

JAPANESE ARE WARNED TO BE WARY OF MEDIATION THE CZAR TELLS JAPAN TERMS HE CAN'T ACCEPT

SUBWAY TRAIN IN UNDERGROUND FIRE

Explosion Far Below Street in New York Imperils Lives of Trainmen.

FIREMEN BAFFLED IN ATTEMPTS AT RESCUE

Dynamite Cartridges Exploded by the Impact of a Collision.

New York, March 29.—There was a heavy explosion in the subway tunnel at One Hundred and Sixty-eighth street and Broadway today, where the tunnel is 120 feet below the surface of the streets.

The explosion took place at a point beyond that to which the trains are run at present and near the American League baseball park.

An uptown subway train, which had been emptied of passengers at One and Hundred and Fifty-seventh street, was run to One Hundred and Sixty-eighth street to be switched across to the downtown tracks, got beyond the control of the motorman and ran into a pile of construction material in the One Hundred and Sixty-eighth street station.

The cars jumped the tracks and caught fire. It was reported that some loose powder which was used in digging the tunnel was ignited and exploded.

For some time it was not known whether or not the train crew had escaped. An attempt was made to operate an elevator running thru a shaft from the tunnel to the street, but it could not be moved.

Some of the employees in the tunnel ran thru the shaft to One Hundred and Eighty-first street station and reached the surface at that point.

The firemen passed the hose down into the tunnel and fought the blaze of the burning cars.

It was reported that the conductor and guards of the train, and twenty-five laborers employed in the tunnel, had escaped by the shaft at One Hundred and Eighty-first street station.

The firemen made desperate efforts to get out the burning cars, but the tunnel was filled with smoke and the firemen were driven back each time they attempted to reach the scene.

The only way they had to reach the fire was to lower hose thru the shaft and pour water indiscriminately into the tunnel below in the hope of flooding the fire.

It was ascertained that the train had run against a heavy bulkhead of plate iron which had been built across the tunnel and that the wood was set on fire after the collision. There were two explosions and both were later said to have been of dynamite cartridges used in blasting. One occurred soon after the collision, the other much later.

WU TING FANG IS IN PERIL AT HOME

Former Chinese Envoy May Be Compelled by Law to Commit Suicide for Reforms.

New York Sun Special Service. Washington, March 29.—Wu Ting Fang, the former Chinese ambassador, whose humor won popularity for him in America, has fallen upon a hard day in his native land.

He has been charged with having deceived the emperor dowager as to the real condition of the Hankow-Canton railroad, whose affairs he administered, and even with having enriched himself out of the revenues of the road.

His accuser is Huang Chang Nien, a censor whose duties are to keep a sharp watch on all officials, and information reached Washington today that Huang Chang Nien has filed a long memorial with the emperor dowager which has been referred to Wu for an answer.

Should the charges be sustained, he may be disgraced or receive an order to swallow gold leaf, and that would mean death.

From what is known of the affair here, it is believed the charges against Wu are the direct result of his efforts to introduce western progress into the empire. The censor, for the most part, are trying to hold China back, and they resent activity by reformers.

BOYS IN WHOLESALE ROBBERY FOR CANDY

Chicago, March 29.—Ten boys of Harvey, a suburban town, have confessed to the robbery of eighteen stores, three churches, two schoolhouses and a railway station. The plunder consisted of candy, gum and pennies, and it was too few a distribution of the candy to a school that at last enabled the police to capture the band, who had led them a merry chase for months.

"We started it just for fun," sobbed one of the culprits, "but when we got in we could not stop. We just had to go right on stealing because there was always some boy" that did not have what he wanted.

The boys, whose ages range from 12 to 15 years, are all of respectable families. Their hearty repentance, added to the pleadings of their parents, induced Judge Mack to release the prisoners on probation.

FORTY SKELETONS FOUND IN A CAVE

Victoria, B. C., March 29.—News was received by the steamer Queen City from Vancouver island coast of the discovery by prospectors of a cave on the seashore between Quatsino sound and San Joseph bay, at the north end of Vancouver island, in which forty skeletons were found.

PARTY ISSUE IS RAISED IN SENATE

Republican Caucus Agrees to Pass Horton Bill Over Veto of Governor.

Before I introduced my new capitol bill I submitted it to Governor John A. Johnson. He reviewed the measure and gave his approval of it. I then introduced it. In view of this fact I consider Governor Johnson's action in vetoing the measure very inconsistent.

Senator Hiller H. Horton.

Senator Horton came to my office and showed me the bill he afterward introduced in the senate. He told me he would introduce the bill, but I was not ready to say I was in support of it until I saw a conference between the auditor, governor, author of the bill, chairman of finance in the senate and chairman of appropriations in the house.

He told me he would introduce the bill, but have the proposed conference before any action was taken. That conference was never held, so far as I know. I never told Senator Horton, or any one else, the capitol commission were the proper custodians. The bill as I received it from the legislature was not the original Horton bill, but simply the bill that the capitol commission be in charge of the new capitol during my term.

The views I expressed in my veto message were not inconsistent with what I have said to Senator Horton, or to any one else.

Governor John A. Johnson.

Forty-six republican state senators out of fifty-two met in caucus in the senate chamber this afternoon on the Horton capitol bill. After deliberating nearly an hour, they decided to pass the bill over the veto of Governor Johnson.

Senator Johnson of St. Peter asked to be excused from voting and Senator Nasset did not vote. The rest agreed to the proposition; but not until after some plain talk. Senator Jepson said he considered the question a small one to make a party matter. He also took occasion to say that he disapproved of the way the bill was put thru the senate in the first place.

The caucus call was signed by one senator from each congressional district, and the meeting was held after the noon adjournment. It was strictly executive, Senator Brower presiding.

Forty-two votes are needed to pass the bill over the veto. The caucus ascertains this vote.

It is understood that a similar caucus of republican house members will be attempted.

It was proposed to take up the primary election bills in the senate caucus, but this was opposed as not a proper subject for caucus action.

BILLBOARDS AT CAPITAL CLOTHED

White Paper Protects the Nether Limbs and Shapely Shoulders of Ballet and Corset Ads.

Washington, March 29.—For a long time Washington has been the greatest pride among American cities, and this prudence has been best illustrated in its official attitude toward theatrical billboards. Several low-toned vaudeville theaters here, and every bit of paper which they put up for billboard purposes is inspected by the city authorities with a careful eye.

Ballet dancers, with abbreviated skirts, for instance, are tabooed, and when the kind posters suggest anything of this kind, directions are given that all that part of the female figure below the waist line is to be covered over with large sheets of white paper.

Recently, this prudery took the form of bidding the posting of an advertisement calling attention to a well-known make of American corset. The figure was that of a female, rear view. She was completely clothed, except for the outside dress. Her long skirts swept the ground with a train, and folks began to wonder why the district commissioners had forbidden the figure to be seen.

The figure was not nudged, neither limbs, nor was there anything about the figure that was unlike corset advertisements as one is accustomed to seeing in the city newspapers and magazines and in the department stores.

Finally, some knowing person called attention to the fact that the retreating lady's dress presented a somewhat small portion of her shoulders and the middle of her back, and the lower half of her arms, and presumably it is on that account that she was placed on the unfair list. The figure, by the way, possessed a good deal of artistic merit. It was drawn by a French poster artist of well-known ability.

Richmond, Va., is three hours distant from Washington by rail, and it appears the city fathers there have decided to do as the Washington city fathers do and get one better. They ordered the drygoods and notion stores of Richmond to discontinue the exhibition in the show windows of ladies' dresses, which were not nudged, nor were they nudged.

The storekeepers set up a howl, but ultimately they were compelled to do as the city fathers wanted. The police on them. Following this start, the Richmond officials ordered that a well-known advertisement of a certain brand of Virginia cigars be removed from the public gaze. This advertisement showed a comely shaped young woman hanging by her knees from a tree.

So, while Washington has for a long time been the chief prude among American cities, there is danger that she is to lose this distinction in favor of the capital of the old confederacy.

COLONEL JACOB L. GREENE DEAD. Hartford, Conn., March 29.—Colonel Jacob L. Greene, president of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance company, died today of apoplexy at his residence here. He was born in 1837. During the civil war he served with the Seventh Michigan regiment.



HE'LL HAVE TO HURRY. M. Delasse will have to get busy very soon or he'll have to officiate as undertaker instead of peacemaker.

FORESEES FAILURE OF WHEAT FIELDS

Secretary Wilson Declares Northwest Farmers Must Reform or Lose Heavily.

Washington, March 29.—"Our great wheat fields along the northern border are refusing to grow wheat," said James Wilson, secretary of agriculture, today, "and unless the American farmers change their methods of growing this product, there will be a large increase in the price of breadstuffs. The evil day cannot long be postponed, notwithstanding the farmers of the northwest have been urged to identify themselves by permitting the lands to lie fallow for one year and growing a crop of wheat every other year."

"At present the average production of wheat to the acre is eight bushels, while in Europe the farmers grow thirty. Last year the American wheat crop was sickly, and this indicates that the land refuses to grow wheat any longer on a profitable basis. In order to save the wheat fields of the United States, we have sent experts to the northern part of Norway and Sweden to find legumes which will grow in cold climates."

"If the wheat farmers of the great northwest expect to grow wheat at a profit, they must rotate their crops. At present we have no leguminous plants which will grow in the northwest that can be rotated with wheat. With a continued decrease in the yield in the northwest, the farmers of Iowa, Illinois, Kansas and Nebraska will begin to feel the pinch, and they will not do so until they can get at least \$1 a bushel for it."

LAND OFFICE TO BE INVESTIGATED

Hitchcock Will See About Theft of Papers and Ask About Favoritism.

Washington, March 29.—Secretary Hitchcock is going to do a little mild shaking up of dry bones in the general land office. He will have an investigation on a small scale. It does not promise to go far or develop much interest.

Mr. Hitchcock's inquiry will be to determine if any papers and records have been stolen or destroyed. The allegation has been made that Representative Hermann of Oregon, while serving as commissioner of the general land office, destroyed a number of documents belonging to the government. It is proposed to compare the records with conditions indicated by recent examinations made by special agents in a number of western states.

Another feature of the investigation will be as to favoritism in making promotions among the land office clerks. It is asserted that young men have been pushed ahead to the detriment of the older in the service and more deserving of promotion. A report has been called for by Mr. Hitchcock showing the efficiency of each employee in the land office. These figures will be compared with the work of those promoted.

Winnipeg, Man., March 29.—Prince Bros. large general store at Battleford burned yesterday. The loss is about \$20,000, partly insured.

MRS. MAYBRICK CLEVER WITNESS

Displays Marked Capability for Avoiding Direct Answers in Land Suit.

Washington, March 29.—The testimony of Mrs. Florence Maybrick in the case of her mother, Baroness von Roques, against David W. Armstrong and others, involving valuable tracts of land in Virginia, West Virginia and Kentucky, was finished today.

Mrs. Maybrick displayed marked capability for avoiding direct answers. She declared, as to signing certain papers brought to her in prison by Congressman Potter, that she was so imperfectly informed as to the communications that passed between Mr. Maybrick and her mother that she signed without clear knowledge.

The defendant produced letters purporting to have been written by her mother, Mr. Potter and others, before and during her imprisonment, but she declared her inability to identify handwriting of sixteen years ago.

"The impression of my mother's handwriting prior to my release," she said, "is too dim for me to identify definitely any letter."

She would not state even to the best of her knowledge and belief that the letter was by her mother, saying that a statement of that kind would be too definite.

Council for the plaintiff objected to a question whether Mrs. Maybrick had received a pardon from the British government, but she nevertheless cautiously replied that she had papers in her possession given her by the British government. Asked if she was willing to produce them, Mrs. Maybrick responded that they were not permitted to be produced except at the request of the American government.

Mrs. Maybrick detailed the circumstances under which she acquired an interest in the property in dispute, saying that at her marriage her mother secured to her one-third of her property in Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia, and later assigned the same in writing. The deed and assignment, said Mrs. Maybrick, had been confirmed repeatedly by her mother up to the present day, by word of mouth.

"That," she said, "is the agreement that now exists between us," and she smilingly left the stand.

DECOY COUPLE FOOLS FATHER OF ELOPING GIRL

Norfolk, Neb., March 29.—A clever ruse in the preferred stock of the Missouri river, while the really eloping ones were retreating and being secured to her one-third of her property in Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia, and later assigned the same in writing. The deed and assignment, said Mrs. Maybrick, had been confirmed repeatedly by her mother up to the present day, by word of mouth.

Richardson, after pursuing the wrong couple across the river, returned almost frantically.

FLURRY IN COAL STOCK. Pittsburgh, March 29.—There was another flurry in the preferred stock of the Pittsburgh Coal company today. Prices broke from 62 1/2 at the opening to 64, but with good buying, the market quickly rallied. At 1 o'clock 68 1/2 was bid, but without hitting him.

MURDERS WOMAN IN GOLD BLOOD

Mob Chases and Surrounds Grand Rapids, Wis., Slayer in the Woods.

Grand Rapids, Wis., March 29.—An inquest over the dead body of Ida Finkelstein, conducted by Justice Burton L. Brown yesterday afternoon, brought out facts which make her murder by Abraham Kapszyk, one of the cruellest in the criminal annals of Wood county. The jury after listening to the evidence, returned a verdict that the woman came to her death by a bullet fired from a gun in the hands of Abraham Kapszyk.

The principal witness was George Finkelstein, a son of the murdered woman, who was an eye witness to the whole affair. He said that the murderer went to his room and unlocked his trunk and took from the bottom an article which he placed in his pocket, and then took another article, which rattled as it was a box of cartridges, and placed that in his pocket and then went to the rear of the house and seated himself on a box. When Mrs. Finkelstein came out of the house with a pail in her hands to milk the cows, he struck her down with his left arm and then drew his revolver and began firing at her.

The first three bullets went astray, but the fourth one entered her body just above the ear severing the arteries, causing immediate death. The boy picked up a club, but the murderer turned about and pointed his gun at him, compelling him to drop his club. About this time the husband of the murdered woman came out and he was pointed at him with a threat that he would be killed if he dared approach. Then Kapszyk ran to the woods with a mob after him.

The case has been adjourned until April 7. Many ugly threats are heard against the criminal, but Sheriff Little and his assistants are using every precaution to avoid violence. Kapszyk paces his cell like a wild animal.

PEASANTS STARVE IN SOUTH SPAIN

Madrid, March 29.—Thousands of persons are reported to be starving in Andalusia. A mob of hungry peasants tried to storm the army granaries at Lebrija, twenty-nine miles southwest of Seville. Failing to capture these storehouses the peasants set them on fire.

Hundreds of cattle are dying for lack of pasture. Two thousand inhabitants of a village near Seville have gone to the roadsides to beg. This is also the frequent resource in other places in the famine-stricken districts.

A socialist demonstration at the funeral of a workman who was accidentally killed led to serious disorders yesterday, in the course of which a lieutenant and several members of the municipal guard were wounded. Colonel Elias, chief of police, had a narrow escape from being killed by a man who fired two shots point blank at him, but without hitting him.

OIL-SOAKED GIFT TO BE RETAINED

Rockefeller's Hundred Thousand, Already Half-Expended, Will Not Be Spurned.

Boston, March 29.—The gift of \$100,000 from John D. Rockefeller to the American board of foreign missions of the congregational church will be retained. In fact, nearly one-half the money has already been used.

The retention of the money was made certain when the prudential committee voted to accept the report of a subcommittee to which had been referred the United Protests of twenty-seven Congregational clergymen of Boston and vicinity to the acceptance of the gift.

The subcommittee, composed of President Samuel B. Capen of the American board, Rev. John H. Dennison, and Professor Edward C. Moore of Harvard, reported unanimously that the protest be dismissed. The acceptance of this report by the prudential committee was nearly unanimous.

The American board of commissioners for foreign missions announced today that its prudential committee had accepted a report of the subcommittee, recommending the acceptance of the Rockefeller gift, but that final action had been postponed for two weeks.

The report of the subcommittee, in the language of a statement issued by the board today, "was received and accepted with appreciation by the prudential committee and the executive officers," and was to the effect that the committee could not accede to the protest of those who objected to the acceptance of the gift.

The report also stated that the gift was offered by Mr. Rockefeller and was unanimously accepted by the prudential committee of the board of trustees of the church in the past "in receiving upon its altars the gifts of all who were moved to lay them thereon."

No Character Study. The report holds that the acceptance involves no expression of opinion on the part of the committee as to the character of the givers and to intercept a gift made to others in order to express an opinion seems unwarrantable.

The reason for deterring final action is given as follows: "Inasmuch as the protestants have requested delay, the committee will hold final action in abeyance for two weeks."

Summing up the arguments of the different protestants, the report says they practically declare that the donor of the gift is believed to be identified in a conspicuous way with a great evil in this country, and that therefore the board should refuse the gift in a conspicuous way, thus striking a blow at the evil.

"We feel," says the report on this point, "that the protestants have other means of expressing their views, and that the blow should not be struck at the expense of the people in the non-Christian world."

FEDERAL JURY TO PROBE OIL TRUST

Investigation in Kansas' Capital Within Two Weeks—After Railroads, Too.

Kansas City, March 29.—The Standard Oil company is to undergo a grand jury investigation by the federal government. The inquiry is to be held in Topeka, according to a government official. Every phase of the situation, military, naval, financial, transportation, Siberian and diplomatic, is being covered.

The commission's report, which is expected to be completed in ten days, will be prepared by Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaievitch and General Grodekoff and Kamaroff for submission to the emperor.

Russia has, however, outlined the conditions under which she is prepared to negotiate. It is a settlement with very semblance of authority that, thanks to the good offices of the United States and France, the question of peace has assumed practical shape.

MICHIGAN AFTER THE SALT TRUST

State Senate Will Look Into the Combine's Method—Junket Provided For.

Lansing, Mich., March 29.—The senate has adopted a resolution to investigate the transactions of the salt trust. For this purpose a committee will be sent to Chicago in a few days to procure evidence. It has recently discovered that salt was being shipped in bulk from Manistee to Chicago, barreled after leaving the state and labeled "Saginaw salt," which sells at a higher price on the market than salt from western Michigan. This salt baron in Chicago is being investigated by the Michigan inspector, whose investigations have resulted in legislative action. Senators Peck, Baird and Kane were appointed a committee to conduct the investigation.

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BOYS FLED DIET OF BREAKFAST FOODS

Omaha, Neb., March 29.—Harry Williams and Harold Delph, who two weeks ago left their aunt's home at Battle Creek, Mich., because they objected to cereal foods, are confined in the city jail here.

RUSSIA REFUSES TO PAY INDEMNITY

Also Says There Must Be No Demand for Cession of Territory.

St. Petersburg, March 29.—The Associated Press is in a position to announce that Russia has refused a Russian peace actually has been taken. Russia has indirectly made known to Japan the negative conditions upon which peace may be concluded, including a cession of territory and no indemnity, leaving Japan to determine whether negotiations can be begun upon that basis.

No reply from Japan has yet reached the Russian government.

Channel of Communication Hidden. The above represents practically all the facts obtained. Thru what channel or channels Russia has indirectly communicated with Japan the Associated Press is not in a position to state definitely, but the reason is believed that it is thru the United States.

It is practically certain that France and possibly Great Britain, as the two allies of the belligerents, and the United States as the country acting for Japan, have been apprised of Russia's position as to conditions to which she could not agree.

Russia Avoids Suing for Peace. Russia thus avoids the attitude of suing for peace or actually submitting proposals, and, besides, places the United States and Great Britain and the powers neutral in the position of being able to offer Japan advice as to the reasonableness of the proposed basis.

Having been apprised of Russia's position, Japan is believed to be either to decline absolutely to open negotiations on such a basis, or indicate her own attitude.

If the negotiations are opened Russia probably will be prepared to make broad concessions on collateral issues as stated by the Associated Press.

St. Petersburg, March 29.—Russia's attitude was described today by a prominent diplomat as follows: "The government is now for peace, but continues to prepare for war."

The whole situation in reference to the prosecution of the war is being carefully considered from every viewpoint by a commission sitting under the president's name. The commission, consisting of Minister of War Sakaroff, Vice Admiral Avellan, head of the Russian admiralty department; Minister of Finance Kokovoff, Minister of Railroads Hilko, Foreign Minister Lamsdorff, General Grodekoff and Kamaroff and several other members of the situation, military, naval, financial, transportation, Siberian and diplomatic, is being covered.

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PARIS IS OPTIMISTIC

But Reports that Japan May Force Harsh Terms on Russia.

Paris, March 29.—The official view relative to peace is now strongly optimistic. Peace is regarded as not far distant. This view is not due to exact information, but to a settled conviction that peace is the only logical outcome of Russia's present predicament. However, the foreign office refuses to credit the various reports that France is about to accept or reject it.

Therefore it is maintained the peace situation has shifted from St. Petersburg to Tokio, which now holds the key to the peace question.

Japan May Be Severe. Alto official information is lacking, it is asserted in well-informed quarters that Japan has permitted Russia to learn that the peace conditions will be severely rigorous and will not be responsive to the recent sentimental plea to Japan's magnanimity. In particular it is said that Japan's indemnity figure is \$80,000,000, and that this stupendous sum has proved so staggering to Russian diplomacy that it is the chief cause why the peace negotiations are not proceeding.

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