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PEACE ENVOYS MEET AS FRIENDS

First Conference of the Kind Ever Held On the American Continent

INTRODUCTION BY OUR PRESIDENT

Ceremony Unique in History Takes Place on the Mayflower Off Oyster Bay and the President's Success in Avoiding Questions of Precedence Makes All Smooth—Japanese Arrived First and Were Presented. Awaiting the Russians in the Cabin—Tiny Komura and Giant Witte Shake Hands When Presented.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., Special.—History was made Saturday in Oyster Bay, Russians and Japanese clasped hands and greeted one another with all outward evidence of cordiality, and for the first time since nations began to have relations one with another, an Executive of a great power received the envoys of two belligerent countries on a mission of peace. President Roosevelt, on behalf of the United States and their people, extended formal greeting to the representatives of Russia and Japan, introduced the plenipotentiaries to one another, and entertained them at an elaborate luncheon, at which Russian and Japanese fraternized with one another as comrades rather than enemies.

PRESIDENT'S NOTABLE TOAST.
During the luncheon President Roosevelt proposed a notable toast, in which he expressed the earnest hope and prayer, in the interest not only of these two great powers, but of all civilized mankind, that a just and lasting peace may speedily be concluded between them.

The occasion was impressive. It was attended not by pomp and ceremony, but by a simplicity and frankness characteristic of the President and of the people of America.

Due honor was paid the distinguished guests of the President and of the country, and they were received with all the dignity to which their exalted rank entitled them.

The day was ideal. After the sun had burned away the haze of early morning, the weather was glorious. A brisk breeze just tipped the waves of Long Island Sound with silver, tempering, at the same time, the heat of the sun's rays.

CHIEF ENVOYS SHAKE HANDS.
It was a notable scene as the diminutive Baron Komura shook hands with the giant Witte at the instance of the President of the United States.

The greetings of the members of the two special missions were distinctly formal, but not the slightest suggestion of enmity was shown on either side. Neither by word nor by action did they indicate, even by direction, anything but the utmost cordiality. Careful to avoid any strain, President Roosevelt, as soon as possible after the introductions, suggested that the party proceed to the main saloon, where luncheon was in waiting. The president himself led the party, followed in order by Mr. Witte, Baron Komura, Ambassador Rosen and Minister Takahira. Even the formation of this little procession involved a delicate diplomatic problem, but it was agreed that the President solved it admirably.

FOES LIKE FRIENDS.
Although the luncheon was served with the other guests standing, the President escorted the four envoys to chairs in one corner of the saloon, and in half a minute, through tact and delicacy, the whole party was engaged in

animated conversation over their dishes. The conversation was generally in French, as Mr. Witte speaks very little English. Baron Rosen and Baron Komura chatted as if they had been life-long friends and Minister Takahira, at one time particularly communicative, entered into the conversation with zest and interest.

Before the luncheon had proceeded President Roosevelt rose from his chair, and turning to the assemblage, raised his hand for silence. In an instant there was a hush. Bowing to the envoys, President Roosevelt said:

ENVOYS APPROVE TOAST.
"Gentlemen: I propose a toast to which there will be no answer and to which I have the honor to ask you to drink in silence, standing. I drink to the welfare and prosperity of the sovereigns and the people of the two great nations whose representatives have met one another on this ship. It is my most earnest hope and prayer, in the interest not only of these two great powers, but of all civilized mankind, that a just and lasting peace may speedily be concluded between them."

The toast was drunk, as the President requested, in profound silence; but in the hum of conversation which followed little was heard but enthusiastic comment upon the character of the President's expression. Mr. Witte and Baron Komura both cordially thanked him.

ONLY WITTE ARRIVED.

Envoys Tardy in Reaching Portsmouth, N. H. For Conference.

Portsmouth, N. H., Special.—There was great disappointment in this city Monday over the delay in the arrival of the Russian and Japanese peace envoys. The news of the postponement of the function had not reached many of the citizens of Portsmouth and its environs. Consequently, this section of Portsmouth was astir early, and by 8 o'clock every electric line from the country was bringing many sight-seers. When the fact of the postponement became generally known there were many expressions of disappointment but upon the circulation of rumors of the possible arrival of the ships most of the crowd decided to have a holiday anyway. The operators in the wireless station had a very busy day trying to pick up the Dolphin which has the Japanese envoys on board.

Monday night an answer to the numerous calls was received stating that at dark the Dolphin was off Cape Cod 75 miles away. She was steaming slowly, and those on board thought the cruiser would reach the harbor about 9 o'clock. Mr. Witte arrived in this city Monday night from Boston at 11:15 o'clock, coming in a special car attached to the regular Bar Harbor express. He was enabled to avoid a crowd of several hundred people assembled at the railroad station through the train stopping at a crossing about a quarter of a mile from the depot. Mr. Witte was taken to the Wentworth in an automobile.

Cheered by Russian Jews.
Boston, Special.—Mr. Witte, the senior Russian plenipotentiary, took an automobile ride about the city and visited Harvard University and Magnolia, the summer home of the Russian ambassador. Mr. Witte left for Portsmouth at 9:45. Before the train left, about a hundred former residents of Russia, many of them Hebrews, assembled near Mr. Witte's car and cheered him. The envoy appeared on the rear platform and spoke in Russian in a conversational way for several minutes. He asked his hearers how they liked America and whether they preferred this country to Russia. Several of the audience replied in effect that they liked America better, as there were more opportunities for advancement. At the conclusion of Mr. Witte's informal remarks the crowd cheered him, which he acknowledged by removing his hat. As the train pulled out one of the Hebrews shouted: "Give freedom to the Jews."

Engineers Elect Officers.
Louisville, Ky., Special.—The National Association of Stationary Engineers Friday elected the following officers: President, R. D. Tomlinson, Milwaukee; vice-president, Theodore N. Kelsey, Lowell, Mass.; secretary, F. W. Raven, Chicago; treasurer, Hugh Rensford, Cincinnati. The next convention of the association will be held in Philadelphia.

Three Murderers Hanged.
Nigger Murderers Hanged. Helena, Ark., Special.—Tom Wilson, slayer of his brother, and Will Robertson, wife murderer, paid the penalty for their crimes on the scaffold in this city. Both men were negroes and both met death with perfect composure, declaring that they were ready to go. Robertson's neck was broken. Wilson died of strangulation.

Canto, Miss., Special.—Bob Jones, a negro wife murderer, was hanged in the jail here.

New Naval Commander.
Washington, Special.—Captain S. W. Very has been ordered by the Navy Department to duty as commandant of the naval stations at Port Royal and Charleston, S. C., also as commandant of the sixth naval district. The order is effective September 1st, when he will relieve Rear Admiral E. S. Prime, who recently was placed on the retired list.

Little Hopes of Peace.
St. Petersburg, By Cable.—The belief is growing in all circles that the government is preparing the public for a failure of the peace negotiations. In the opinion of well informed men, the pessimistic statements which have been made by Witte.

TEXTILE NEWS OF INTEREST

Notes of Southern Cotton Mills and Other Manufacturing Enterprises.

The American Cotton Co.

The American Cotton Co. of Greensboro, N. C., which obtained its charter of incorporation several weeks ago, has effected permanent organization with S. N. Cone, president; Thomas Crabtree, secretary-treasurer, and J. H. Cutter, formerly with G. E. Dickinson of Savannah and latterly manager of Dickinson & Co., at Charlotte, general manager. The stockholders of the company include Messrs. W. E. Holt, Caesar Cone, Julius Cone and Neil Ellington, all well known to the cotton-mill men and cotton factors throughout the South. It is stated that the company will transact a general cotton business, and expects to develop an extensive clientele in North and South Carolina. The capital stock has been placed at \$250,000.

The Dixie Mills Co.

The Dixie Mills Co. of Paducah, Ky., has been incorporated, with capital stock of \$100,000, by George C. Wallace, Robert B. Phillips and others. This corporation takes over the Alden Knitting Mills, which Mr. Wallace and his associates have been operating under lease. The plant has an equipment of 131 knitting machines and the complementary apparatus for the production of fine gauge cotton hosiery. Mr. Phillips has been elected president; Mr. Wallace, vice-president; T. L. Upton, secretary.

A \$200,000 Cotton-Rope Mill.

It is proposed to organize a company with capital stock of \$200,000 for the purpose of building a cotton mill at Spartanburg, S. C. The plan is to erect modern buildings and install all the latest machinery for manufacturing rope, twine and other similar goods from the waste to be obtained from cotton yarn and cloth mills in the Spartanburg district. Peter H. Corr, a well known cotton mill operator, Taunton, Mass., is interested in the enterprise, but no further details are ready for publication at this time.

TEXTILE NOTES.

A Shelby special says: "During the month more than 3,000 bales of cotton, which was held by farmers in this county, have been sold at 10 and 10 1/2-cents, the sellers thereby realizing over \$160,000. Several hundred bales still remain in the hands of the farmers, which they are holding for 11 cents. Cotton mills in this section are supplied with cotton and they are rejoicing on account of the fact that they are getting remunerating prices for their product."

Two of the wealthiest men in Jackson, Tenn., are now negotiating for a big cotton mill there. They state that if the negotiations are successful it will have a capital of \$100,000, possibly more than that. Some \$25,000 of Jackson money will be put into it. The promoters are from a distance and a representative has been here in conference with the two Jackson financiers. The cotton mill will be like the big one in Trenton, to manufacture sheetings. It would employ a large force of hands. Five or ten acres of ground in a convenient location is necessary and the Jackson gentlemen interested are looking after that.

The Banna Cotton Mills.

Messrs. C. E. Graham and R. L. Graham of Greenville, S. C., referred to last week as having leased the Banna Cotton Mills at Goldville, N. C., have ordered the new equipment they will add to that plant. This additional machinery will include 2500 spindles and cardroom machinery sufficient to take care of the new spindles.

A Washington, D. C., dispatch of recent date says:

"The officers of the cotton association are not a unit in the demand for the resignation of Secretary Wilson, of the Department of Agriculture. While Secretary Cheatham gave an interview Friday in support of the position taken by President Harvie Jordan, declaring that Secretary Wilson is competent and ought to be removed, Col. E. S. Peters, the vice president of the association, who is in Washington, made a public statement in defense of the Secretary of Agriculture, which he said: 'The cotton growers of the South have implicit confidence in him.'"

HEAVY LOSS BY FIRE

\$400,000 Worth of Property Swept Away in a Few Moments

ACRES OF FLAMES FOR AWHILE

Fire Starting in an Old Wooden Ferry Boat, Swept the Docks in the Vicinity and For Three-Quarters of an Hour Threatened All Lower Hoboken—Lackawanna Railroad's Terminals Speedily Wiped Out and Two Large Ferry Boats Ruined.

New York, Special.—Inside of three-quarters of an hour late Tuesday night, fire swept away the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Company's terminal in Hoboken, seized two ferry boats and practically ruined them, and for half an hour threatened the rest of the water front in the vicinity, including the Hamburg-American and North German Lloyd steamship docks, at which several big ships were lying. The loss to property is estimated at between \$400,000 and \$500,000. So far as known, no lives were lost.

For over an hour, huge tongues of flames leaped from the wooden structures on the Lackawanna docks, lighting the New Jersey and New York water front. For a time it threatened a loss greater than that of the big dock fire of several years ago, when the North German Lloyd piers were destroyed with a great loss of life.

Blazing ferry boats, cut from their docks, floating in the river, wandering fire ships, which for a time endangered shipping.

BEGAN ON OLD WOODEN BOAT.

The fire started on an old wooden ferry boat and, swept by a northerly breeze, communicated with the ferry house, spread to the main building of the Lackawanna and then to the Duke's House, a famous Hoboken hostelry. The hotel was a frame structure and was a ready prey for the flames.

By this time the flames were spreading in all directions, utterly beyond the control of the few first fire-fighters who had responded to the first alarms.

Following the hotel, the structure of the Public Service Corporation—the street car operating company, of Hoboken, Jersey City and nearby places—went down before the flames. At 1 o'clock the fire was under control and the big steamship piers had been saved.

600-FOOT TRAIN SHEDS SWEEPED.

A remarkable feature of the great blaze was that inside of 20 minutes after it started it had seized upon the Lackawanna terminal and swept its 600 feet of train sheds, dooming them.

The flames started from an unknown cause on the old wooden ferry boat Hopaticong, which had been tied up in the open slip between Hamburg docks and the Christopher street ferry slips. The fire was discovered about 11 o'clock. It was then leaping from the boiler room below the main deck through the engine room and attacking the watchman on the ferry dock turned in calls for the city department and also for the Lackawanna fire brigade. Almost before the company's men could lay a line of hose and before the city firemen could reach the scene the flames had leaped to the ferry office building between the piers and then to the brand-new ferryboat Binghamton, which was lying in the northern slips.

Crop Expert Named.

Washington, Special.—P. L. Hutchins, formerly Chief Chemist of the State Board of Agriculture of Louisiana, who is regarded as an expert in cotton statistics, has been appointed by Secretary Wilson to the position of traveling inspector of the Agricultural Department in the cotton districts, with the understanding that he will perform duty on the cotton crop estimating board when called upon to do so. It is understood that Assistant Secretary Hays will not continue permanently to give personal attention to the work of the Statistical Bureau, but a successor to Mr. Hyde soon will be appointed. It is the intention to continue the crop estimating board, but not to maintain the same membership constantly.

Alex. N. Bell Dead.

Washington, Special.—Alexander Melville Bell, brother of Prof. Alexander Graham Bell, died at the home of the latter in the 86th year of his age, from pneumonia, following an operation for diabetes performed last Tuesday. He was born in Scotland, a son of Alexander Bell, and was one of the three generations notable because of their development of the art of instructing the deaf and dumb in methods of communication.

Ambassador Conger Coming.

Mexico City, Special.—American Ambassador Conger and family left Friday night for the United States, the ambassador having two months' leave of absence. He will go directly to Washington, and it is surmised he will be consulted on the Chinese question, especially on the boycott. The ambassador was seven years at the Chinese court before coming to Mexico, and is thoroughly informed on business questions involved in the present attitude of commercial hostility on the part of the Chinese merchants.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

Tom Taggart says he has retired from politics.

The Japanese Emperor's daily fare is strictly Japanese.

King Alfonso is said to have spent \$20,000 in tips in London.

J. P. Morgan is having his portrait painted by J. J. Shannon.

August Belmont has been sued by his stable boy for \$100,000.

The Shah of Persia is reported as intending to visit the United States.

In spite of his years, King Leopold of Belgium is one of the most daring of men.

Dr. Hermann von Wissmann, the African explorer, is dead at the age of fifty-one.

General Booth, commander of the Salvation Army, is said to be a slave to work.

Edison admits that he has found radium a dangerous substance to experiment with.

Admiral Togo only gets \$3000 a year salary, but that sum will go further in Japan than it will in America.

Rudyard Kipling used to be an expert at carpentering, and has successfully constructed many miniature ships.

On the recent official celebration of his birthday, King Edward conferred on his chef, M. Menager, the Victorian medal.

Charles F. Murphy, head of Tammany Hall, New York City's big political machine, is now as great a nabob as his predecessor, Richard Croker.

John D. Rockefeller is surveying the ground for his new summer home at Buttermilk Hill, across from Nyack on the Hudson. It is to cost \$1,000,000.

The Empress of Russia spends \$10,000 a year on perfumes, pastes, soaps and toilet waters, which she has sent to her exclusively from the French capital.

Salvation Army Girl Goes to Pen.

Chicago, Special.—Inga Hanson, the former Salvation Army girl, convicted of perjury in connection with a personal injury suit brought by her against the Chicago City Railway, was taken to the penitentiary at Joliet to begin an indeterminate sentence. Since her trial several months ago, Miss Hanson has been confined in the Cook county jail hospital, claiming to be still suffering from the effects of a paralytic stroke resulting from her injuries.

Considering Municipal Ownership.

Wilmington, Special.—At Monday afternoon's meeting of the board of aldermen a resolution was adopted contemplating the municipal ownership of a system of water-works here. The matter was brought up by Chairman E. F. Johnson, of the water-works committee, who did not ask any immediate action, but secured promise of a special meeting of the board next Monday afternoon for a full discussion and steps looking to the carrying out of the spirit of the resolution.

Business Man a Suicide.

Columbus, Ga., Special.—Blanchard F. McGeeheat, president and manager of the Columbus Paper Company and a member of a prominent Columbus family, committed suicide Friday morning by shooting himself through the temple with a revolver. He was at home alone when the fatal shot was fired. His wife and three children survive him. No cause has been assigned for his rash act.

Train Kills Three.

Huntington, W. Va., Special.—The Guyandotte Valley passenger train Friday had an unlucky run from Logan, killing three men and injuring another. Frank Adams was struck and killed by the train shortly after it left Logan. Adams' companion was seriously injured. John Asham, an old man, was killed as the train reached Barboursville. He stood on the track in front of the train, thinking it ran on another track. While the locomotive was going to the round house in Huntington, George Zirkle was struck and killed.

Poisoned Himself and Son.

Baltimore, Special.—Mrs. Annie Whiteford is dead and her 5-year-old son is in a hospital suffering from the effects of cyanide of potassium taken by the mother with suicidal intent and by her giving to the child with the expectation of ending his life also. A sister of the suicide was attracted by the screaming of the suffering infant and found him writhing in agony across the body of his mother, who lived only a short time after being found. Mrs. Whiteford, who has been separated from her husband for several years, was a sufferer from melancholia.

Japanese Make No Comment.

New York, Special.—At the headquarters of the Japanese peace commission no comment was made upon the interview with Mr. Witte, Aimer Sato, who has met all interviewers since the Japanese delegation arrived in New York, said that Baron Komura would make no statement at this time, and from a personal standpoint he (Sato) thought that to make any statement or comment at all would be entering the controversy prematurely.

The Czar of Russia Has Restored to Poles the Right to Purchase Land in the Kingdom of Poland.

The Czar of Russia has restored to Poles the right to purchase land in the kingdom of Poland.

E. P. HOWELL DEAD

Popular and Useful Georgian Passes From Labor to Reward

A LEADER OF SOUTHERN PROGRESS

One of the Most Potent Factors in Up-Building Georgia and Its Present Capital After the Civil War Dies of Carbuncle Complicated With Diabetes at the Age of 66—Confederate Soldier, Lawyer, Publisher of the Atlanta Constitution, Director in Every New Railroad Built Into the City, Fostering of Expositions, and Recently Mayor of Atlanta.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—Capt. Evan P. Howell, long prominently identified with Southern journalism, died at noon Sunday, after an illness of three weeks, brought in by a carbuncle complicated with diabetes.

Captain Powell was born December 10, 1839 in Milton county, Ga. He was a gallant Confederate soldier, entering the service as a member of the First Georgia Regiment, later commanding Howell's Battery of Artillery during practically the whole of the war.

After the surrender he settled in Atlanta, taking up the practice of the law. He was one of the most potent factors in rebuilding this city and in the development of the State from the devastation of the war. As a young lawyer he served as Solicitor General during the stormy days of the reconstruction period, when to his services was largely due to suppression of the lawlessness then so rife. In 1876 he bought the Atlanta Constitution with Henry W. Grady and William A. Hemphill. He retained control of this newspaper until 1897, when he retired, and since then has not been in active business.

Captain Howell has been prominently identified with the Democratic party ever since the war, having been delegate-at-large from this State to several of the national convention and a prominent figure in each. He served as member of both branches of the State Legislature some years ago, but held no other political office save that of mayor of Atlanta, for which he was nominated during his absence from the community. His term of service to this office ended last year.

He has been prominently identified with every movement for the development of this city and section, notably with the first Cotton Exposition in 1882, which opened the eyes of the country to the South's industrial progress and with all the later expositions. He has been a director in every new railroad built into Atlanta since the war. He was a member of the commission which built Georgia's new capitol and which performed the feat of completing its works within the original appropriation and turning back into the Treasury a surplus. Captain Howell was tendered a place in the diplomatic service by President Cleveland, but declined it. He served by appointment of President McKinley upon the commission to investigate the conduct of the war with Spain. His wife, who was Miss Julia Erwin, and seven children survive him, among them Editor Clark Howell.

Run Down After Shooting Six.

Little Rock, Ark., Special.—A special to the Gazette, from Louisville, Ark., says:

After killing two persons, seriously and probably fatally shooting two others, one a woman, and less seriously shooting two more, Ike Kinney, a desperate negro, was killed in a river bottom at Doella, six miles south of Louisville, at noon Friday, after a hot fight with a posse of citizens that had surrounded him. His bloody record for 24 hours is: August 2 (morning), killed a negro at Stamps; August 2 (afternoon), killed E. R. Ferguson, claim agent of the Louisiana & Arkansas Railroad, a member of a posse, three miles from Stamps; August 3 (3 a. m.), seriously shot Mrs. Stewart of Greensburg, Texas, and her husband; August 3 (noon), shot Alvin Barham through the neck, and shot a finger off one of C. F. Nash's hands.

Telegraphers' Strike

St. Paul, Minn., Special.—At the end of the fourth day of the telegraphers' strike on the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific Railroads, officers of both railroads declare that the strike is all but a closed incident, and that more than 80 per cent. of the stations on the Northern Pacific are now supplied with agents. Officers of the Telegraphers' Union assert that the strike has not fairly begun.

Electrocuted in Chester.

Chester, S. C., Special.—Jno. M. Weir, a fireman on the Southern Railway, was instantly killed by an electrical current received from a wire rope, used for lowering and raising the arc light, attached to a post at the corner of Valley and Gadsden streets, Saturday night about 9:00 o'clock. Weir and a number of friends had been discussing the death of Bradshaw in Charlotte, and he went out to the post and had a similar experience. The accident occurred shortly after a big rain and the post was highly charged with electricity. Weir was about 21 years of age and was unmarried.