

AMERICA COMMANDS EASTERN SITUATION

War in the Orient May Depend Upon Attitude of United States.

NEW ALLIANCE WORRIES BRITAIN

Text of Franco-Russian Note Means There Will Be No Two-Power Conflict.

TO UNITE AGAINST JAPAN

Germany Holding Aloof, Presumably on Advice From Washington That Strict Neutrality Will Be Preserved—Pessimistic Views on the Continent.

(Special Cablegram—Copyrighted.)
LONDON, March 22.—Widely different views are taken throughout Europe of the Franco-Russian declaration in regard to the Anglo-Japanese alliance. The easiest and the simplest interpretation of the declaration is that it is an endorsement of the principles on which the Anglo-Japanese treaty was based, and that it furnishes an additional guarantee of peace.

Apprehensions Attended.
This apparently pacific utterance contains, however, an announcement which arouses grave apprehensions in England. These fears find a clear expression in a serious article in today's "Spectator," which says:

"The signing of the Russo-French communique is in the tall. The last clause being: 'Nevertheless they themselves being also obliged to take into consideration the eventuality of aggressive action on the part of a third Power, or of fresh troubles in China, jeopardizing the integrity and free development of their own and becoming a menace to their own interests, the two allied Governments reserve it to themselves to consider in such case the means of assuring their protection.'"

Japan the Third Power.

"This obviously can mean only one thing. The third Power, whose possibly aggressive action is contemplated, is of course Japan. In other words, we are warned that if Japan, from any cause gets involved in hostilities the war will be with two Powers, that is, Russia and France. If it comes to war it will be the two-Power war contemplated by the treaty."

No Single-Power War.

"They, it was supposed, would politely tell Russia that they wished her well, but that it would be a cruel kindness to help her and so bring England into the melee, and therefore, as true friends, they intended to stand aside. The Russo-French declaration puts an absolute stop to all of this. It is a clear notice that there can be no single-Power war in the Far East."

"We may disguise the fact by diplomatic sophistries and we may refuse to recognize the fact, but the fact remains that we and Japan have ranged ourselves opposite to Russia and France and that our interests, or, let us say, the necessities of the other people, may some day plunge us into a war which will be fought in the Channel and the Baltic."

"We do not, of course, suggest that the risk of war must never be run if vital interests so near home are involved, but we do think that such risks require grave thought and consideration."

This pessimistic opinion finds echoes on the Continent. Thus the "Cologne Gazette" yesterday asserted that Russia and England were strenuously endeavoring to draw the United States to the side that they respectively represent in the threatened conflict.

America Holds the Key.

The fact is that America's position in the present situation is an absolutely commanding one. France is completely committed to Russia in the event of hostilities from any cause. Russia finds herself forced to decide definitely whether she will abandon her plans in Manchuria and the Far East generally or force them to fruition. If the latter she must act quickly, while England is still engaged in South Africa and while Ireland is seriously seceding.

One point must be settled before it is possible to make any decision that will lead to open conflict. What will America do in the event of war? It is perfectly understood that no Anglo-American alliance is possible, but would America remain in a strictly neutral attitude if England and Japan were engaged in a war in the defense of principles with which America was in hearty sympathy?

AMERICA DOMINATES EASTERN SITUATION

The joint note of Russia and France continues to worry England, especially the declaration that any war in the East will involve at least three Powers. Great Britain fears she is being dragged into a conflict that will be fought in the Channel and the Baltic.

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COURT GIVES FREEDOM TO FLORENCE BURNS

Women Applaud When Justice Mayer Gives Decision.

THE EVIDENCE WAS INSUFFICIENT

Prosecution's Not Strong Enough to Hold — Young Woman Shows No Emotion at the Result—Ruth Dunn, Her Rival, Breaks Down.

NEW YORK, March 22.—Florence Burns, who for five weeks has been under arrest, accused of the murder of her lover, Walter Brooks, in the Glen Island Hotel on the night of February 4, was discharged from custody today by Justice Mayer, of the Special Sessions. The justice decided that the prosecution had not made out a case against the girl.

Justice Mayer went into a long and exhaustive review of the case. By the time he was ready to announce his conclusion, the spectators who had sat and stood in the courtroom for almost seven hours were worked up to a fine pitch. The justice finally declared that the only thing brought forward to connect the girl definitely with the crime, was the identification of the negro bell boy, George Washington. This he did not regard as worthy of much consideration, and he would, therefore, discharge the prisoner from custody.

Outburst of Applause.

Then there was a terrific outburst of applause in the courtroom. Women jumped up and waved their hands. A score of them rushed forward and would have hugged the slender defendant had not the court officers surrounded her and forced them back.

Men showed their approval of the decision by shouting, clapping their hands, and tossing their hats in the air. It was with the utmost difficulty that order was restored in the courtroom.

After the justice had left the bench he took the court officers half an hour to clear the room. No one wanted to go away until the Burns girl had left, and in the crowded condition of the courtroom it was impossible to remove her.

Taken to Private Room.

By heretofore efforts the police finally managed to get everybody out of the room. Then Florence Burns, her lawyer, Foster L. Backus, Mrs. Backus, Mrs. Backus' mother and sister, and an uncle were taken to the private examination room of the Tombs Police Court. They waited there while an order of discharge was made out and served on Warden Flynn, of the Tombs.

One of the few who managed to stay in the courtroom after the doors had been locked was Thomas M. Brooks, father of the murdered man. When the verdict was announced, Mr. Brooks jumped to his feet and rushed toward the bench. He seemed unable to grasp the situation.

Brooks' Father Overcome.

From the first he has been convinced that Florence Burns killed his son, and the sight of her going free was too much for him. He passed his hand over his forehead several times and seemed about to fall. A court officer caught him and induced him to sit down again.

When Florence Burns passed out of the courtroom, Mr. Brooks looked at her steadily. He followed her with his eyes until she had passed out of the room and the door had closed behind her. Then he went out into the street and boarded a car. He declined to make a statement to anybody.

SAYS WALLER KEPT WITHIN INSTRUCTIONS

Order for Executions Justified, Witness Asserts.

Captain Porter Asserts That the Directions of General Smith Were Not Exceeded.

MANILA, March 22.—The trial by a mixed court-martial of Major Littleton W. T. Waller, of the Marine Corps, for putting natives of Samar to death without a trial, was resumed today.

Capt. David D. Porter, of the Marine Corps, who was in the fighting in Samar, testified for the defense. He said that Major Waller was a man of high confidence in the natives and to punish treachery with death.

MISSING MONEY LEADS TO MURDER THEORY

Mrs. French Said to Have Drawn Large Sum.

Robert M. Morse, Her Counsel, Thinks Death Accidental, But Some Things Are Unexplained.

BOSTON, March 22.—The theory is advanced that Mrs. Julia B. French was murdered in her Back Bay home by robbers and that her body was placed on the elevator, where it was found four days later. This theory is backed up by the failure to locate a large sum of money she was known to have in her possession about the time she was killed.

Some Things Unexplained.

Robert M. Morse, regarded as her most confident adviser of the many lawyers with whom she was connected, was willing this morning to discuss the murder theory.

"I am still inclined to believe that Mrs. French's death was accidental. There are, however, facts which I did not know yesterday regarding Mrs. French having just drawn a large amount of money. If the money is not accounted for it would lead one to suspect foul play. But as to that my opinion is no better than any man's."

KILLED BY A CAVE-IN.

Two Baltimore Boys Buried by Falling Sandbank.

LA BOURGOGNE BLAMED FOR MEMORABLE HORROR

Judge Townsend Finds She Was Sped Too Fast.

Limitation of Damages Fixed at French Line's Request—Cases Sent to Referee.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., March 22.—The French Line steamship La Bourgogne was at fault for the collision with the British ship Cromartyshire, off Sable Island, on July 4, 1888, according to the final judgment given today in the celebrated and long-pending case. The opinion is handed down by William K. Townsend, judge of the United States District Court.

Was Sped Too Fast.

He was called upon to set a limitation to the damages which might be claimed by heirs of the ill-fated passengers of the steamship and to fix the responsibility, which has been claimed due to various causes by French admiralty courts.

Dense Fog Prevailed.

A dense fog prevailed when La Bourgogne, of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique Line, collided with the Cromartyshire at 5 o'clock in the morning of July 4, 1888. The Cromartyshire first struck La Bourgogne's bow, and then struck her again on her starboard side, a little forward of amidships. Forty-four passengers and 129 of the steamer's crew were saved.

ITALIAN STRIKES GROWING.

Labor Disturbances Reported to Exist in Nineteen Provinces.

ODELL'S ACT ILLEGAL.

Gaynor Says He Exceeded His Authority When He Removed Oden.

SAW UNKNOWN VESSEL IN FLAMES AT SEA

Burning Hulk Sighted Off North Carolina Coast.

OREGON INLET STATION ALSO REPORTS HER—NO TRACE OF CREW OR CLUE TO IDENTITY.

WILMINGTON, N. C., March 22.—An unidentified vessel, believed to be a steamship, was seen afire off this coast this morning.

VIRGINIA STRIKE FEARED.

Mine Workers' Officials Believe There Will Be General Tie-Up.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 22.—The national officers of the United Mine Workers of America are expecting a general strike of the Virginia and West Virginia miners in April, and it is predicted 30,000 men will go on strike at that time.

EMPTIED A REVOLVER INTO BROTHER'S HEAD

INSANE MAN THOUGHT HE OBEYED VOICE OF HEAVEN.

PASTED A LABEL ON HIS VICTIM

ALBANY, N. Y., MARCH 22.—John De Tierre, forty-five years old, this afternoon shot and instantly killed his brother William, thirty-five years old, on Hamilton Street, near Dove, one of the quiet residence thoroughfares.

Placed Label on Victim.

Then the murderer stooped down and pasted on the dead man's forehead a card, reading:

BRUISE ON THE TEMPLE.

When the body of the girl was examined by three physicians the day it was found they discovered and opened a contusion on the left temple. This the physicians held was caused by a blow, and the blow killed the girl. The membrane of the bone under the skull was also broken and all the usual symptoms of drowning were absent.

WAS GOING TO NEW YORK.

The girl was to have left within twenty-four hours for New York, where she expected to make her future home.

MURDERED BY BROTHER.

This afternoon the brothers engaged in an angry argument on Swan Street, near Hamilton. John drew a revolver and fired it. William ran up Hamilton Street, John firing repeatedly. In front of the Albany Card and Paper Factory William fell on his back.

NOT SORRY FOR DEED.

At the station house when asked if he was sorry his brother was dead De Tierre, without a quiver, answered:

TREATY OF NATURALIZATION.

One Signed Jointly by Secretary Hay and the Haitian Minister.

LAURENCE MUCH WEAKER.

Improvement in Last Two Days Not Maintained.

ITALY MAY JOIN IN.

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JURY FINDS WILCOX GUILTY OF MURDER

Wilcox Convicted of Killing Nellie Cropsy

CONVICTED IN FIRST DEGREE OF KILLING NELLIE CROPSY AT ELIZABETH CITY.

SENTENCED TO DIE APRIL 25

COUNSEL FOR PRISONER, HOWEVER, WILL APPEAL TO SUPREME COURT.

STORY OF THE TRAGEDY

Mystery of the Disappearance of the Young Woman Cleared Up Only by the Discovery of Her Body in the Pasquotank—Last Seen Alive With Wilcox.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., March 22.—At 10:30 this evening the jury brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree against James Wilcox. The judgment of the court is that the prisoner shall be hanged on April 25.

SON OF EX-SHERIFF.

Wilcox is the son of ex-Sheriff Thomas F. Wilcox, of this town. He went to the home of William H. Cropsy, a well-to-do man of this place, on the night of November 20 last, to call on Miss Nellie Cropsy, to whom he had played the devoted lover since 1898.

LOVERS HAD QUARRELED.

Wilcox and Nellie had been quarreling for a month or more. They were not on speaking terms. The girl had refused the day before to accept fruit brought by Wilcox. He had been paying special attention to Miss Carrie for a week or two.

ALARM SOUN GIVEN.

Miss Olive Cropsy had her caller good-night and went to her room at 11:30. Not finding her sister there, she concluded that she and Wilcox had made up and were in the parlor as usual.

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