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NO HOPES OF PEACE

It Now Looks Like An Agreement On Terms Will Be Impossible

AN ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY

Fate of the Peace Conference is Regarded by Most at Portsmouth as Virtually Sealed, and it is Expected That the Adjournment Taken to Tuesday Means Merely an Exchange of Farewells.

Portsmouth, N. H., Special.—Black pessimism reigns at Portsmouth. 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 Tuesday, to which day they adjourned Friday afternoon upon completing the seriatim 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 Roosevelt nor the powers will see the chance of peace shipwrecked without a final effort, and that pressure is being exerted, especially at Tokio, to induce Japan to moderate her terms, is 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 the financiers of the world are known to be exerting all their influences. At Tokio 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 an 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, limitation of naval power and the surrender of the 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 the 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 Friday by the oral negotiations is so pronounced that only a diplomatic fiction. In the interim 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 even to concede that. And 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 of his subjects. The bearings of this "historic" document, as Mr. Witte described it a few days ago, upon the issue are easily 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 Tokio 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 prisoners in Japan, but "not a cent for tribute."

Tonight the situation can be summed up in a single sentence—prompt and heroic action by outside influence alone can save the conference.

Portsmouth, N. H., Special.—The prospects for peace are distinctly brighter. The plenipotentiaries are laboring with a seriousness and earnestness which leaves not the slightest doubt that both are anxious to conclude a treaty. Though the main points remain to be contested and the plenipotentiaries of each side speak as though the conference would go to pieces unless the other side gives way, the spirit of compromise is in the air. When he returned to the hotel Wednesday night, Mr. Witte, who was tired out with his hard day's work, said:

"I am doing all I can for peace. Of the eight articles we have already considered, I have yielded seven. No other statesman in Russia would have dared to do so much, and I have done what I have on my own responsibility."

ROOSEVELT POINTS OUT THE WAY

Outline of Proposition to Baron Rosen Becomes Known—Suggestion Hard For the Czar, as Author of The Hague Peace Conference, to Reject—Japan's Acceptance Considered Assured if Russia's is Obtained.

Portsmouth, N. H., Special.—It cannot be authoritatively stated that the feature of the proposition of President Roosevelt communicated through Baron Rosen to Mr. Witte and transmitted by the latter to Emperor Nicholas was based upon the principle of arbitration. Whether the proposal contemplates arbitration of all the articles upon which the plenipotentiaries have failed to agree, or upon the question of indemnity cannot be stated with positiveness, but it is more than probable that it relates only to indemnity or to indemnity and the cession of the island of Sakhalin. Neither is it possible to say whether the President has as yet made a similar proposition to Japan. The customary diplomatic proceedings in such a case would be to submit the proposal simultaneously to both countries, but there might be an advantage in securing the adherence of one before submitting it to the other.

To Emperor Nicholas, the author of The Hague peace conference, the suggestion of arbitration which will necessarily immediately command the sympathy of the public opinion of the world will be particularly hard to reject. If he agrees, Japan, if she has not already done so, would be all the more bound to submit her claim to the decision of an impartial arbitrator. Acceptance by both sides would involve a great extension of the principle of arbitration, as nations have heretofore declined to arbitrate questions involving their "honor and dignity." Both Mr. Takahira and Mr. Witte in the earlier stages of the conference absolutely rejected the idea of arbitration, and both reiterated their disbelief in such a solution. It was noticed, however, that Mr. Witte's opinion was not expressed as strongly as it was last week.

An Offer to Japan.

Portsmouth, N. H., Special.—The chances of peace have undoubtedly been improved by President Roosevelt's action in stepping into the breach in a last heroic endeavor to induce the warring countries to compromise their "irreconcilable differences," but the result is still in suspense.

The ultimate decision of the issue has de facto if not de jure, passed from the plenipotentiaries to their principals, from Portsmouth to St. Petersburg, and perhaps in a lesser extent, to Tokio. Although there are collateral evidences that pressure both by President Roosevelt and neutral powers, including Japan's ally, Great Britain, whose minister, Claude McDonald, according to advices received here, held a long conference Sunday afternoon with Mr. Katsura, the Japanese Premier, is still being exerted at Tokio to induce Japan to moderate her demands, there is reason to believe that President Roosevelt was able at his interview with Baron de Rosen to practically communicate to the latter's senior, Mr. Witte, Japan's irreducible minimum—what she would yield, but the point beyond which she would not go.

Whether an actual basis of compromise was proposed by the President, cannot be stated definitely. The only thing that can be affirmed positively is that if Russia refuses to act upon the suggestion or proposition of President Roosevelt the peace conference will end in failure.

No clue of the nature of this recommendation has transpired. But it can be stated that Mr. Witte, no matter how he may personally view the proposition, is distinctively pessimistic as to the character of the response which will come from St. Petersburg. To a confidential friend he offered little hope of a change in the situation.

The Japanese, very firmly believed, cling to the substance if not the form of this demand for remuneration for "the cost of the war."

Perhaps they are willing to decrease the sum asked, but substantial compensation, under whatever guise it is obtained, they decline to relinquish. And they are also firm upon the cession of Sakhalin.

Jap Warships Off Siberia.

Godzyadani, Manchuria, By Cable.—A small squadron of Japanese cruisers is cruising off the shore of Kamchatka. Armed schooners and torpedo boats continue demonstrating all along the Siberian coast. General Linevitch announces to the inhabitants of the Amur region that there is no present cause for anxiety or fear, as the entire region is quiet.

Adjourned to Tuesday.

Portsmouth, N. H., Special.—The official statement of the Friday morning session of the peace conference is as follows:

"In the sitting of August 18, the conference has continued the discussion of article 11 and the discussion of the article will be resumed at 3 o'clock."

The following is the official bulletin of the afternoon session:

"Not being able to arrive at an agreement on article 11, the conference passed to the discussion of the last article, which has been settled unanimously. The next sitting will take place on Tuesday, August 22, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon."

FALLING BIRTH RATE

State of Affairs That Presents Some Interesting Phases

ONLY ALIEN AND NEGRO NORMAL

Country Now Largely Dependent Upon the Foreign-Born Woman For Its Increase of Population Except in the South, Where Progressive Decrease in Rate Since 1860 Has Been Much Less Marked.

Washington, Special.—That there has been a persistent decline of the birth rate in the United States since 1860 is the conclusion reached in a bulletin issued by the Census Bureau. The bulletin is by Prof. Walter P. Wilcox, of Cornell University, and it is explained that "although the analysis made offers many suggestions as to probable tendencies in the birth rate of the United States, it is, primarily, not a study in birth rates, but indicates a study in the proportion of children to the total population or to the number of women of child-bearing age."

"The result of the study shows that at the beginning of the nineteenth century the children under 10 years of age constituted one-third and at the end less than one-fourth of the total population. The decrease in this proportion began as early as the decade of 1810 to 1820, and continued uninterruptedly, though at varying rates, in each successive decade. Between 1850 and 1860 the proportion of children to women between 15 and 49 years, the child-bearing age, increased, but since 1860 it has constantly decreased. It is stated that the decrease has been very unequal, but that if the computation is made upon the basis of 20-year periods it has been regular. In 1860 the number of children under 5 years of age to 1,000 women 15 to 49 years of age was 634; in 1900 it was only 474. The proportion of children to potential mothers in 1900 was only three-fourths as large as in 1860. No attempt is made by the author of the bulletin to determine the probable causes of this decline. An extended argument by Gen. Francis A. Walker is given, suggesting that it is largely due to the influx of foreigners and the resultant shock to the population instinct of the natives.

In the general decrease between 1890 and 1900 not a single State of the North Atlantic division took part. In seven other States, also, there was no decrease. In only six States, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky and Indiana, did the proportion decrease in each of the five decades; and in only Delaware, District of Columbia, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Oregon and Colorado did it follow the tendency for the country as a whole, that is, increase from 1850 to 1860, and decrease in the four succeeding decades. In 1900, for the United States as a whole, the proportion of children was only two-thirds as great in cities as in the country districts. In the North Atlantic division, however, it was almost as great in the cities as in the country. In the Southern division it is hardly more than half as large in the cities as in the country; while in the West the difference is intermediate in amount. This, it is explained, is probably due, in large measure, to the fact that the immigrant population who have been swarming into the Northern cities of recent years, especially into the cities of the North Atlantic States, have been multiplying by numerous births with much rapidity, while the corresponding laboring class which has immigrated to Southern cities from the surrounding country districts has not been thus increasing."

A comparison is made between the proportion of children born of native mothers to 1,000 native women of child-bearing age and the proportion of children born of foreign-born mothers to 1,000 foreign-born women of child-bearing age. In 1900 the former proportion was 462, the latter 719, the difference indicating the greater fecundity of foreign-born women. The bulletin continues:

"The comparison also indicates that the total decrease in fecundity of white women between 1890 and 1900 was the result of a decrease for native white women, partly offset by an increase for foreign-born white women. "In the Atlantic divisions, however, there was a slight increase in the proportion of children born to native white mothers, and in the South central division there was but a slight decrease. The decrease for the whole country, therefore, was the result very largely of the great decrease in the North central and Western divisions.

Was Offered to Mr. Cleveland.

Norfolk, Va., Special.—In connection with the selection of Harry St. George Tucker for the presidency of the Jamestown Exposition, which was announced recently, it has developed that the presidency was offered to former President Cleveland several months ago and that he considered the offer for some time before finally making up his mind that it would be out of the question for him to accept. Mr. Cleveland will probably be chairman of the advisory board of one hundred distinguished Americans who will be asked to serve the exposition.

THE YELLOW FEVER

The Situation Now Shows a Slow But Steady Improvement

NUMBER OF DEATHS ON DECREASE

Sudden Change For the Worse in New Orleans Situation Weakens Hopes Based on Previous Signs of Improvement.

New Orleans, Special.—Report to 6 p. m.:
New cases, 61. Total to date, 1,446.
Deaths, 9. Total, 205.
New foci, 16. Total, 322.
Cases under treatment, 328.

Yellow fever took a bound forward Monday in New Orleans and the situation in the State is far from satisfactory.

The official figures for New Orleans Tuesday, show a material increase in new cases and in disease centers.

Nine persons died Monday of yellow fever, more than in any one day since August 14, when a record of 12 deaths was made. Health officers explain that the report is always high on Monday because of unavoidable laxity in reporting on Sunday.

Numbers of merchants called on Dr. White to ask his intercession in the amelioration of the restrictions imposed against freight by towns like Lake Charles, which desire no intercourse with New Orleans. Merchants believe that Dr. White's intervention may bring many of the smaller communities to a recognition of the harshness of receiving merchandise from infected places.

Mayor Dunne Arrested.

Chicago, Special.—Mayor Edward F. Dunne, of Chicago, was arrested Sunday afternoon in the suburb of Evanston for violation of the ordinance regulating the speed of automobiles.

The mayor, in company with John Berilston, was riding through Evanston when he was stopped by a policeman, who accused the chauffeur, Edward Skyes, of going too fast. All three occupants of the automobile were taken to the Evanston police station. The mayor remained outside the station in the automobile, while the other two went into a room before the justice.

"I don't know anything about the speed of these things," said the mayor, "but I don't think we were going very fast. However, we may have been, and I guess we will have to pay our fine like anybody else."

Sykes was unable to decide whether he should pay the fine of \$10, which was placed against him by the justice, and came out to consult the mayor about it.

"Go ahead and pay the fine," answered the mayor.

It was paid and the machine moved away after Mayor Dunne had solicited inquiry concerning the speed limit in his own city, saying that he did not desire to be arrested again.

S. A. L. Conductor Killed.

Savannah, Ga., Special.—Julius T. Landsberg, Jr., a conductor on the Seaboard Air Line Railway, was shot by William S. Sims, at Ellabelle, Bryan county, and died while being brought to this city. Landsberg had put Sims off his train Saturday. Sims escaped. Landsberg was a well-known Southern football player.

A Sugar Famine Likely.

Nashville, Tenn., Special.—The sugar famine, brought about by the quarantine against freight from New Orleans, is fast becoming a serious matter in this city. It has been years since the supply of sugar has been so short here. According to The Banner's advices the same condition of affairs exist in many of the smaller towns throughout the State.

Slayer Dies of Wound.

Baxley, Ga., Special.—A. J. Chestnut who, a few days ago, shot and killed Marshal Mike Aspinwall, and being pursued by the sheriff and a large number of citizens, was wounded, died Wednesday evening. Will Smith, a carpenter, of Waycross, engaged here at work on the school building, shot Chestnut with a rifle and since become insane and is now in the asylum.

Telegraphic Briefs.

Chairman Shonts, of the Panama Canal Commission is back from the Isthmus and states that provision for the housing and supplying of the workmen must precede the actual digging of the waterway.

Awards to the amount of about \$632,000 have been made in the case of various claims against Venezuela.

The train known as the "Fast Flying Virginian" ran from Morrisston nearly to Philadelphia with the engineer dead at the throttle.

Miss Gladys Roosevelt, a cousin of the President, was severely injured in a runaway accident at Sayville, L. I.

NORTH CAROLINA CROP BULLETIN

Conditions For Past Week as Given Out by the Department.

The North Carolina section of the climate and crop service of the department of agriculture, issues the following official bulletin for the past week:

It has been cloudy and warm during the first part of the week in the east and central portions, and generally rain in the middle of the week throughout the State. The temperature as a rule has been cool, these conditions have been favorable for outside work, but not beneficial for growing crops. In some sections the land was so wet that no outside work could be done and the crops suffered as the land could not be worked. The rains were particularly damaging in the central and western districts, considerable injuring was done by washing.

Reports of cotton shedding come from all parts of the State. Cotton rust is reported to be very bad in Johnston county. In the eastern district cotton is opening quite generally also to some extent in the central and western districts where it is still blooming. While some report very good, an average crop, many report a small or a one-half crop.

Young and late corn damaged by rain to a great extent and firing in some places. In some sections the crop is promising, but many report a small crop, it is not maturing well, and more sunshine is needed for the crop throughout the State.

Tobacco is still being cut in the central and west districts; in some places curing is progressing nicely, and a good average crop will be realized. Tobacco is firing very fast in Person county and it is being cut and cured as fast as possible. Worms are injuring tobacco in Yadkin county.

The pea crop is looking fine all over the State. Turnips are coming up, and are doing well; they are still being sown in the west. Bugs are injuring turnips and cabbages in Davidson county. The resetting of strawberry plants is in progress throughout the east and central portions, and the plants are living and looking well. Much hay and fodder has been destroyed by the wet weather in some localities. Fodder is still being cut and much of it has been saved. Peanuts are looking well; fruits almost a complete failure. Sweet and white potatoes are generally reported as a fine crop. Farmers are plowing land for wheat.

The following rains have been reported: Raleigh, 1.03; Goldsboro, 3.16; Greensboro, 0.30; Lumberton, 1.60; New Bern 0.54; Weldon 1.16.

Rev. A. C. Barron, D. D., Dead.

Charlotte, Special.—The death of Rev. A. C. Barron, D. D., pastor of the First Baptist Church of this city, which occurred on Saturday, evening at the home of his daughter, in Virginia, was a shock to the entire city.

Dr. Barron has been pastor of the church here for nine years, and during that time has endeared himself to the people of all denominations. He was a very able preacher, a splendid pastor and a high-toned Christian gentleman of the old school. He was broad-minded and charitable, never bigoted; always doing good and helping the poor and relieving the distressed and needy. His funeral, which was conducted on Monday, was largely attended by all denominations. A feeling of deep and lasting sadness has been cast over the entire city in this unexpected loss, and his place in the hearts of the people who knew him but to love and reverence him, will be difficult to fill.

North State News.

Last week a terrific storm passed over Arehdale, doing considerable damage to crops, and blowing down trees and unroofing houses. A large tree at the home of Mrs. Amo Ragan was blown down on a buggy, smashing it to smithereens. The barn of Mr. Bob English was blown down and many large trees were uprooted.

Greensboro special: Mr. James Worrell died last week at the boarding house of Mrs. Green, on Keogh street, as a result of an attack of typhoid fever. Dr. Harrison, the attending physician, seeing his condition when first called in, endeavored to find out if he had any relatives, but was unable to do so. Worrell declined to give any information about himself, but Dr. Harrison ascertained that he came here from Cumberland county, though, beyond this, nothing is thus far known. Dr. Harrison is pursuing investigations and says Worrell was worth \$2,000 or \$3,000.

2 RUNAWAY ENGINES

A Peculiar Accident in the Railway Yards At Spencer

ONE ENGINEER KILLED AT HIS POST

While Shifting in the Southern Yards in Salisbury Monday Night, Engineer Ed Bullock Was Instantly Killed, His Body Being Crushed Between the Tender of His Engine and That of a Wild Engine From the Spencer Shops.

Salisbury, N. C., Special.—Engineer Ed Bullock, in charge of the Southern's night shifting crew in the yards here, was instantly killed shortly after 10 o'clock Monday night at Henderson's crossing, between Salisbury and Spencer, his body being crushed between the tender of his engine and a wild engine, running at a speed of 65 or 70 miles an hour. Engineer Bullock was in the act of jumping to save his life when he lost it. The fireman, a white man named Freeman, jumped and escaped with only slight bruises. Two engines and three freight cars were demolished, the track considerably torn up, and traffic suspended for more than two hours.

Engineer Bullock, with his engine and three freight cars, was backing from the Salisbury depot toward Spencer at a moderate rate of speed. A wild engine was seen approaching at a high speed from the "South" yard at Spencer. Fireman Freeman jumped. When Engineer Bullock realized the danger, he also jumped, but was too late.

In less than thirty minutes after the accident, and almost before the dead engineer's body had been removed from the wreckage, a second wild engine started from the shops at Spencer, in the same direction, but was fortunately discovered by the switchman, who threw the switch and ditched it. But for this timely intervention there would, in all probability have been more loss of life.

Cuba's Great Prosperity.

Washington, Special.—In a statement furnished to the press the prosperity of Cuba, Senor Quesada, the minister from that island, declared that its prosperity was such that even the most optimistic are surprised. There was no section of the island, the minister said, which had not received a great impetus commercially and industrially, and with the continuance of "the excellent sanitary conditions, the increasing production and investments, it is to be expected that in a few years the wealth of the country will be doubled." The statement, continuing, says in part:

"The receipts for the fiscal year ended June 30th, 1905, were \$61,750,095, cents omitted, throughout, of which \$25,944,322 was from public revenues and \$35,806,773 from special accounts, of which \$31,677,366 was the product of the loan for the payment of the Cuban army. The custom receipts were \$4,848,942 more than the previous year. The exportations reached \$101,000,077, the importations \$61,337,664, leaving a trade balance in favor of Cuba of about \$40,000,000."

"During the year payments were made to the amount of \$44,510,373, of which \$17,286,400 was for the regular budget and \$28,066,688 for paying the army claims."

"The total receipts for the year were \$65,751,095, which, plus \$7,099,144, the balance from the previous year, gives a grand total of \$68,984,714. Deducting expenditures, there was a balance of \$25,340,307 in the Cuban treasury at the first of July, which, after making some allowances for outstanding credits, leaves about \$23,000,000 of surplus."

"Part of this will be devoted to public works, and part to serve as basis for the money to be applied to settle the balance due to the army."

1,000 Carpenters Strike.

Jacksonville, Fla., Special.—The fight between the union carpenters and the members of the Builders' Exchange became more serious when the Structural Builders' Trades Alliance, at a meeting held Monday morning, decided to call out all men engaged in structural work employed by members of the Builders' Exchange. Over one thousand men are affected by this order. The action came as a surprise to the members of the Builders' Exchange, who felt much encouraged Sunday at being successful in getting a number of workmen to take the places of the strikers.

Hasn't Asked England's Aid.

London, By Cable.—The press was informed at the Foreign Office that President Roosevelt has not requested the British government to make representation to Japan on the question of peace. The Foreign Office thinks it would be impertinent for the British government to request Japan to modify her demands. The government believes that these demands are moderate and that Japan should not be deprived of the fruits of the victory.