The president is understood to be of the opinion that the action of Palmer was somewhat hasty, although no doubt is expressed that in the interest of the public service he acted wisely. The Keep commission is now called upon to inquire into Ricketts' case, particularly the "continued acts of insubordination," to which reference was made by Palmer in his letter calling upon Ricketts and Hay for their resignations.

ON THE BEACH

Steamship and Lumber Barge Driven Ashore in a Gale

Norfolk, Va., Sept. 5.—The steamship Aragon, Captain Blake of New York, and ocean barge Saxon, which was being towed by the Aragon from Georgetown, S. C., to New York via Norfolk, are both hard ashore on the Virginia coast two miles south of False Cape and twenty-six miles south of Cape Henry. The Aragon and her tow were caught in a serious coast storm night before last, and as a result the hawser by which she was drawing the barge became entangled in the steamer's propeller. This left the Aragon and the Saxon helpless and both vessels were driven ashore last night. The wrecking steamer Rescue left Norfolk this morning for the scene of the wreck.

The steamer Aragon and the barge Saxon are both lumber laden. The Aragon has been plying regularly in the lumber trade between Georgetown, Norfolk and New York.

LYNCHING PARTY FOILED

Could Not Get the Prisoner After Storming the Jail

Butte, Mont., Sept. 5.—A mob of 100 men early today made a determined but unsuccessful attempt to lynch James F. Barnes, who late Sunday night shot and killed Patrick Hanley as the result of a slight argument. The jail was taken by storm. The would-be lynchers commanded the broad staircase leading to the doors of the court house, and with drawn pistols firing over the heads of the crowd and the police who attempted to enter. Inside a mob battered at the big steel doors, but without success. In the upper corridors were stationed a number of deputy sheriffs with rifles and revolvers, and this tended to hold the angry crowd back. The mob finally sent for dynamite, but those dispatched on the errand failed to return within an hour, and the ringleaders abandoned the attempt and were persuaded by the police to disperse.

More Thanks to Roosevelt

Christiana, Norway, Sept. 5.—The International Law Association, in session here today, unanimously approved of cabling President Roosevelt thanking him for his good offices in promoting peace, and for his continued endeavors in helping forward a happy conclusion of the treaty. The dispatch continues: "We gratefully congratulate you and the American people who have shared emphatically your efforts."

Lima, Peru, Sept. 5.—The senate yesterday a resolution asking the government to congratulate President Roosevelt on his efforts to bring about the conclusion of peace between Russia and Japan.

Secret Russo-German Treaty

Birmingham, Sept. 5.—The London correspondent of the Post says he is informed that the British foreign office has learned that a secret treaty has been negotiated, and probably has been signed, between Russia and Germany. The terms of the treaty are unknown beyond the fact that they almost wholly concern the far east and that the treaty may be regarded as a reply to that between England and Japan. The correspondent expects as a result an explosive development of German activity in the Yangtze region.

Germany's Cholera Record

Berlin, Sept. 5.—Since Monday's report there have been one death and eleven new cases of cholera, making a total of twenty-five deaths and seventy-seven cases of infection. This includes a number among the prisoners in the penitentiary. The military authorities have closed the swimming baths at the east end of Berlin as a precaution.

COTTON SLIDES DOWN THE SCALE

Government Report Better Than Was Expected

THE PIT GOES WILD

Prices Collapsed \$2.50 a Bale in Ten Minutes—Bears Do Not Attack Much Importance to What the Growers Association in Asheville May Do—The Decline Checked

New York, Sept. 5.—The government crop report was announced from the rostrum of the cotton exchange today almost immediately after noon. The effect was to cause consternation among the bulls, as the report proved much more favorable than had been expected. The market, which had ruled strong throughout the forenoon and had advanced 18 to 18 points from last Friday's closing quotations, immediately broke under an avalanche of selling orders and prices collapsed about 50 points or the equivalent of \$2.50 a bale within ten minutes. For instance, the December option, which had sold up to 10.93 and was quoted at about 10.83 just before the government report was read, went crashing down to 10.40 cents a pound, while October, which had sold at 10.83, broke to 10.35, and January, which had sold at 10.99, declined to 10.50. The selling was on a tremendous scale and there were fluctuations of 10 points between sales.

The pit was a mob of shouting brokers, and selling orders began to pour in from all directions. It looked at one time as though the market was in for a big break, as nearly all the pit traders had held selling orders contingent on the government crop report making the condition over 71 per cent. The various bull pools rallied to the support of the market, and bought so heavily and so aggressively that the decline was checked. Then covering of shorts by the old bear crowd with a partial subsidence of the outside liquidation helped to rally the market 20 points in the succeeding hour. But for this strong support it was the general opinion that the market would have gone lower.

There were reports of bull pools opening in conjunction with the Southern Cotton Growers' Association in the hope that it would hold the market above the basis of 10 1-2 cents for the December and January options, if possible, pending the convening of the association's members at Asheville, N. C., tomorrow, when it is expected that a strong set of resolutions will be passed endeavoring to fix a minimum selling price at which farmers will dispose of their crop. It will be remembered that at the New Orleans convention of the same organization resolutions were passed binding every member to reduce the acreage this year 25 per cent, and this movement failed. The actual decrease in acreage has since turned out to be in the neighborhood of 12 to 15 per cent, although the Southern Cotton Growers' Association estimated at the equivalent of 18-3 per cent.

The market was quieter in the late afternoon, as the bears were disinclined to force the issue further, with the bulls clique continuing their support. It was pointed out that the average condition of the crop September 1, as shown in today's government report, is 73.05 for the last ten years, also that today's estimate is only one per cent under this average. Assuming on this basis that there has been an actual reduction in acreage of 12 per cent, from last year's average, the indicated crop is 10,860,000 bales. In any event the indications of today's figures, taken in conjunction with a large visible and invisible supply, were held to dissipate the fear of any cotton famine for the next twelve months.

The trade had confidently expected that today's government report would not make the average condition of the crop better than 70 per cent, and such a report was practically being discounted by the bulls in their position of the past three weeks in raising the market from 10.14 cents, the prices reported just a week ago today. A large scattered long interest had been built up by speculators here and at New Orleans on this idea, and most of the selling today was the liquidation of those speculative accounts at losses approximating at least \$2 to \$2.25 a bale.

Mt. Airy Merchants Organize

Mt. Airy, N. C., Sept. 5.—Special Norman H. Johnson addressed a good number of our merchants and other business men last night. He spoke interestingly of the work of the Retail Merchants Association, outlining the scope and importance of the organization. A branch association was formed with F. L. Smith, president; W. W. Burke, vice-president; A. V. West, secretary, and W. E. Merritt, treasurer.