

HAIR OF GRANITE MISSES PARADE FOR ST. PATRICK

Stone From Spire Causes Panic, Breaking Wrist of Thomas F. Smith.

200 WEAR ANCIENT KILTS 6,000 in Line, Half Women, and Service Flags Tell of Irishmen at Front.

The rare bird upon earth consensus of Irish opinion gave all the credit to St. Patrick himself yesterday (and spread, of course, that the masses were to blame) when a bit of a stone weighing about 200 pounds detached itself from the north spire of the cathedral that bears his name, split on a granite ledge to ground level in two formidable pieces. Half of it, piercing the roof like paper, came to rest in the nave just under the organ of the choir loft. The other half, again divided as it fell, was strewn in small pieces over the Cathedral steps and Fifth avenue.

The stone made a mighty crash as it came tearing down, and the impact of that part of it which struck and went through the roof shook the building sufficiently to send a vibration into the stone. As the cry went up that the spire itself was toppling a rain of small pieces of granite spattered upon the roof and sidewalk.

Locally the space immediately in front of the building had been kept clear by the police and the reviewing stand had been set up at the corner of Fifth street. Those standing across the avenue could see what was wrong and kept their heads, but for a few minutes there was a panic among those who had been in the reviewing stand.

Congressman's Wrist Broken.

Cardinal Farley and Mayor Hylan, who were to review the parade, had not yet taken their places, but in the front row awaiting them were Representative Thomas F. Smith and Justice Rowling of the Supreme Court. In the momentary scramble to get to the stand the two men were pushed through the front rail to the sidewalk and Mr. Smith struck the pavement with his hand and knee. The fall broke his right wrist and after the excitement had died down he drove to Bellevue Hospital and had it set. Justice Rowling was thoroughly shaken, but suffered no serious injury. He remained until the parade had passed.

The stone ultimately was identified as a fragment of four leaved embellishment in the architecture. It came from a few feet below the apex of the spire and is supposed to have worked itself loose through having been at some time used as an anchor stone in the building. The fact that the American colors are displayed between the spire. In the high winds of recent weeks the strain on the flag halyards became so great that the spire was feared to fall.

Cardinal Farley, after the parade, expressed himself as grateful that the stone had not chosen this morning as a mass as its moment of dropping from the spire. He said that it would have caused a panic in the crowded church and undoubtedly loss of life. The spire was inspected immediately after the parade and it was found that more thorough inspection this morning. If any other stone is found to be unstable the Cathedral will be closed until all danger has been averted.

Novel Features in Parade.

The parade was a wide departure from any other St. Patrick's parade which New York can remember. In the first place it lacked the traditional blue and green, the Sixty-ninth Regiment, the bands containing as many women as men. In the third, the golden harp on the green field was replaced by the red, white and orange of United Ireland, and in the fourth, it was a British aspect in that some 200 of its men and boys marched in kilts to the top of pipes.

A word here by the Rev. Joseph Powers, rector of the Church of the Holy Heart.

The Scotch have no historical right to the kilts and pipes. The Irish lent them to the Scotch, who never gave them back. Gaelic history records the fact in the thirteenth century that the Irish have simply revived a Celtic dress and custom and will keep them.

The parade had, too, an aspect of simplicity which was almost severity, and was in fact a return to the original parade of boys of Irish blood are wearing the khaki and blue of Uncle Sam's fighting forces. The Irish Volunteers, who have paraded in full ranks of khaki in the past, were represented by a band immediately behind that of the famous Sixty-ninth, turned out in khaki yesterday. The rest are all in the service of the war, the great majority on the front line with the fighting. And it was noticeable that the thin line of the Irish Volunteers yesterday was made up of men in their late 20s and 40s.

Service Flags in Profusion.

In the absence of the young men, who were absent in every platoon of the parade. All the Irish country organizations, the Kerry Men, the Holcombs, the Clare, Fermanagh and Leominster Men, and the other Irish organizations, were made up of members who had long passed their majority and on the lapel or in the button hole of every man there was a service flag. The number of these flags was present in far less than the usual numbers, and at the same time each man had an organization seal displayed with the standard and the flag of the organization. The men who had left their actual membership to overseas.

The open baroque of gayer days was conspicuously absent as well, and the place of the long lines of them that were paraded up Fifth avenue on the parade day, there were solemn columns of men and children. They were dressed in the khaki of the war, and were for the most part unadorned. A few groups of them were dressed in national costume or in other national costumes and in addition. Most of the boys were in khaki and formation and carried rifles, as if to show that they, too, were in the service.

Continued on Tenth Page.

Vatican Has Alarm Signals for Air Raids

Rome, March 15.—The Osservatore Romano, which is the organ of the Vatican, announces that the necessary precautionary measures have been adopted by the Vatican against a possible air raid on Rome. Arrangements have been made for the direct and immediate communication to the Vatican of alarm signals.

DUTCH TO YIELD SHIPS IS REPORT

Germany Considering Counter Measures When Tonnage Is Taken To-morrow.

NEWS MORE MYSTIFYING

Whatever the Outcome Vessels in U. S. Waters Will Be Seized as Announced.

LONDON, March 16.—Germany is considering what steps she will take when the 1,000,000 tons of Dutch shipping is commandeered by the United States and Great Britain on Monday. A conference was held yesterday in the Foreign Office in Berlin at which this subject was particularly discussed. The Associated Press correspondent at Amsterdam wires to-day that he learns on excellent authority Holland has accepted the demand of the Allies relating to the use of Dutch ships in the danger zone.

Just what is meant by this is not clear. The Berlin Lokol Anzeiger states in its account of the Berlin conference that reports from Wilhelmstrasse indicate that Germany has no prospect that Holland would accept the Allies' terms. In this connection Germany's diplomatic representatives at The Hague are reported to believe that Germany's Rhine tonnage would be placed as far as possible at the disposal of the Dutch and that as much coal as could be spared for Holland would be shipped to her from Germany.

A despatch to the Copenhagen Politiken from Amsterdam states that the Dutch Government prohibited yesterday Dutch steamships from sailing for England.

The Allies' demands on Holland are hard, says the Nieuwe Rotterdammer Courant. It adds:

"Moreover, to grant some of them, as appears from the discussions with Germany, would lead to Germany refusing to renew the economic agreement with Holland. The future can only be regarded as very sombre."

WILL BE NO DELAY.

Counter Proposal by Holland Will Not Affect Use of Ships.

Special Despatch to The Sun. WASHINGTON, March 16.—There were indications to-day that Holland hopes to stave off or postpone the actual taking over of Dutch shipping by the United States and Great Britain by accepting the basic features of the proposed agreement with an understanding that negotiations be reopened. Presumably the Netherlands Government after consultation with Berlin is ready to suggest a new adjustment and believes that the order to take over the ships may be held in abeyance on that account. So far as can be learned here, however, there is no intention on the part of the American Government to defer the date from Monday in any circumstances.

The United States Government would prefer to reach an agreement with Holland whereby Dutch shipping in American ports would be turned over voluntarily. If Holland is ready to reopen negotiations with an understanding that any shipping can be used in the war zone in return for the compensations and guarantees offered by the United States officials here will do all in their power to obviate any outstanding difficulties. But meantime the shipping must be placed at the disposal of the United States on Monday.

SENATE PASSES BILL TO SAVE DAYLIGHT

Sets Clocks Back One Hour Beginning March 31.

Special Despatch to The Sun. WASHINGTON, March 16.—The Senate to-day passed without division the daylight saving bill as amended by the House so as to extend the period of daylight saving from the last Sunday of March each year to the last Sunday of October each year instead of the last Sunday of April and September as drafted originally by the Senate. The bill now goes to the President, who will sign it immediately. It will save 1,000,000 tons of coal and \$40,000,000 in lighting bills, its proponents say.

There was hardly a ripple of attention given the measure in the Senate except that Senator Calder (N. Y.), the author of the Senate measure, withdrawn in favor of the House bill, devoted a few minutes to a periphrastic on the subject of daylight saving after the bill had been passed.

TO MEET LIGHT SAVING PLAN.

Managers of Transit Lines Will Discuss Problems Wednesday.

To consider what changes in schedules, if any, should be made under the daylight saving plan the Public Service Commission has called a conference for Wednesday of all the operating managers of the street, railroad and rapid transit lines in the metropolitan district. Commissioners Hervey and Kracke will represent the commission.

Transit managers have learned that in other communities where daylight saving has been tried the public adapted itself to the changed conditions readily and that little change in transit schedules were necessary except on the day when the clocks were set back.

BAKER SEES BIG TASK FACED BY U. S. IN FRANCE

Secretary Amazed at Immensity of Work in Building New Ports.

THREE MILES OF DOCKS

Sixty Transports Can Be Unloaded at One Time Along Converted Marsh Land.

By the Associated Press.

ON BOARD SECRETARY BAKER'S SPECIAL TRAIN IN FRANCE, March 15 (delayed).—Secretary Baker's first work after his conference with the French stationmaster and American Generals at the capital has been to begin his study of what the Americans are doing and ought to do in France by a survey of a great port department.

"I am still absorbing," said he at the end of a fourteen hour day. "I must say frankly that I did not know the immensity of the enterprise which we have undertaken in opening new ports, and when I see what we have accomplished here I am satisfied."

The American War Secretary at the particular port in question was attended by Gen. Pershing, Major Gen. William M. Black, Brig. Gen. W. W. Atterbury and the officers of the engineers who have been creating a vast new equipment of docking and unloading wharves. The Secretary walked for three miles along the American army's dock front, already constructed or in process of construction, as an extension to the original wharves of the port. He placed at the disposition of the Americans by the French Government. Two miles of this new sea frontage consisted of marshes on October 1st. The ground has been filled in from dredging in deepening the waterfronts and ships are already alongside some of these new berths. On other parts of the frontage concrete warehouses are going up and a great system of switches has been laid out in the course of being laid.

Fast Progress of Dock Building.

"I like to come out here once a week," said Secretary Baker to the correspondents, "and see how different things look from what they did the week before. I almost lose my way."

"This new dockage, with two other new docks, will allow of forty large or sixty medium sized steamships to be unloaded simultaneously."

Mr. Baker's first question, upon penetrating and often technical wharves, was explaining the railway plan connecting the various ports with the bases in the interior. He asked the engineer in charge, so as to estimate the requirements in engine power and the heaviness of loads. He rather astonished the engineers by the slightest influence on the actual course of events.

No Influence on Events.

"The French Government simply declared it would do what the interests of France demanded. It is well known that these interests are being met; consequently they had not the slightest influence on the actual course of events."

"No one could seriously doubt that we had not only to fight against the Russian mobilization but also to fight France. The Russo-French alliance had sufficiently shown by the attitude of the French Government that we were at a war on two fronts; and furthermore, our enemies own publications regarding the events of July, 1914, also testify that Russia had made sure of France's assistance."

"I myself was not in the slightest doubt regarding this state of affairs when the instructions were sent to Baron von Schoen, but precisely on that account we could not disregard the possibility that perhaps France would provisionally make a declaration of neutrality which, however, could not be relied upon permanently, and that under the cover of her apparent initial neutrality she might complete her preparations in order to fall upon us at a moment when we were deeply engaged in the east."

Forewarn Desperate Position.

"I do not need to point out in what a desperate position we should have been placed in such a contingency. Only a neutrality which was securely guaranteed could afford us protection against such a contingency."

"I would also like to remind the French stationmaster that Germany proposed yet another form of guarantee for France's neutrality not in any way connected with the fulfillment of instructions. When the prospect opened, which unfortunately rested upon a misunderstanding of the war being restricted through Great Britain's action, to the railway station at Zweibrucken. The declaration of France's neutrality would offer us complete security if guaranteed by Great Britain."

"Nothing was more unequivocally demonstrated that we had no intention of assailing France's honor, let alone making an attack upon France."

BRITISH AIRMEN SUCCESSFUL IN RAID

Attack Zweibrucken—12 Enemy Planes Downed.

BAKER VIEWS TERMINAL

228 Miles of Tracks for Handling American Supplies.

By the Associated Press.

ON BOARD SECRETARY BAKER'S SPECIAL TRAIN IN FRANCE, March 14 (delayed).—The American Secretary of War spent a large part of the day in a crude observation car, which was only a flat car hastily fitted at the lunch hour with pine benches for the kind in Europe when finished—something to bring railway engineers from afar in France to see.

The tracks will be 228 miles and will provide for the unloading of 2,000 and 2,500 outgoing cars, as well as 3,000 on the interior switches.

Gen. Pershing and Brig. Gen. Atterbury explained them in abundant detail. "Nothing was more important," the Secretary was slowly drawing over the trunk and switching lines during the afternoon. A dozen or more French and American engineers were in the party, some of whom were members of the engineering staff which constructed the yards, and they added a point now and then to Gen. Pershing's explanation.

Great Warehouses Rising.

Dredges are constantly at work along the waterfront, and near by the warehouses of steel and galvanized iron are rising along the switching arteries. The development is purely for American military requirements and will provide a rather small port in France with potentialities equal to those of Hamburg, as WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W. VA. The Greenbrier, European plan. Wonderful curative waters. N. Y. Office, The Plaza—466.

Tirpitz Says U-Boats May Win Naval Base

LONDON, March 16.—"If we continue the U-boat war without finishing we can secure a peace with England, which will insure for us a base off the Flemish coast for all time," Admiral von Tirpitz is quoted as declaring in a recent telegram.

The Admiral's message, says the Exchange Telegraph correspondent at Amsterdam, was sent in reply to a telegram from the director of the new Von Tirpitz school at Swinemunde, Germany.

HOLLWEG BACKS PICHON CHARGE

Asked France to Yield Verdun and Toul as Neutrality Pledge in July, 1914.

SAW MENACE IN RUSSIA

He Feared to Trust French Declarations Unless Forts Were Given Up.

By the Associated Press.

AMSTERDAM, March 16.—In an interview published in the Nieuwe Nieuwkranten of Berlin Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg admits the truth of the statement made recently by Stephen Pichon, French Foreign Minister, respecting Germany's attitude toward France at the time of the outbreak of the war.

[M. Pichon said that on July 31, 1914, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, then German Chancellor, instructed Baron von Schoen, then German Ambassador at Paris, to demand that France, if she desired to remain neutral in the war between Russia and Germany, should hand over to Germany, as a guarantee of neutrality, the fortresses of Toul and Verdun, to be occupied until after the war.]

Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg says:

"The Russian general mobilization furnished indisputable proof that those German officials who were placed at the head of the Emperor's army in all circumstances. My instructions to Baron von Schoen on July 31, 1914, were to demand that France should have these instructions to do with Russian mobilization and the attitude of France? Russian regiments were written, when the French Government had no knowledge whatever of these instructions when replying to our question as to whether in case of war with Russia it would remain neutral."

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FRANCE SCORES HINDENBURG AS GREAT BLUFFER

Riddies Interview on West Front Plans Given by Marshal and Ludendorff.

ALLIES AWAIT SURPRISE

Berlin Conferences Said to Have Concerned Finns, Poles and Related Problems.

By the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—An official despatch to-day from France says: "Before making their last trip to Berlin Hindenburg and Ludendorff made certain statements to the newspaper correspondents attached to Great Headquarters."

"This interview probably had a double purpose—that of encouraging public opinion and of bringing pressure to bear on the adversary by the usual Germanic bluff. What is outstanding in the declarations of the couple of generals swollen with pride and childish vanity is that the German Government is more than ever before in the hands of the military caste, brutal, narrow and insolent."

"Discussing the events in the east Hindenburg declared:

"The chain which was to bind us in from henceforth broken. We can now employ all our forces in the west. It is absolutely necessary for us to procure security on our frontiers so that we shall not see repeated the lamentable events which marked the beginning of the autumn of 1914."

It is to be noted that German opinion does not realize the exact extent of the success obtained in the east because the people are looking today toward the west.

"With the insolence of a German trooper, the commander of the German army has met with defeat in every encounter with the French, said: 'France has dug her own grave. She is entirely under the thumb of England. If the French treated less harshly our poor war prisoners one would have more pity for the unhappy fate of their country.'

Forecasts a Severe Offensive.

"Ludendorff added: 'We can now pass to the offensive in the west. If this offensive is made it will be very severe. It must be taken into account that the enemy has in the disposition of the German army a fine network of railways for transporting reserves at a moment's notice. We are full of confidence and we remain persuaded that the fight in which we are engaged will end happily.'

"The Russian Republic uses the occasion of the message sent by President Wilson to extend one notable of assisting and exploited classes in the United States for the message sent by President Wilson to the congress of Soviets in this time when the Russian Socialist Republic is living through most difficult trials."

Lenine Receives Ovation.

The congress is being held in the splendid banquet hall of the Nobility Club, where former Emperors often were entertained. The only one notable of assisting and exploited classes in the United States for the message sent by President Wilson to the congress of Soviets in this time when the Russian Socialist Republic is living through most difficult trials."

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East Figured in Conference.

An official despatch to-day from Berlin quotes a Berlin despatch as declaring it is occupied by the result of conferences held between the leaders of the Polish Activists and delegates from the majority in the Reichstag. At these conferences there was planned a treaty of alliance between Poland and the Central Powers, and even the conclusion of a military convention. The new Polish State would be unready to be drawn into a war and could expand in the East.

The question of Courland also has been studied. The Courland Zeitung, the German newspaper, has reported that the majority, and in particular Deputy Erbacher, have clearly opposed the personal union of Courland with the empire. They seem also to have comprehended the difficulties of their own position. The Eastern questions which are pressing.

"One cannot isolate the question of Courland from the Polish and Lithuanian question," it says. "One must then wait before making a definite decision to find out what is happening in Moscow and Bucharest."

Finally, the reception by Hindenburg of the President of the Republic of Finland and the Finnish Minister in Berlin proves the Finnish problem has been under discussion."

FUNERAL FOR RAID VICTIMS.

Services in London Church for Men, Ford and Son, Americans.

"Sun" Fund Breaks Its Record Once More

Another Broadway restaurant has broken THE SUN Tobacco Fund benefit record.

The contribution from the Palais Royale party, Friday, was \$1,539.75, with a few checks yet to come in. Miss Mae King, Arthur York, Paul Salvin, a wonderful company of entertainers and a splendid American audience did it.

Among this week's attractions are:

Leopold Godowsky's recital, Aeolian Hall, Thursday night. Louise Morgan's pupils in art dance, Playhouse, 3 o'clock Friday afternoon. Read about them on page 1, Section 2.

WARNING! THE SUN TOBACCO FUND HAS NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER FUND, ORGANIZATION OR PUBLICATION. IT EMPLOYS NO AGENTS OR SOLICITORS.

WILSON MAY DISPATCH PEACE RUMORS AS GERMAN TRICK; IS UNCHANGED AS TO JAPAN

SOVIETS RATIFY PEACE TREATY

Many Other Delegates Join Bolsheviks in Accepting Terms of Germany.

SOME ELEMENTS REBEL

Reply to President Wilson's Message Directed Mainly to "Exploited Classes."

By the Associated Press.

MOSCOW, March 16.—The All Russian Congress of Soviets has ratified the peace agreement with Germany by a large majority. This action was clearly forecast on Thursday night when the Bolsheviks, who have 732 delegates in a total of 1,164 in the Congress, voted, 453 to 30, that the peace terms imposed by Germany should be accepted.

A Bolshevik resolution approving the acts of the Government of the Workers and Soldiers' Delegates and of the peace delegation and calling for organization of the defence of the country by the creation of a national army of both sexes was adopted after Lenin's restoration of peace among the warring factions and his statement that this action was the only way out, intimating that the Bolsheviks would not be broken under changed circumstances.

The opposition, notably the Social Revolutionaries of the Left, who had hoped to prevent the acceptance of the peace treaty, which was characterized by the Minister of Justice as being "anti-revolutionary and anti-Soviet," announced that the Social Revolutionary party repudiated the responsibility for the acceptance of the peace treaty, would resign from the government and would not be bound by the terms of the treaty, which was characterized by the Minister of Justice as being "anti-revolutionary and anti-Soviet."

Repplies to Wilson Message.

President Wilson's message of sympathy to the Russian people was received with marked applause when it was read Thursday night at the opening session of the Congress.

The resolution adopted at the opening session of the Congress reads:

The all Russian congress of Soviets expresses its appreciation to the American people and first of all the laboring and exploited classes in the United States for the message sent by President Wilson to the congress of Soviets in this time when the Russian Socialist Republic is living through most difficult trials.

Lenine Receives Ovation.

The congress is being held in the splendid banquet hall of the Nobility Club, where former Emperors often were entertained. The only one notable of assisting and exploited classes in the United States for the message sent by President Wilson to the congress of Soviets in this time when the Russian Socialist Republic is living through most difficult trials."

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TREATY IN REICHSTAG.

Hertling and Kuehlmann Will Address Deputies on Tuesday.

By the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—An official despatch received to-day from Berlin said the German Reichstag will discuss on Tuesday the treaty of peace with Russia. Chancellor von Hertling and Foreign Minister von Kuehlmann will speak for the Government.

On Wednesday the Reichstag is to vote on the new \$2,500,000,000 war loan, with adjournment fixed for Friday.

Reichstag Liberals Quit Pan-Germanists

AMSTERDAM, Thursday, March 14.—Dr. Gustav Stresemann and several other National Liberal members of the Reichstag have resigned from the Pan-German League, according to Berlin advices. The reason given is the campaign which is being carried on by the Deutsche Zeitung against the Liberals.

CAUTION URGED UPON JAPANESE

Influential Leaders Realize Need of American Support in Siberia.

By the Associated Press.

TOKYO, March 14 (delayed).—When a week ago the possibility of Japanese intervention in Siberia became known and a flood of opinion from the western press poured into Japan, there was considerable excitement in the belief that speedy mobilization of the army and navy would be ordered. Extremists published articles over Tokyo and sub-marines from Vladivostok. The hysterical "outs" in the Diet heckled the Government, and the newspapers were filled with the contrary views, according to the interests of the imagination of those responsible for the nation.

Presently, however, the tone became quieter, and it appears possible to see more clearly the true Japanese outlook, which is characterized in many quarters as "entirely sane and loyal."

To-day practically the entire responsible press of the capital is advocating intervention in Siberia in cooperation with the Allies and China, not directed against Russia, but as an ally loyal to the Russians, wishing to save the country. One of the most outspoken papers is the Kokumin Shimbun, owned and edited by Jochiro Terada, who is a close personal friend of the Premier.

American Viewpoint Understood.

Japan realizes, it is authoritatively stated, that if the United States declines its support the situation will be extremely delicate, because financial and moral support would be withdrawn from America. Any feeling of distrust or unfriendliness seems to be lacking. As a matter of fact a large section of influential men in Japan favor the American viewpoint, while only a few chauvinists jeer at Premier Terada and Foreign Minister Motono as being un-American in their attitude.

The Premier, Baron Shiba, president of the American Japanese Association, for the commercial section, and Yukio Ozaki, leader of the "Constitutional party," for the "Socialist" section, are among the many strong supporters of the Administration point out that the hour for action has not yet struck. They say that it is absolutely necessary for all of Russia and the rest of the world to understand that Japan is engaged in no chauvinistic adventure and desires nothing more than to safeguard the Far East, assist the Allies, and, if possible, save Russia from German domination, which means the mailed fist in the Far East.

Chinese Problem Serious.

The Chinese problem is one of the most serious features. It is recognized that this is China's great opportunity, and it is urged that the leaders in the north and south to settle their differences by a sound compromise, form a capable national Government at Peking and join Japan and the Allies in guarding the frontiers and helping Russia. Some indications are manifest that this effort may be successful.

Fung-Shao-Yi, who has held many posts in the cabinet, was formerly the Chinese Minister to China, has returned to Peking, and it is stated that there is reason to believe that by faithful diplomacy the obstacles to the effective cooperation between Japan and China in Siberia may be removed in time to enable both countries to share in the Far Eastern's real participation in the war. Such an outcome of the present negotiations is a most desirable result. Cooperation between Japan and China, would mean, to the minds of Japanese statesmen, an alliance of vast importance.

JAPANESE MURDERED BY RABID RUSSIANS

Some Killed in Attempts to Defend Property.

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, March 15.—Maximilians in Siberia have murdered 150 Japanese at Biagoveshchensk, capital of the Amur Province, according to a report printed in the newspaper Hoch Shambun Friday and forwarded by Reuters, Limited.

A report from the Japanese Embassy at Peking has been informed that during recent disturbances at Biagoveshchensk three Japanese were killed and several wounded while defending their property against Bolsheviks.

Biagoveshchensk is on the Amur River, 150 miles from Chita, and is situated opposite the Manchurian town of Zeya. It is 500 miles north of Harbin and has a population of 24,000. There are extensive gold mines in the district.

Labor Delegate to U. S. Named.

LONDON, March 16.—G. H. Stuart Bunnings, secretary of the Postmen's Federation, has been selected as the British labor representative to accompany the international delegation to the United States.

Report President Will Use Moscow Ratification as Basis for Utterance.

HOPE RESTS IN SWORD

Teuton Propaganda Said to Be Subterfuge to Slow Up Military Preparation.

PEOPLE BEHIND KAISER

Washington Still Opposed to Landing of Nipponese or Entente Troops in Siberia.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—Coincident with reports that President Wilson might make in the near future a declaration on the international situation, with particular reference to Russia, officials here emphatically denounced to-day the latest crop of peace reports as tending to place this Government in a humiliating position, besides assisting Germany's propaganda launched for the purpose of retarding American military preparations.

It was emphasized in State Department circles that the Government was giving no thought whatever to peace considerations now and that no time was being wasted in studying so-called peace suggestions, which numerous self-appointed agents are circulating at their own expense for reasons not clear.

The report that the Central Powers had appointed an official in Berlin, Switzerland, with a peace feeler has been investigated and turned out to be merely a proposal forwarded by a private individual, who may be in the pay of the German Foreign Office in the role of propagandist, but probably, according to officials here, is another of the thousands of "volunteers" sent to end the war by his private efforts.

"Volunteers" Are Under Pay.

According to officials here, Europe, and particularly Switzerland, is swarming with these "volunteers." Germany is making use of some of them by paying them to keep the idea of peace alive in enemy countries. The German Government is reported to be prepared to continue this profitable game of keeping peace propaganda going to weaken military preparations in enemy countries and hasten the war spirit into half speed.

According to advices which have reached the State Department the only peace which the German or Austrian people would consider is a peace based on overwhelming German victory. The military party is in the saddle more securely than ever before. The German military party is "drunk with victory" and predicting that their enemies must now sue for a peace which will be dictated by the Kaiser's sword.

The Pan-German press absolutely dominates public opinion. Even the Liberal newspapers are swinging into line with the most pronounced policy of German militarism. The Social