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NO BATTLE YET BEGUN

Kuropatkin Reports Important Reconnaissances.

FIGHTING WAS HEAVY

INCREASE IN JAPANESE FORCES DISCLOSED.

Emperor Nicholas Decides to Form a Second Manchurian Army, With Linevitch in Command.

News from the seat of war today contains nothing to show that the Japanese have yet begun to move in force. There is no truth in the report emanating from the London Express that a battle is in progress at Mukden, but General Kuropatkin reports that Generals Rennenkampff and Samsonoff are conducting important reconnaissances which have resulted in heavy fighting. The reconnaissances also showed an increase in the Japanese forces. Emperor Nicholas has decided to form a second Manchurian army, to be composed of the corps now being sent to the far east. Kuropatkin, according to St. Petersburg advices, will become chief of both armies, but without the title of commander-in-chief, and General Linevitch probably will command the second army.

Kuropatkin Reports Fighting.

ST. PETERSBURG, September 19.—The latest dispatches received by the war office here leave the situation at the front practically unchanged. There is no truth in the report cabled to the Express of London, from Tokyo, that a battle is progressing at Mukden. There is nothing yet to show that Field Marshal Oyama has begun to move in force.

A dispatch from General Kuropatkin announces that Generals Rennenkapff and Samsonoff are conducting important reconnoissance, which have resulted in rather heavy fighting with many casualties.

From General Kuropatkin's telegram, which was dispatched at 6 o'clock yesterday evening, it appears that General Rennenkampff had recovered from his wound and had resumed command of his troops. The reconnoissances disclosed a further increase in the Japanese forces at Yental and Bentsiaputze. The Russians have occupied several villages nearer the Japanese lines.

General Kuropatkin yesterday reviewed the thirty-seventh division of the first army corps.

Japanese Movements Screened.

BERLIN, September 19.—A dispatch to the Lokal Anzieger from Mukden says:

"The Japanese dispositions are completely screened behind a line of outposts, and it is almost impossible to obtain information from behind this veil. The Russians cannot tell which of the four routes the Japanese advance will follow. Three Japanese companies are patrolling the Hun river in junks. It is reported that Liaoyang is occupied by only one company, and the heights northward of it by 2,000 men, the air in the vicinity of Liaoyang being poisoned by exhalation from thousands of unburied bodies. Field Marshal Oyama's headquarters is a short distance north of Liaoyang."

Japanese Driven Back.

LONDON, September 19.—A dispatch to a news agency from St. Petersburg today says the reconnoissances were toward the Japanese front and right flank, resulting in the Japanese being driven back. The Russian losses, according to this version, are said to be slight, and it is not clear whether the "many" casualties, referred to by General Kuropatkin, were inflicted or received.

THE RUSSIAN COMMANDERS.

Details of the Reorganization Decided Upon.

ST. PETERSBURG, September 19.—Acting upon the advice of his military advisers, Emperor Nicholas has decided to form a second Manchurian army. It will be formed of the corps which are being sent to the far east, and Lieut. Gen. Linevitch probably will be given the command of the second army. Gen. Kuropatkin will become chief of both armies, but probably without the title of commander-in-chief.

It is this impending reorganization which seems to have led to the countless rumors and reports afloat here of Kuropatkin's supersession of Viceroy Alexieff as commander-in-chief of the army, the latter's resignation, etc., but the Associated Press' investigations indicate that the above is the real situation. The Associated Press is informed that Alexieff will continue to be viceroy, and that as such he could not be subordinated in title to the commanding general, which would happen if Kuropatkin was given the title of commander-in-chief. Nevertheless, the Associated Press is informed, Kuropatkin will virtually be in complete, untrammeled command.

As has been heretofore stated on high authority, the stories of Alexieff's interference with Kuropatkin are entirely without foundation. On the contrary, Alexieff has always shown the utmost appreciation of the peculiar delicacy of his position as Kuropatkin's superior, studiously avoiding even the semblance of interference with the operations of the Manchurian army.

The Associated Press is authorized again to deny absolutely the story that Rear Admiral Prince Ouktomsky has been court-martialed. It is positively stated that he has never been under arrest at Port Arthur and that there has never been a question of his trial by court-martial. He has simply been superseded by Rear Admiral Wiren in the temporary command of the Port Arthur squadron, which Ouktomsky took over when the late Rear Admiral Withoft fell. This does not necessarily mean that the admiralty is satisfied with Rear Admiral Ouktomsky. On the contrary, his shortcomings are recognized, leading to the decision to place Rear Admiral Wiren in command.

Another Russian Warship.

LONDON, September 19.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg to a news agency here says the Russian cruiser Izumrud, sister ship to the famous Novik, has completed successfully her trials at Cronstadt, making twenty-four knots an hour. The Izumrud, according to this dispatch, will join the second Pacific squadron at Reval as soon as she is ready for sea.

Russian Hospital Ship at Barcelona.

BARCELONA, September 19.—The Russian hospital ship Orel has arrived here on her way to the far east.

No News Today From Port Arthur.

CHEFOO, September 19 (evening).—No important news has been received from Port Arthur today.

BURIAL OF BISMARCK.

Remains Will Repose Beneath His Father's Mausoleum.

BERLIN, September 19.—The body of Prince Herbert Bismarck, who died at Friedrichsruhe yesterday morning, will be buried in a vault beneath his father's mausoleum, not beside the remains of the great chancellor in the chapel.

Among the kind appreciations of the newspapers is a statement in some of them that Count von Buelow, since he assumed his chancellorship, asked the late Prince Herbert to become foreign secretary, but that the prince would not accept the portfolio.

SENSATION AT YORK, PA.

Man and Woman Found Dead in Latter's Apartments.

YORK, Pa., September 19.—Michael Schall, head of the Keystone Foundry Machine Company of this city, and Miss Nettie Gotwalt, also of York, were found dead in a room of a house on South Water street today. Three gas jets in the room were turned on and the apartment was full of gas.

Miss Gotwalt resided in the apartments where the tragedy occurred. Schall and the women spent Sunday at Pen-Mar. They returned about 9 o'clock last night and went to Miss Gotwalt's room. Both wrote notes, in which they complained of the cruel world, sat down, without removing their clothing, and turned on the gas.

Schall was a single man and had been drinking to excess lately. Both had been suffering from nervous affections, and to this is attributed the tragedy. Both were well connected socially.

OLYMPIAN GOLF GAME.

Field of Eighty Starters at St. Louis Today.

ST. LOUIS, September 19.—With a field of eighty starters the thirty-six-hole qualifying round of the Olympian international golf championship was begun today on the Glen Echo course, fifteen miles west of St. Louis.

Rain deluges yesterday and last night made the links heavy and soggy in places.

By night the thirty-two which succeed in qualifying will be known, and the drawing for pairs in the first round of match playing tomorrow will be made.

The Chicago contingent of eighteen players includes National and Western Champion H. C. Egan.

Champion Egan declared upon starting his thirty-six-hole grind today that he had lost twenty pounds since the Baltusrol tourney, and would be pleased if he got well in the district of thirty-two qualifiers.

Raymond Havemyer of Deal, N. Y., had the honor of opening the Olympic championship, and his drive was one of the best of the morning. Pairs were dispatched at intervals of five minutes. At 11:30 o'clock the last pair had been started.

BIG WITNESSES ABSENT.

Action Against John Mitchell Called at Binghamton Today.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., September 19.—The action brought by Lawyer A. D. Wales of this city against John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, to recover $200,000 for services in bringing about the settlement of the great anthracite coal strike, came up before Justice Lyon at a special term of the supreme court today.

Assemblyman James T. Rogers appeared for Senator Platt and Gov. Odell, who have been subpoenaed as witnesses, and requested that their testimony be taken somewhere besides in Binghamton. He presented a physician's certificate, certifying to Senator Platt's illness and inability to attend the trial.

Mr. Wales said he had no objection to Senator Platt not being present, but said he wanted Gov. Odell and declared that he believed the witness should be recalled.

J. Pierpont Morgan sent a letter saying he could be present in Binghamton only on next Monday, while G. F. Baer, president of the Reading company, could not be present until the week following. Mr. Wales said he thought the witness should be called to protect him, and when asked by Justice Lyon if he wished a motion to have the men declared in contempt he replied:

"We shall see about that later."

Several of the talesmen were excused and Justice Lyon then adjourned court until this afternoon.

McCUE INDICTED.

Grand Jury at Charlottesville Today Returns an Indictment.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., Sept. 19.—The grand jury of the Charlottesville corporation court today returned a true indictment against Ex-Mayor J. Samuel McCue of this city for the murder of his wife, Fannie M. McCue, on September 4 last. It is believed that the case will be continued until the October term of court—the third Monday. There is small reason to suspect a change of venue. A change of venire is certain. A panal of sixteen men probably will be drawn from some other city or county and this may operate to delay immediate trial.

HIGHWAY BRIDGE APPROACHES.

Purchase May Be Made From the Appropriation.

The controller of the treasury has had before him the question whether any of the laws for the construction of the highway bridge across the Potomac authorized the expenditure of any of the appropriation for the purchase of approaches to the bridge. The question was submitted to the controller by the chief of engineers of the army. The various provisions of the law as to the bridge were not precisely clear in authorizing the purchase of approaches. The controller goes into the subject in detail, explaining the care that is taken by accounting officers to prevent the use of money not specifically appropriated, and quotes numerous decisions by Attorneys General and former legal officials of the government. He closes, however, with the statement that in his opinion the appropriation carried in the act of April 27, 1904, may be used for buying lands for the approaches of the highway bridge.

Personal Mention.

Dr. B. L. Hardin has returned to the city.

President Donnelly of the board of fire commissioners of Atlantic City and Mr. Hugh Genoa, member of that board, were the guests yesterday of Fire Marshal Sidney Bieber, who escorted the visitors about the national capital and to the various engine houses throughout the city.

Mr. William E. Williams, assistant clerk of the District Supreme Court, has returned to the city hall from a visit of one month to Asbury Park, N. J.

Mr. George T. Parker, who has been at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, in attendance on the national convention of the American Bankers' Association, has returned to the city.

To Represent the Army.

Majs. Jefferson R. Kean and Ogden Rafferty of the medical department have been detailed to represent the medical department of the army at the thirteenth annual meeting of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, to be held at St. Louis October 10-15.

DIVIDED ON ISSUES

Democratic Campaign Book Makes Tariff Paramount.

THE PARKER LETTER

SOME LEADERS FAVOR PERSONAL CRITICISM OF THE PRESIDENT.

Developments Expected as Political Spellbinders Talk to the Voters.

So far as advance proof sheets of the democratic campaign book have been made public their contents point to the tariff as the chief issue on which the democrats will depend during the next six weeks of the political struggle that is to be brought to a close in November.

Judge Parker's personal letter to the editor of the campaign book asking that he be sure that there is nothing in that publication reflecting on the character or integrity of President Roosevelt has been interpreted as meaning that so far as the democratic candidate is concerned there will be an effort to keep out all personal abuse from the campaign.

Judge Parker's Letter.

This letter of Judge Parker has been heralded as an evidence of magnanimous character on the part of the democratic candidate, but it has come very far from pleasing republicans. They declare that if Judge Parker or any one else wishes to inject any allegations relating to the honor or integrity of President Roosevelt they would be pleased to have him do so. The very fact of writing such a letter seems to indicate that the democrats might have made political capital out of some revelations respecting the personal integrity of the republican candidate, and that is what republicans resent.

It is stated that from the beginning of the campaign the republican managers have carefully avoided introducing what they regard as personal abuse of the democratic candidate, and that their comments on him have been confined to his political career and to his attitude on political questions of the day so far as they are known. Republicans are inclined to take the view that if the democratic managers have anything "up their sleeves" in relation to the integrity of the President they would like to have them bring it out.

Quoting Roosevelt's Books.

While the personal letter of Judge Parker and the advance sheets of the democratic campaign book indicate that the campaign is to be fought on national policies and on non-personal lines, democrats who are taking a leading part in the campaign still insist that by attacking the President personally they can do more to strengthen Judge Parker than by any other method. In order to carry out their policy of personal criticism of the President they are to make a very extended attack on his views of public men of past generations, as given in his historical works, written men years ago.

This line of attack on President Roosevelt will be gone into very extensively in the near future in documents to be issued in New York by the national committee. These documents will contain extensive quotations from the works of Mr. Roosevelt, and it is declared that the harshness of criticism he makes will have an influence on the voters of the country who have opinions different from those expressed by the President on public men of the past.

Two Lines of Campaign Work.

In view of the course that is being taken, a good many republicans are inclined to think that the issues to be urged by democratic leaders are to be different in different places—that those of the campaign book are to be in a sense official, while others will be urged in documents issued by the committee to be put forward without dragging them into the official text book. In other words, officially the tariff and great national questions are to be made prominent with the personal letter of Judge Parker, asking that personalities be kept out of the campaign, while at the same time the committee will issue documents dealing almost entirely in personal abuse of the President.

Some of the documents that are being circulated by the congressional committee are entirely personal and violently abusive of President Roosevelt, such as the speeches delivered in the House of Representatives by Kitchen of North Carolina, Patterson of Tennessee and Fitzgerald of New York. The fact is the democratic leaders are now and have been since the campaign opened divided as to whether it should be fought on political principles or on personal grounds.

Issues of Greatest Importance.

Many democrats have thought the most capital could be made by working on the sentiment of disapproval of President Roosevelt that has been shown in some quarters of Wall street, and they have advocated that he might be constantly set before the voters as an unsafe man who might bring the country into trouble at any time. They have believed that by adopting this course they could overshadow every other issue, and especially secure many votes in New York state. These leaders have feared that if the tariff is put forward too prominently as the issue of the campaign they would weaken themselves with the enemies of Roosevelt, who are in many instances adherents to the policy of a protective tariff.

These opposing elements in the party have been struggling with the campaign book, which it is well known has been under the inspection of many democratic leaders, and for several days received the personal consideration of Judge Parker himself. As Judge Parker had himself approved what was to go into the campaign book, and as no one was inclined to change it after it had received his approval, some surprise is expressed among republicans who know the facts in the case that the democratic candidate should find it necessary to send a letter to the editor of the campaign book at the last moment asking that any personal reflection on President Roosevelt be kept out of it, if the purpose was to prevent such personal reflection rather than to advertise to the people at large the fact that Judge Parker had sent such a letter.

DEPARTED FOR DELAWARE.

Senator Fairbanks Leaves Washington to Resume Campaign Work.

Senator Fairbanks, the republican vice presidential nominee, spent Sunday in this city, most of which time he rested at the New Willard Hotel, where he had apartments. He left for Dover, Del., this morning and will go from there to Wilmington, thence to Baltimore and later to western Pennsylvania.

Senator Fairbanks will then start on his trip to the Pacific coast and will leave Chicago for that journey next Friday. The Pacific coast trip will end October 13, after which time no arrangements have yet been made. He will probably make a number of speeches in New York state a short time before the election, and will not be in Indiana again until election day, when he will cast his vote in Indianapolis.

PRESIDENT'S RETURN

DECIDED THAT PART OF TRIP WILL BE ON YACHT.

From Jersey City to Washington in Special Cars—Visitors at Sagamore Today.

OYSTER BAY, L. I., September 19.—It has been decided that the naval yacht Sylph shall convey President Roosevelt and his family from Sagamore Hill to Jersey City next Thursday when they start on their return trip to Washington.

Heretofore on his trips to and from Washington the President has traveled on a special train between Oyster Bay and Long Island City, crossing New York city in carriages.

The Sylph will arrive in Oyster Bay probably on Wednesday evening or early Thursday. At Jersey City the President and his family will be joined by the remainder of the presidential party, including the clerical staff of the summer executive offices, and the entire party will take special cars attached to the 1:14 p.m. Pennsylvania train for Washington.

It is possible, in the event of heavy passenger traffic, that the President's cars will be run as a special train. The President is due to arrive in Washington at 6:15 p.m. Thursday.

The President's visitors today included N. Stranahan, collector of the port of New York, and James B. Reynolds, who was commissioner of license in Mayor Low's administration.

LETTER FROM ROOSEVELT.

Received by Spanish War Veterans in Camp at St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, September 19.—The first annual encampment of the United Spanish War Veterans commenced today at the world's fair grounds. The following letter was received by Commander-in-Chief Capt. Wm. E. English from President Roosevelt:

"I thank you for your very kind and thoughtful invitation, and let me, at the outset, congratulate you and the Spanish War Veterans that you are commander-in-chief. I wish it were in my power to be present and meet you and my other comrades of the United Spanish War Veterans. It would give me peculiar pleasure to do so. I would certainly be present if it were possible for me at this time to go anywhere, and the fact that it is impossible causes me genuine regret.

"The men who in '98 volunteered at their country's call show that they had in them the same spirit that actuated their fathers in '61. The task was easy and needed the exertion of but a fraction of this nation's gigantic strength, but the way it was done showed what the nation could do if the need was more urgent.

"My comradeship in the United Spanish War Veterans is something that I prize more fully than I can well say, and I wish God speed to all at their first national encampment as well to their comrades who are unable to attend."

Following the reading of President Roosevelt's letter short addresses were made by Harold C. McGrew of Indianapolis, Col. Russell B. Henderson of Indianapolis, Maj. J. C. Dusenbery of Chicago, Judge Hamilton Ward of Buffalo and Capt. J. A. Welch of Taunton, Mass.

TAGGART IN CHICAGO.

First Visit Since He Entered Upon His Duties.

CHICAGO, September 19.—Thomas Taggart, chairman of the democratic national committee, arrived in Chicago today. This is the first visit of the national chairman to Chicago since he took his office as the party's manager, and marks the beginning of the democratic campaign in Illinois.

Democratic leaders from all parts of the state are here to meet him, and a number of local democrats greeted him at the railway station.

Chairman Taggart spent the day in conference with democratic leaders at the Sherman House. In response to questions he said:

"If the heartiness of democrats manifested since my arrival here is any indication of the political condition, I would say that the democratic outlook is excellent. I have just spent the three days in Indiana and find democratic affairs in that state in fine shape. I am also able to say that in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and West Virginia, and the east generally, the prospect is such as to cheer the democratic heart."

Replying to a question as to the truthfulness of the report that he had been practically supplanted as chairman, Mr. Taggart uttered an emphatic denial, saying that the national party leaders are working in the utmost harmony. He declined to make an announcement as to campaign plans in the west until his return to New York.

"I will consult with the leaders here," he said, "give careful attention to what they say, and will arrive at a conclusion by the time I reach headquarters in New York." It is learned, however, that Mr. Taggart's present inclinations are unfavorable to branch headquarters at any point in the west, his opinion being that the work can be best done from New York through state committees. Mr. Taggart leaves for New York tonight.

"The situation in New York is all that we could want," said Chairman Taggart.

"Indiana is in the best condition for democratic victory I have seen there since 1892. Bryan men, Hearst men and silver men are united with all other democrats in laboring for party triumph."

"Is Illinois, in your opinion, debatable ground?" the leader was asked.

"It is, if the democrats are harmonious," was the reply. "I am here to find out about that. I think things are progressing finely from what I have learned."

John W. Kern, democratic nominee for governor of Indiana, was among the prominent democrats who accompanied Chairman Taggart to Chicago.

DEATH OF AGED HEIRESS.

Inherited a Million, but Withheld by Litigation.

BALLSTON, N. Y., September 19.—Miss Jessie Davis, an aged resident of Galway, this county, who recently inherited a fortune of a million dollars from the estate of her brother, Samuel Davis of San Francisco, died today, aged eighty-six years. Miss Davis had never received the legacy on account of proceedings declaring her mentally incompetent having been had before County Judge Rockwood, who appointed George H. West of this place a committee on the estate. An appeal from that order, which was pending hearing at the present sitting of the appellate division at Saratoga, now falls, and the matter will be intestate before Surrogate Lester. The heirs to the estate are remote relatives living in New York, Westchester and Monroe counties of this state, who were appellants from the order.

Site for Arbitration Headquarters.

THE HAGUE, September 19.—The municipal council has rejected the measure providing for utilizing part of The Hague woods for the Carnegie palace of peace. The council, however, is willing to provide another site for the arbitration headquarters.

FOUGHT LAST BATTLE

New York's Conventions Have Significant Incidents.

PLATT AND HILL RETIRE

DEMOCRATS IN A SEA OF TROUBLE OVER GOVERNORSHIP.

Remarkable Opposition to Jerome's Candidacy—Hill to Keep Fatherly Eye on the Machine.

Special From a Staff Correspondent.

SARATOGA, N. Y., September 18.—These two conventions will be notable in respect that they will mark the retirement from active politics of two of the greatest political leaders the empire state has known in generations, Thomas Collier Platt and David Bennett Hill. Both will have sung their swan songs and turned their leadership into other hands when the gavel falls here next Wednesday.

For one of them, at least, the retirement was compulsory, forced by the ambitious aggression of a younger man. Mr. Hill retires voluntarily January 1.

Mr. Platt fought his last political battle last week. There is nothing left for him save the adieus and tender memories of a small contingent, the faithful old guard, and the indifference of the rank and file who, months ago, turned to worship the rising sun.

Mr. Hill, undisputed leader of the machine democracy, will make his last factional fight in the convention which assembles Tuesday. The picket lines of the coming battle already are thrown out, the skirmishers advancing and the main body rapidly forming in battle array.

Hill's Effort for Harmony.

One of Mr. Hill's notable acts in this last campaign, is an effort in the direction of harmony. He is sincerely solicitous that the machine he has built up with such care and patience shall be tight and effective. His selection of William B. Hornblower to be temporary chairman of the convention was a great concession to harmony. Mr. Hornblower has been his opponent for years. Mr. Hill perhaps thinks he can afford to be generous, however, for he has had the best of his enemy up to this time. It will be remembered that he defeated Mr. Hornblower's confirmation when President Cleveland nominated him to be an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

The coming convention promises to be an open struggle for the governorship. Either Mr. Hill or Judge Parker could name the man and the convention would take him. Up to this moment neither has consented to dictate the nominee, although both have several preferences, from among which they would like to see a candidate chosen.

Objections to Proposed Candidates.

The democrats are in a sea of trouble over their selection. Nearly every man whose name has been mentioned thus far has aroused objection from one or more influential sources in the democratic party.

There is Mr. Lamont. Of him it is objected by some that he could not be the candidate of a party that proposes to make a strong fight against trusts, this Mr. Lamont being associated with half a dozen of the greatest corporations in the state.

There is Mr. Stanchfield, whom Mr. Hill affectionately refers to as "my boy." Well, Mr. Stanchfield already has been denounced by the New York World, whose support of the ticket is deemed essential, as a lobbyist and corruptionist. Mr. Stanchfield, furthermore, may meet the opposition of the labor unions, for he made a speech once in which he declared that he had a son growing up and he would rather see him in his grave than a member of a labor union.

Tammany's Opposition.

There is Mr. Grout. Well, Tammany Hall won't have Mr. Grout because of a feud growing out of the last mayoralty election.

There is Mr. Edward M. Shepard. They urge against him the fact that he voted against Bryan and did not even support McClellan. They say the Bryan vote in the state, sufficient in itself to swing an election, may go to the populists if Mr. Shepard is nominated.

So it goes on down the lists, through half a dozen names. But the most remarkable of all is the opposition to Mr. Jerome. It seems as if the objectors are "catching him coming and going." To be explicit: The Germans of Manhattan are against him because he enforced the excise law in New York, as district attorney. Now, Mr. Jerome did not enforce it because he objected to the individual's liberty to take a drink, but to make drinking easier although to be carried on within the law. He favored open saloons on Sunday, and the abolishment of the back door habit.

For this attitude on Sunday opening he will be opposed by the upstate church people. In other words, he has antagonized both elements on the liquor question, it being his habit to act according to his judgment, without regard to political consequences.

Young Men Want Jerome.

The demand for Mr. Jerome comes from those in the state who think there is capital to be made out of the exposure of the alleged maladministration of Governor Odell. There is also a call for him by the young men.

The young voters who admire Roosevelt see in Jerome something of Roosevelt's characteristics, and it is claimed that Jerome would get their votes for governor, although the opposing ticket might receive their ballot for President. So, the gathering politicians are puzzled. They say they will have to meet here and talk it over, weighing all the advantages and disadvantages presented by the candidacy of each man and then thresh out a candidate and stand by him.

Mr. Stanchfield is the only man who has been gathering in delegates, except Grout. The latter has the sixty-three delegates of King's county. Mr. Stanchfield has been busy for months, and no one knows how many pledges he has secured, but he is thought to have rounded up a number.

Mr. Stanchfield and Mr. Shepard both want the nomination. Mr. Lamont does not want it, and Mr. Jerome does not care. He sent word to Mr. Hill that he would take the nomination, but would make no promises and would not pledge himself to any course dictated by Mr. Hill. The comment of Mr. Hill on Jerome's candidacy is "he would break up the democratic organization in this state." Although about to retire from politics, Mr. Hill would still keep a fatherly eye on the machine.

Choice Left to Parker and Hill.

The choice of the gubernatorial candidate will eventually be passed up to Judge Parker and Mr. Hill, from present indications. There are so many prospective candidates and the different factions are so wide apart that it now looks as if Mr. Hill and the judge will of necessity have to bring them together upon one man.

The three leaders today are Grout, Stanchfield and Jerome. Stanchfield for the moment is at the head of the list. Mr. Hill arrived shortly before noon. He has two dark horses in the field, one of whom is Fred Cook, a wealthy broker of Rochester. Now, here in the space of half a dozen lines, the political story has whipped all the way around Robin Hood's barn. That is just the situation this afternoon.

It will probably clear before midnight tonight, but at this writing no man in Saratoga knows who is the prospective nominee of the coming convention. Mr. Hill will take Grout if Tammany does not utterly refuse him. McCarren arrived with Hill and said he would make any personal concession to Murphy that would be necessary to insure Grout's nomination. Murphy is not yet here.

To Prevent Breach in Party.

The great concern of Mr. Hill and the other leaders is to prevent a breach in the party, and there will be trading and concession all along the line to obviate such a misfortune, if it is possible.

I am definitely informed this afternoon that the national organization desires the nomination of Edward M. Shepards. The wishes of the national committee were communicated to the gathering leaders by George Foster Peabody this afternoon.

The argument used by the national committee was "that Mr. Shepard is a national character, known in many states; that his speeches will be read, given heed, and he will help the national ticket in Wisconsin, Indiana and Illinois." The response of the up-state delegates to that argument was: "We are not nominating a governor for effect upon other states, but to carry the state of New York." There is resentment over the interference of the national committee in the fight, as was to have been expected. Still, if Mr. Hill gives his assent, and it is taken for granted that the preference of the national organization selects the acquiescence of Judge Parker, the upstate men would probably abate their opposition.

The latest information obtained this afternoon was that Mr. Hill declared, however, that he has not announced his own preference, and would not do so before tonight or tomorrow morning. N. O. M.

HALIFAX'S SECOND FIRE.

Breaks Out This Morning—Number of Buildings Burned.

HALIFAX, N. S., September 19.—The dock fire, which started after midnight and was under control at 3 o'clock, broke out again early today and destroyed several warehouses and other buildings. The warehouses burned were fine new buildings, and the loss is now placed at $200,000.

At 10 o'clock the fire was still burning, but under control. The firms burned out include Black Bros. & Co., hardware; Bryant and McDonald, wholesale tea merchants, and Thomas Fordham & Co., sailmakers. The insurance on the property destroyed is estimated at about three-quarters of the loss.

The work was made hazardous by the presence of a quantity of powder and dynamite upon Black Brothers' wharf, but the explosives were thrown overboard. Later the firemen were driven back by a series of explosions in the warehouse, caused by powder and chemicals. All the apparatus in the city was summoned, and the firemen were assisted by men from the barracks. In two hours the flames were thought to be under control. The loss was then estimated at $50,000, divided between Pickford & Black and Black Brothers.

Several hours later the fire broke out in Black Brothers' large brick building, the flames having worked their way through an elevator well, unknown to the firemen, and then extended to a large warehouse owned by Pickford & Black and to their office building. These two structures were new modern blocks of stone, and had a front on Water street about a quarter of a mile north of the scene of Thursday's fire.

Near the stone buildings were situated a number of wooden shops and stores, but the fire department was able to confine the damage to the area described by the two wharves and the buildings named.

The heaviest loss falls upon Pickford & Black, agents of a number of steamship lines and ship chandlers, who carried a large amount of supplies and other goods, and Black Brothers. Besides Bryant & McDonald, wholesale tea dealers, and Thos. Fordham & Co., sailmakers, several smaller concerns were burned out. G. C. Cook & Co.'s stock, in a building adjoining Black Brothers, was deluged with water, and H. H. Fuller & Co., hardware dealers, sustained considerable damage from smoke and water.

The cause of the fire has not been ascertained.

BRITISH TREATY WITH THIBET.

Russian Newspapers Agree That It Means a Protectorate.

ST. PETERSBURG, September 19.—The Russian press, discussing the Thibetan treaty with Great Britain, unite in agreeing that the latter country has succeeded in establishing a virtual protectorate over Thibet.

The Svet terms the treaty a repetition of the fable of the wolf and the lamb, and expresses the belief that the success of the British expedition will shake Russian prestige among the Buddhist subjects of Russia.

The Bourse Gazette thinks that Great Britain has succeeded beyond her wildest dreams, but conceals a veiled threat under the inquiry whether the success can be lasting. The Gazette predicts that as soon as Russia's hands are free it is more than likely that the middle east question will become another apple of discord.

The Novosti, on the other hand, contends that British and Russian interests in Asia are identical, and opposes the idea that the treaty will become a bone of contention, especially as it was concluded with the knowledge and consent of Russia.

THE STRIKE IN ITALY.

Continued at Milan—Situation Better at Rome.

MILAN, September 19.—It has been decided to continue the general strike until Wednesday.

ROME, September 19, 1:30 p.m.—The strike situation is improving. Premier Gioletti left today for Racconigi, Piedmont, to perform his official duty, as crown notary, of registering the birth of the crown prince.

The workmen, it became known shortly after noon, had decided to abandon the strike, and the city resumed its normal aspect. The board of workmen has published a manifesto saying it had planned a parade of all the Roman proletariat forces as a victorious demonstration.

At Palermo, however, the strikers and police were in collision during the day, and the former displayed a red flag.

Disturbances also occurred at Genoa today, in which anarchists violently participated. They burned a number of street cars and destroyed a flag hoisted in honor of the birth of the crown prince. Lack of bread led to the outbreak at Genoa.

PEACE CONGRESS TOURISTS.

Impressed by Prairie Cornfields in Trip to Chicago.

CHICAGO, September 19.—The interparliamentary union, which is touring the country as guests of the nation, reached Chicago from Denver today, about six hours behind schedule time. The trip from Colorado east was without incident except for religious services held by the Americans and the Englishmen on the first section yesterday.

On the trip from Denver the thing which impressed the visitors most was the sight of the vast cornfields of the prairie country. After a tour of Chicago in carriages the parliamentary party was met by the mayor of Detroit and a group of aldermen, who will act as escort to Detroit.

LAMSDORFF'S ANSWER

Statement Summarized by Ambassador McCormick.

OFFICIALS GRATIFIED

RUSSIAN CONCESSIONS IN THE MATTER OF CONTRABAND.

Result Will Be to Establish Principle for Which This Country Has Contended.

The State Department has received from Ambassador McCormick a cablegram summarizing the answer of Count Lamsdorff, the Russian minister of foreign affairs, to its protest against the seizure by Russian warships of food supplies of American origin carried on neutral ships. It confirms the St. Petersburg dispatch published in The Star last week. Count Lamsdorff says that instructions have been sent to the prize courts and naval commanders supplementing and explaining the regulations respecting contraband of war originally issued. The conditional contraband character of articles of dual use is admitted in the new instructions. If articles of dual use are addressed to private individuals in Japan they will not be subject to seizure and confiscation unless such private individuals are shown to be agents or contractors of the military or naval authorities of Japan.

An Important Result.

The construction thus placed upon the regulations is eminently gratifying to the State Department officials, as it is directly in line with their contentions. The result will be to firmly establish as a principle of international law the exemption of foodstuffs conveyed under the conditions described from seizure, a matter which has not heretofore been one of universal practice.

It will also be noted that the burden of proof as to the contraband character of goods is for the first time placed squarely upon the naval commanders attempting to make seizures, and if the ship's papers are regular the shipper will be regarded as having established prima facie the non-contraband character of his shipment. That is regarded as of great importance to commercial interests.

The Next Steps.

It is understood here that the next steps to be taken relative to the seizures already made will be examinations by the prize courts which originally condemned the goods at Vladivostok, with the purpose of ascertaining whether any of the food was destined for the Japanese government or its agents.

Nothing has yet been heard from Ambassador McCormick respecting the machinery and railway material seized, which must be left to further negotiations.

The Russian Reply.

ST. PETERSBURG, September 19.—The Russian answer to the American notes in regard to contraband of war, as specifically raised in the cases of the British steamer Calchas and the Portland Asiatic line steamer Arabia (both captured by the Vladivostok squadron, the steamer while bound from Puget Sound ports to Japan) has been delivered.

It followed generally the lines of the reply to Great Britain. On the broad question involved Russia recognizes the principle of the immunity of innocent trade with Japenese corps, but she holds to her right to stop contraband destined for the use of the Japanese military or naval forces. The United States is informed, as was Great Britain, September 16, that instructions embodying the decision of the commission, presided over by Professor de Martens (professor of international law at the University of St. Petersburg), have been issued in the form of instructions to the naval commanders and prize courts, to govern them in the future, the instructions recognizing the dual uses and, therefore, only the conditionally contraband character of the articles of foodstuffs, rice, etc., enumerated in section ten of article six of the Russian regulations, with the exception of horses and other beasts of burden.

But the mere fact that a consignment is intended for private persons or firms, as also pointed out to Great Britain, Russia will not accept as necessarily furnishing exception from seizure, should circumstances, for instance, like the shipment of a full cargo of food, create a fair presumption that it is intended for the use of the Japanese government, for supplying her army or navy. The circumstances of each case, therefore, will, to a certain extent, govern it.

The Arabia and Calchas.

Russia will not undertake at this stage to interfere with the cases of the steamships Arabia and Calchas, of which the courts have already taken jurisdiction, and in which the Vladivostok courts have already taken jurisdiction, and in which the Vladivostok court found the facts.

But on appeal the admiralty court will apply its interpretation of section ten, which practically amounts to an assurance that the flour, etc., seized, will then be released. It is improbable, however, that all the articles confiscated by the lower court will be released.

As far as the Associated Press can learn, the commission decision, as embodied in the instructions, does not go beyond the articles enumerated in section 10, from which it is inferred, coal, railroad material, machinery and boilers for ships and even cotton are enumerated along with munitions of war, etc., in other articles which remain in the category of absolute contraband.

It is understood, however, that private assurances have been given the United States that the American government will be satisfied with the manner in which the contraband rules will be interpreted hereafter.

St. Petersburg Paper Displeased.

ST. PETERSBURG, September 19.—The Russian government's concessions to neutral commerce in the matter of contraband of war does not meet with the approval of the Novoe Vremya, which declares that the game of stopping neutral merchantmen is not worth the candle if Russia decides in advance to restore the contraband seized.

The Knight Commander Case.

LONDON, September 19.—Russia's reply to the British protest on the subject of Russia's interpretation of contraband of war includes a decision to respect the British demand in the case of the British steamer Knight Commander (sunk by the Vladivostok squadron off Izu, and afterward adjudged a lawful prize). It is understood that Russia upholds the principle that Admiral Jensen was justified in sinking the steamer. The British government is still hopeful of a settlement by means of an indemnity, but in view of the decision of the prize court at Vladivostok it is said that Russia does not see how she can comply with the British demand, as she thereby would recognize her officers to be at fault.

This question will be the subject of further negotiations between the two governments, the British authorities appreciating the fact that Russia has made a substantial concession in differentiating between conditional and absolute contraband.