

END OF WAR IN SIGHT; CZAR KNOWS TERMS

Authoritative Confirmation of the Peace Rumors Comes From a High Source at St. Petersburg

PEACE COMES WITHIN SIX WEEKS

Prediction Is Made That Formal Cessation of Hostilities Will Be Accomplished Within That Time—Washington Accepts the News From St. Petersburg as Authentic—Important Meeting of Representatives of Both Sides Held at Small European Capital Within Past Few Days—Russia Issues Statement of Number of Troops Sent to Manchuria.

St. Petersburg, March 25.—The information contained in these dispatches for over a week regarding the change in Emperor Nicholas' attitude concerning the advisability of making a pacific proposal to Japan, is fully confirmed and in very high quarters peace within six weeks is regarded as certain. The positiveness with which this is affirmed would indicate that the government is already in possession of information as to the Japanese terms, which indicate a basis to which Russia can agree.

The exact situation is shrouded in mystery. The secret of what has been done and what is being done is zealously guarded. The Associated Press hears, however, from a source close to the throne, that pourparlers are actually in progress in Paris, but possibly only of a preliminary character, and that Copenhagen may be the scene of the first exchanges between representatives of the two powers. In this connection importance is being attached to the visit of M. Dismolky, Russian minister at Copenhagen and Baron Rosen, former Russian minister to Japan to M. Bompard, French ambassador to Russia on Tuesday. Parties to this conference refuse to admit that significance is attached to it. In the meantime the foreign office is silent.

EMPEROR KNEW TERMS.

The Dispatch From St. Petersburg Accepted as Authentic at Washington.

Washington, March 25.—When the dispatch from St. Petersburg, regarding peace was shown, the diplomat today on whose authority the Associated Press on March 13 announced from Washington that the Russian emperor knew the general terms on which Japan would conclude peace, said:

"The source of my original information on this subject was a high one, but it is gratifying to receive this confirmation. The European powers, notably France, have for some time been endeavoring to find out on what terms Japan would accept peace. These have been ascertained in a general way and have been communicated to St. Petersburg. When he called his war council on March 14, the emperor knew these terms, and doubtless communicated them to his ministers."

The reason for Japan's apparent reticence regarding the opening of peace negotiations is not due to a desire to continue the war, but is because the Tokio government wishes to be certain Russia is proceeding to peace negotiations in good faith and is not playing for time as she did in the negotiations prior to the war.

INFORMAL PEACE CONFERENCE.

Representatives of Both Sides Met to Learn Views.

Paris, March 25.—It is said in quarters having excellent means of information that Russia's steps towards peace have already taken a tentative form at a private conference held within recent days at one of the small capitals of Northern Europe. The purpose of this appears to have been to bring together personages representing both sides, neither having credentials to discuss formal terms of peace, but to informally examine what each side expected and what tentative basis seemed possible. The nature of this exchange does not warrant its being considered a definite peace movement, but it is understood to have given each side an opportunity to judge the view of the other and it has clearly shown Russia's disposition towards peace. There is reason to believe both St. Petersburg and Tokio know the results of this conversation and that it is the basis of renewed St. Petersburg reports that peace is imminent.

DEFENDS WAR OFFICE.

Russian Army Organ Tells What Has Been Done by Military.

St. Petersburg, March 25.—Stung by wholesale criticism lately heaped upon the war office for its unpreparedness and incapacity in providing the Manchurian army with men, guns and munitions, the army organ today lays bare what has been done since the opening of hostilities, giving exact figures. From these it appears up to March 12, the war office had dispatched 13,087 officers, 71,467 men, 145,408 horses, 1,521 guns and 318,321 tons of munitions and supplies to the front, declaring transportation strained the Siberian railroad to its utmost capacity. The army organ admits the army in the far east when the war opened was hardly worth the name, and no figures being given, but it is known the troops did not exceed 60,000 men, defending this on the ground that the emperor desired to avoid war and therefore refrained from sending reinforcements which surely would have provoked it. Criticism of the war office's failure to adequately supply Port Arthur is met by the statement that it was provisioned for a garrison of twelve battalions, the decision to put thirty battalions there being taken so late the original calculations could not be remedied. While affirming the quick firing guns and field guns of the Russians are superior to those of the Japanese the war office explains the misfortune in the insufficiency of mountain guns was due to the fact that when the war broke out Russia was just adopting a new pattern. It is denied the war office was deceived in regard to the available strength of the Japanese army or organization of the Japanese reserves, but the army organ frankly admits the talents of the officers and wonderful spirits of the soldiers, were miscalculated. Publication of the article has created a sensation among military men and in public circles, many of the former censuring the general staff for discussing valuable military secrets, the latter finding from the figures a practical admission that the war has cost almost half a million men in killed and wounded, prisoners and sick, as the whole force effective in the far east is now believed not to exceed 300,000 men.

MOVEMENTS OF THE FLEET.

The Reported Sinking of Two Russian Ships Scoffed At.

St. Petersburg, March 25.—Altho public interest in the war has suddenly been transferred from the battlefield in Manchuria to the Indian Ocean by the possibility of a great naval conflict between Rojstevsky and Togo, and despite reports that scouting vessels have already been engaged near the island of Mauritius, the admiralty declines to display any excitement. Indeed the tranquility manifested is quite unnatural, except on the theory that pending prospects of peace negotiations, Rojstevsky has received orders to keep out of the way of the Japanese. Altho without direct advice the admiralty does not credit the report of the meeting of the scouting vessels off Mauritius. The same thing holds good in regard to the report of the sinking of the Russian battleships Sissoi, Veliky and Varin, which, it is declared, was probably arant invention. It can be ascertained, however, the report that Rojstevsky is awaiting Nebogatoff's division, to strengthen his squadron is incorrect. The vessels of Nebogatoff's division are not of the same type of speed as Rojstevsky's and are only intended to trail behind as a convoy to protect the fleet of colliers.

WILL PROSECUTE GORKY.

Highest Penalty for Crime Charged, is Three Years' Detention in Fortress.

St. Petersburg, March 25.—The authorities have definitely decided to

prosecute Maxim Gorky on the charge of drawing up proclamations with the object of overthrowing the existing state of things in the empire, and disturbing public order, the highest penalty for which is three years' detention in a fortress. Gorky is still in the neighborhood of Riga and is in broken health.

TO ISSUE BIG LOAN.

Russian Imperial Decree Directs Strengthening Funds in Treasury.

St. Petersburg, March 25.—An imperial decree today directs the minister of finance to issue a 5 per cent internal loan of \$100,000,000 with a view of further strengthening the funds in the state treasury required to meet expenses of the war.

Situation at Front.

St. Petersburg, March 25.—Linevitch telegraphing the 24th says: "The Russian patrol has been fired upon by the Japanese cavalry and infantry occupying the village of Paltuschu. There has been no change in the positions of the armies during the day."

ENLIST THE LAMAS

St. Petersburg Authorities Warned That Old, Warlike Spirit of the Lamas is Being Aroused by Japanese Activity in Mongolia—Lull in Fighting is Predicted.

St. Petersburg, March 25.—Linevitch continues the retirement of the bulk of his army northward. The general staff now declares it is certain that Oyama has been compelled to relinquish the idea of pursuit in force for the present. The Japanese forces on the Russian's flanks are too light to constitute serious danger, and a lull in the heavy fighting, for several weeks, if not for months, is predicted by some correspondents.

A Russian correspondent warns the United States authorities of the danger of Japanese activity in Mongolia, where he says their emissaries are enlisting the Lamas and arousing their old warlike spirit.

MRS. CODY WANTS ONLY LOVE.

Hopes for Early Reconciliation With "Buffalo Bill."

North Platte, Neb., March 25.—Mrs. W. F. Cody declares she still loves the color, and hopes that as a result of the decision in his suit for divorce he will be persuaded to accept her offer for reconciliation. Speaking of the decision handed down by Judge Scott at Sheridan yesterday, Mrs. Cody says: "The result is indeed truly gratifying to me, as it is a complete vindication for me from beginning to end. I can say that a reconciliation would be to me the next great event of my life. I have heard nothing from the colonel since the decision, but hope that he will cable a message of love in the course of a day or so."

CHEER SENATOR-ELECT WARNER

Big Meeting Held in Kansas City to Ratify Choice of Legislature.

Kansas City, March 25.—Convention hall was packed last night by an audience to ratify the election of Major William Warner to the United States senate. The new senator was repeatedly cheered. The audience was composed of admirers from all parts of Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and the Indian Territory. The meeting was non-partisan, democrats being as enthusiastic as republicans in paying tribute to Major Warner.

HAY AT AZORES

The Secretary of State Arrived at Islands Safely and His Health is Improved—Trip a Comfortable One.

Ponta Del Gada, Azore Islands, March 25.—The steamer Cretic, with Secretary of State Hay and Mrs. Hay on board, arrived here today. When questioned concerning his health the secretary said he was feeling very well and that he had a comfortable trip.

BABY HELD FOR A BOARD BILL.

Chicago Mother Told She Must Pay Debt to Get Back Child.

St. Louis, March 25.—Mrs. Ella Hoffman, of 72 East Seventy-sixth street, Chicago, thru Attorney Roubesh, today filed an application for a writ of habeas corpus for her 3-year-old son, who, she says, is being detained by Mrs. Otto Stopp, of 8110 North Broadway, as security for a board bill covering two years. Mrs. Stopp refuses, according to Mrs. Hoffman, to give up the child until the debt for his clothes and board has been paid.

Squadron Leaves Havana.

Havana, March 25.—The American squadron departed from Havana today amid mingled crashes of patriotic music from the bands of war ships, whistles of tugs, cheers and thousands of spectators.

Millions of dead fish frozen in the Illinois river have been found at Peoria. They are considered a menace to health and the state board of health will be asked to remove the period.

Patrick Powers, flagman at a street crossing at the Illinois Central railroad in Memphis, Tenn., was struck by an engine and killed. He stepped in the way of a work train while flagging a freight.

UNITED STATES TO TAKE CHARGE

Minister Dawson Has Made Arrangements With Santo Domingo For Its Finances

ROOSEVELT TO NAME AN AGENT

Fiscal Affairs of the Island Government to Be Placed in Commissioner's Hands and Portion of Revenue Set Aside to Pay Claims of United States and Other Nations.

Washington, March 25.—Renewed interest in Santo Domingo affairs was manifested in official circles today upon receipt by the state department of a cablegram from Minister Dawson indicating he had effected with the Dominican government a tentative agreement which, temporarily at least, would adjust satisfactorily the fiscal conditions of the island government. No explicit information concerning the contents of the cablegram is available at this time, but it is understood the agreement contemplates placing the fiscal affairs of the island government, so far as collection of revenues is concerned, in the hands of a commissioner to be designated by Roosevelt with the consent of the Dominican government.

The revenues of the island would be collected by this commissioner, a sufficient percentage of them being placed to the credit of the Dominican government to pay current expenses and the remainder deposited as a fund to pay foreign claims of the island government at such time as the distribution of the fund may be agreed upon by the creditor governments.

RETURNED TO THE JAG CURE.

Inebriate Violates His Parole and is Sent to Independence.

Dubuque, March 25.—Laura Lucas, who was recently paroled from the inebriate ward at the Independence asylum, was arrested and sent back there for two years for violating the parole.

OLD MAN SUICIDES

Despondent Because of Ill Health, Fred Gearhart, a Prominent Farmer Near Iowa, Hangs Himself to His Bedpost While Family Was Absent for Only Few Moments.

Newton, March 25.—Fred Gearhart, a well to do and quiet prominent farmer, living near Ira, committed suicide at an early hour this morning. He had been ill for some time and had become despondent. This morning while his wife left him alone for a few moments he arose and fastening a handkerchief about his neck fastened it to the bedpost in such a manner as to cause strangulation. A few moments later the wife came into the room and found him dead. He had shown signs of melancholia during the past week and last night gave his wife all the money he had in his clothes. She thought his action somewhat strange, but thought little about it at the time. He was 70 years of age.

Says He is 112 Years of Age.

Council Bluffs, March 25.—John Busha, residing at Twenty-fifth street and Avenue I, in this city, has given his age to the census taker at 112. His wife, Mary Busha, is 75 years old. The couple were married in the Blackhawk Indian war in 1832, being then a man of middle age. He was born in Tennessee when that state was a wilderness, and has been a resident of Iowa for twenty-six years. He has nearly 100 descendants, running to the fifth generation. He has been blind for twelve years but still retains some measure of vigor. One of his accomplishments, and chief pastimes, is playing a violin, which he can do in a manner lively enough to warm up the heart of any old timer.

Conspiracy Against Bank.

Cincinnati, March 25.—The result of a conspiracy is declared by officials of the United Savings Bank and Trust Co. to be the explanation for a run on the savings department of that institution today, in which women were knocked down and seriously trampled on in the rush of depositors to secure their money. The bank has two and a half million in cash on hand, nearly eight million securities, besides other assets to care for its eighteen million dollars deposits. It is charged that postal cards were sent to depositors of the bank, advertising withdrawal of the deposits.

Three Cent Oil Reduction.

Pittsburg, March 25.—The Standard Oil Company today made a reduction of 3 cents in the higher grades of crude oil, and two cents in the lower grades.

Maurice Barrymore Dead.

New York, March 25.—Maurice Barrymore, the actor, died today at a sanitarium in Amityville, L. I.

time jewelry belonging to her given as security for loans. She said she believed that Mr. Nilsson had sold a rope of pearls valued at \$60,000 given on a loan of \$17,000.

Mrs. Chadwick told also of buying jewelry in Brussels valued at \$150,000 to \$200,000 on which she paid \$10,000. Also that she borrowed \$85,000 from W. V. Coons, a broker, for which she gave notes for \$37,500. Before this loan was paid Mrs. Chadwick said she had paid \$109,000 for it because of intervals at increased interest and commission. The examination was not included today and will be resumed next Thursday.

MORMONS COMING BACK.

Will Build Churches at the Scenes of Their First Trials.

Bloomington, Ill., March 25.—The Mormons have decided to come back to Illinois. At a meeting of the Illinois conference of the Mormon church, which just closed in Warren county, it was decided to invade the land of their fathers, and three churches will be built, one at Monmouth, another at Quincy and a third at Warsaw. It was at Monmouth the trial of Joseph Smith on the charge of murder took place in 1841.

TALKS TO DOCTORS

President Roosevelt Presents Diplomas and Delivers an Address to Graduates of United States Medical School.

Washington, March 25.—President Roosevelt presented diplomas today to a class graduated from the United States Medical School at exercises held in the hall of the national museum. He addressed a large audience and delivered a message to twenty-three newly made doctors on the responsibilities of the service they had entered. He said the responsibilities that rest upon the naval doctor admit of nothing but the hardest of work in time of war. He said he was not competent to talk of their professional duties, but that he wanted to repeat that if war comes, it is almost certain to find the medical profession unprepared and this will entail greater trials to those at the front. "Your best gift if you have nothing but a just knife to do it with," he admonished.

MAKES FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Mrs. Chadwick Testifies That Total Indebtedness Will Not Exceed \$750,000.

Cleveland, O., March 25.—In bankruptcy court here yesterday Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick detailed some of her financial transactions in the course of an examination by Attorney Louis J. Grossman, acting for Trustee Nathan Looper.

OLD SOLDIERS' AND CHILDREN'S DAY

August 20 Is the Only Special State Fair Day Thus Far Selected

MAY HAVE ELECTRIC FOUNTAIN

Board of Directors Now Considering This as a Special Night Attraction—Larger Appropriation For Premiums This Year In Almost Every Department of the Fair.

Des Moines, March 25.—Nearly every department of the state fair has a larger appropriation for premiums this year in some instances the increase being an addition of a third or more of the former premiums. In a number of instances additional classes have been added so that a greater number of premiums will be given. This increase is mostly in the stock departments. An addition of \$500 has been added to the premiums for horses, principally for the heavy draft horses. An addition of one-third has been added to the swine premiums and two new cash prizes offered for hogs and this year there are five cash prizes and two letter prizes that give the winner a place and a ribbon with a certificate of the prize won but no cash. It is believed that this course will be a very decided added attraction to the swine men. In addition to this there is this year to be erected on the fair grounds a model swine farm which will be an additional attraction for the hog department.

Special to Times-Republican.

In the cattle department the Polled Durham class has been added with cash prizes of \$10 for the class and Jersey and other breeds by the associations of cattle men, in some instances the increase being a third. In Holstein and Jersey cattle fourth and fifth prizes have been added this year. Another attraction offered for the year is a milking contest. The aggregate prize is \$100. The cattle entered for this contest will be taken care of by a conductor of the test. They will not be allowed to be fed any drugs, anything but the usual ration of food and the man in charge of the test will watch the milking of every cow and see that she is milked dry. Other rules have also been prescribed for the test. The test will be as to butter fat in the milk and the value of the bi-product. The butter fat will be figured at 25 cents a pound and the bi-product at 20 cents a hundred. All the cattle will be entered with the breed and other data concerning them. The test will undoubtedly attract attention from the dairy men.

Special to Times-Republican.

The sheep department here has been an Iowa classification for Shropshires and Oxford downs with an increase of \$150 in premiums for these classes. In middle wool flocks there has been a division of classification, the Oxford, Hampshire Downs and the Shropshire and the latter with another with the addition of \$25 for this additional class. In the agricultural department especially the county exhibits there has been an increase of \$100 in premiums and in the horticultural department an increase of \$100.

Special to Times-Republican.

The state fair management has fixed upon August 29 as the old soldiers and children's day at the fair. This is the first day to be selected the special days and the only one selected thus far. It is quite likely to be the policy this year to designate certain days for certain of the large cities of the state on which such cities can hold special exercises and in great ways things can be made attractive and pleasant for the people of those special cities. An attraction which the board of directors is thinking of putting on for a night attraction is an electric fountain. The fountain will be 100 feet high and it throws a stream of water 120 feet high. Electric lights are thrown upon it in various colors and suddenly there appears in the midst of the fountain a platform on which vaudeville performers do their stunts. The stream of water and the electrical effect make an appearance of about forty-five feet wide.

Special to Times-Republican.

The premium list for this year's fair is now in the hands of the printers and will soon be ready for distribution.

Special to Times-Republican.

The bulletin of the Iowa state institutions has appeared in the press at the industrial school at Eldora and for the first production of such an extensive size is a very creditable piece of work. The press work is quite even and the work especially from a boys' printing office, is especially creditable. The new plant at Eldora, like all new printing plants, was deficient in some materials and this has now been supplied. The printing is on a poorer grade of paper than has been used formerly, but this will be corrected when the next issue of the bulletin is put out.

Special to Times-Republican.

Colonel Cooke, who has been made provincial inspector general of small arms practice in the state guard for ten years was the occupant of the office and is considered one of the most efficient in that branch of the work in the state. Colonel Cooke was in the Spanish-American war and when he returned was broken in health and was

NOTICEABLE NEWS OF TODAY

The Weather.

Sun rises March 26, 5:54; sets, 6:18. Iowa—Partly cloudy with showers and thunderstorms this afternoon and tonight in the east; cooler in the south and in the extreme east; Sunday, fair, Illinois—Showers and probably thunderstorms this afternoon or tonight; Sunday, fair and slightly cooler. South Dakota—Fair tonight and Sunday; cooler in the east tonight. Missouri—Partly cloudy with showers and thunderstorms this afternoon and in the east and south tonight; cooler in the west tonight; Sunday, fair.

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End of War in Sight.

Peace Within Six Days.

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Markets.

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Board of Trade Quotations.

The Live Stock Review.

forced to leave his work and go west and "rough" it for a year. This necessitated putting in a new man, and Morse, of Algonia, Cooke's home, was appointed. The market practice work by the companies begins May 1 and for this reason it became necessary to have some one on to fill the place. Colonel Cooke's experience of ten years in the place amply fitted him for the place and it was almost necessary to have some one in the position who was acquainted with the work, because of the short time intervening before active practice begins.

MYSTERIOUS NOTE FIGURES.

Tom Dennison, Omaha Gambling King, Sues County Attorney.

Omaha, Neb., March 25.—Tom Dennison has filed suit in the county court to recover \$400 and interest on a note raised a huge corruption fund among county officials for the purpose of securing the passage of the biennial election bill, which would extend their terms for another year. County Judge Vinsoliner, in whose veracity the members of the committee express the utmost confidence, recently gave out a statement in which he said he was approached by a man who said he represented the county commissioners, and who asked him to contribute to a fund of \$5,000, claiming that similar contributions would be expected from each of the principal counties in the state.

CHOKES ON COCKLE BURR.

Young Illinois Farmer Nearly Loses Life in Quack Accident.

Alto Pass, Ill., March 25.—While Milo Crossland, a young man living eight miles west of this city, was cutting corn stalks Thursday evening the impenetrable bluffs blew across a cockle burr to fly from a stalk into the young man's mouth and the burr lodged in his throat, causing intense agony and endangering his life. He coughed up the burr last evening and is now out of danger.

LANDSLIDE HITS TRAIN.

Pennsylvania Passenger Train Wrecked and Passengers Badly Shaken Up.

Cresson, Pa., March 25.—The Keystone Express, east-bound on the Pennsylvania railroad, was caught by a landslide at Packsville, today, and the passengers, who were thrown into a wild panic, had a narrow escape, one of them being slightly hurt. Tons of rock and earth slipped down off the mountain just as the express was passing.

STREET CARS COLLIDE.

Fourteen Persons Injured at Chicago Today—Two Badly Hurt.

Chicago, March 25.—Two persons were badly and a dozen others slightly injured today, when a State street cable car ran into a Thirty-first street electric car.

To Double Track Santa Fe.

Fort Madison, March 25.—Contract has been let and work practically commenced on the double tracking of the Santa Fe east and west of its place. This is the initial movement toward double tracking the system from Chicago to Kansas City.

Briber Must Go to Prison.

Milwaukee, March 25.—Former Alderman Charles S. Havenor was today denied a new trial and was sentenced to two years imprisonment for bribery. Havenor is the owner and president of the Milwaukee American Association base ball club.

Judge A. V. Lorimer Dead.

Davenport, March 25.—The jury in the Michael Conroy burglary case returned a verdict of guilty. This is the third trial on the same charge.

T-R BULLETIN.

Not Only Declines to Arbitrate, But Refuses to Talk With Minister Bown

MENACES FRENCH COMPANY

Attitude Toward the Cable Concern is Especially Bitter—France Has Not Yet Indicated What Steps She Will Take to Preserve Her Interests at Caracas—Other News.

Paris, March 25.—An official dispatch from Caracas says that President Castro, who was absent from the capital during the recent supposed amelioration situation, has returned and has manifested strong hostility against American and French interests. His attitude is particularly menacing against the French Cable Company. It is premature to say what steps France will take, but there seems to be a growing impression in official quarters that the presence of a warship in Venezuelan waters might exercise a salutary influence.

An official dispatch adds that Castro's declaration to arbitrate the American demands, was accompanied by a refusal to hold any conversation on the subject.

CHARGE BIG CORRUPTION FUND.

Nebraska Senate Investigators Give a Hearing in Omaha.

Omaha, March 25.—Douglas county officials will testify before the bribery investigation committee of the state senate at a hearing in this city today. It is charged that attempts were made to raise a huge corruption fund among county officials for the purpose of securing the passage of the biennial election bill, which would extend their terms for another year. County Judge Vinsoliner, in whose veracity the members of the committee express the utmost confidence, recently gave out a statement in which he said he was approached by a man who said he represented the county commissioners, and who asked him to contribute to a fund of \$5,000, claiming