THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 1, 1900—TWELVE PAGES. SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

QUICK TO TAKE LEAD

United States Once More Giving Di... to Chinese Policy of Powers.

RUSSIA'S LATE NOTE GIVES OPPORTUNITY

Messages Stating America's Position Are Cabled to European Courts.

TWO EVASIVE REPLIES HAVE COME TO HAND

Great Britain and Germany Evince Disposition to Bide Their Own Time.

DISCUSSION AS TO EARL LI'S CREDENTIALS

Wily Old Diplomat Said to Represent the Pro-Russian Dowager, While the Emperor Himself Leans to Great Britain.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.—The Russian note relative to the withdrawal of Russia from China and the United States' response thereto were made public today by the State department, after the cabinet had fully considered the expediency of so doing. The correspondence is unique in the history of diplomatic exchange. It may be said to illustrate a clever move by which the United States government has again assumed the lead in prescribing the policy of the powers respecting the Chinese trouble. This was accomplished by the State department availing itself of the Russian note to address to the powers an inquiry as to their policies, an answer to which scarcely can be avoided.

Various meanings may be placed upon the statements of the two principals to this correspondence. Thus on the one hand it may be noted that while Russia announces a purpose to withdraw her troops from China, still as to the occupying force at New Chwang a condition is attached that almost negatives the proposition as to that point.

Respecting our own attitude it appears that while believing the best course to pursue is to remain in Pekin, our government is still willing to withdraw. Perhaps this means if there is to be separate action by the powers in China the United States proposes to deal with the situation with a free hand. It may be noted, in connection with our withdrawal statement, that whereas Russia proposes to withdraw from China our offer is to only withdraw from Pekin. A significant fact in this connection is that General Chaffee, who is well advised of the situation, having several days ago been directed to prepare for just such an emergency by the Russian action, continues his preparations for wintering the American troops in China. Indeed, unless the men are afloat and out of the Pei Ho within the next six weeks they are likely to remain in China, perforce, being icebound.

New Instructions for Chaffee.

General Chaffee was further advised today of the developments in the situation, a compendious statement of the points in the Russo-American correspondence being cabled to him for his guidance. As bearing further on the prospects of the future it may be noted that the War department officials state that the government has not considered the question of the evacuation of China.

It scarcely is expected that with the aid of the cables complete accord can be reached immediately on this last proposition. Up to the close of the official day only two communications had been received in consequence of our last note. One ... from the British foreign office ... gh the American embassy, stating that Lord Salisbury was absent from London and merely promising consideration for the note. The German response was through Mr. Jackson and was equally inconclusive, indicating a wish on the part of the German government to consider the proposition. The officials here say they are satisfied that Japan, at least, is fully in accord with our objects as set out in the note and they rather expect an early answer from the government of that country. France has not been heard from on this point, her last communication relating entirely to the matter of Li Hung Chang's status.

The full text of the French government's answer to Li Hung Chang's peace proposals of August 19 and 21 has just been received here. It proves to be almost identical in language with the reply of the American government, which laid down as a preliminary to peace overtures that security in the Chinese capital and a responsible government be guaranteed.

Gets Authority from Old Tsi An.

It has developed in the course of the careful consideration which officials have given to Li Hung Chang's credentials that they were issued by the empress dowager and not by the emperor, Kwang Tsu. This may have an important bearing on the subject, as it opens up the authority of the empress dowager since the coup d'etat of September 9, 1898, when she took the reins of power from the hands of the emperor.

It involves also the issues between the empress dowager, who is anti-foreign, and the emperor, who is pro-foreign. Still a further consideration is the Russian sympathies entertained by the empress dowager as against the British sympathies held by the emperor. Thus far, however, there has been no questioning of the credentials on any of the personal grounds mentioned, although they are forcible in shaping the action of the several powers.

Li Acting Like Dime-Novel Detective.

Although the exact whereabouts of Li Hung Chang continues to be in doubt, it is the understanding of diplomatic officials that he is now in continuous communication with the imperial household and thus is enabled to convey to them the prospect of a return to the Chinese capital. The expected return of Prince Ching to Pekin is said to be a result of this communication between Earl Li and the imperial family and to be the initial move of responsible authorities toward the capital.

There is reason to believe also that Earl Li is now in frequent telegraphic correspondence with European capitals, although Washington has not received a word from him since August 1, the date of the last appeal for peace. Some significance is attached to this, as indicating that Earl Li, failing to get from Washington an acceptance of his overtures, turned to Europe and more particularly to Russia. It was stated today as an additional reason for American acceptance of Li Hung Chang that his confidential secretary and adviser is an American, Mr. Pethick, formerly of the American consular service at Tien Tsin. Mr. Pethick is known to have great influence with the viceroy and among the officials here he is

(Continued on Second Page.)

BOXERS ARE BEYOND CONTROL

Chinese Viceroy Complains His Creatures Now Refuse to Obey Him.

(Copyright, 1900, by the Associated Press.) ... Aug. 28.—(Via Shanghai, Aug. ...—Accepted letter, written by the viceroy, ... Ting Fu, who commanded at Tien Tsin during the fight there, complains that the Boxers are overrunning the country southwest of Tien Tsin, particularly the cites on the Grand canal, despising the officials, who at first countenanced them, and looting and killing the enemies of their organization and fighting the imperial troops. The gates of Pao Ting Fu are kept closed and the people inside are suffering. The Boxers are practically besieging the place.

The viceroy reports that the taotai of the city of Tsang Chow, on the canal, invited 2,000 Boxers to a feast and that while the Boxers were eating and their weapons were stacked the imperial soldiers, by his orders, fell upon them and slaughtered all of them.

There is much recrimination between the foreigners besieged in Pekin and the members of the relieving force. Officers say that the besieged sent out alarmist reports and that the condition of the foreigners was never one of such extremities as the official dispatches represented. The foreigners, they assert, could have resisted indefinitely. The besieged accuse the general of timidity and of exaggerating the Chinese opposition. They think a much smaller army might have made the mark and relieved them months sooner.

The looting at Pekin proceeds industriously and openly. The officers of every nation, except the Americans, ignore the repressive order and all the allies ridicule the Americans for their abstention.

Missionary Green, of the China Inland mission, his sister, wife and two children, who were for some time held as prisoners by the Boxers at Hsing Han Sien, near Pao Ting Fu, were well treated.

A company of Catholics held a town near Pao Ting Fu for three months against the Boxers and imperial troops. The officials have offered large sums for their capture.

JAPANESE TO THE FRONT

That Government Now Comes Forward with Propos...ion Relative to Peace in China.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.—The Chinese negotiations remain at the same point that they occupied yesterday. It is stated that no conclusion has been reached as to the last phase, namely, the Russian proposition of withdrawal. As to the proposition to recognize Li Hung Chang as an envoy, the negotiations remain at a standstill, no conclusion having been reached. There is, however, reason to believe that the way has been opened for the settlement of this latter question at the proper time on the basis of the Japanese proposition, which is that Li Hung Chang be reinforced by Prince Ching and the viceroys of the two great southern provinces, Nan King and Hankow. As it is pretty well understood that these three officials are pro-foreign in their sentiments and strongly desire to make peace on any terms, the influence of Li Hung Chang, even if sinister, would be counteracted.

Mr. Conger's report that Prince Ching is coming to Pekin may be regarded as an indication that the Japanese proposal stands a chance of meeting the approval of all the powers. As to Li Hung Chang's whereabouts the State department knows nothing, but it assumes that he is still in Shanghai. A man of his rank could scarcely conceal his movements.

It is pointed out that the foreign admirals would find it an impossible task to restrain Li Hung Chang from communicating with the imperial court. He could easily make his way overland from Shanghai through a country entirely outside of foreign occupation to Tai Yuan Fu, the capital of the province of Shan Si, where the court is reported to have been taken. The route is also open to messengers between Li Hung Chang and the empress dowager, so that it would not be easy to restrain his freedom of communication.

No dispatches were received over night from Minister Conger or any of the officers of the State or War departments from China except a short message relative to the wounding of Lieutenant Waldron.

The department had last evening a message from Consul General Goodnow at Shanghai, but it consisted merely of a report by the consul general that the Japanese consul at Shanghai had conveyed to him the same information relative to the withdrawal of Japanese forces from Amoy as had been communicated to the State department yesterday by the Japanese legation here. The department this morning made public the proposal of Russia to withdraw troops from Pekin and the answer of this government thereto.

GUARDS FOR IMPERIAL CITY

Japanese to Hold Three Gates and the Americans One—Palace Eunuchs Surrender.

YOKOHAMA, Aug. 31.—General Yamaguchi, commanding the Japanese troops in China, reports that a meeting of foreign ministers and commanders has decided to maintain guards at the gates of the imperial city, entrusting the south gates to the Americans, while the Japanese hold three others. It was also decided to commemorate the occupation of Pekin by a march of the allied troops through the imperial city August 28. Many of the eunuch guards have left the palace and have surrendered themselves. The inmates of the palace have been assured that they will be treated with every consideration. Five companies of troops from the Japanese garrison at Tapiah, island of the Formosa, started Tuesday for Amoy.

PRESENT FLAG OF TRUCE

Chinese Twice Ask General Rennenkamf to Cease Hostilities and Are Twice Refused.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 31.—Telegrams received here today from Blagovetchensk (capital of Amur province) confirm previous reports from General Grodekoff, commander of the Amur government, announcing that the Chinese sent messengers with a flag of truce to General Rennenkampf. This occurred August 22 and August 24. The Chinese declared they would cease hostilities and in no case would make a further attack. General Rennenkampf replied that he had no authority to negotiate and would push on to Taitsikar. He called on the Chinese to retire without offering any resistance.

Russians Unearth Artillery.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 31.—General Linevitch, commanding the Russian troops at the Chinese capital, reports from Pekin under date of August 20 that the Russian detachment, on the previous day, captured, without loss, the imperial summer palace. The Russian artillerymen have also unearthed at Pekin thirty cannon and many rifles. A large quantity of silver was found at the tsung li yamen.

CZAR'S NOTE AND ITS REPLY

Text of Documents Likely to Become Famous in Chinese History.

RUSSIA SEEKS AMERICA'S CO-OPERATION

Administration of the Opinion That Soldiers Should Remain Until Plan of Settlement is Agreed Upon by China and the Powers.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.—The State department has just made public the text of the Russian proposal and its own response, as follows:

Purposes of Russia in China: Telegraphic instruction sent to the representatives of the United States in Berlin, Vienna, Paris, Rome, Tokio and St. Petersburg:

"DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, Aug. 25, 1900.—The Russian charge yesterday afternoon made to me an oral statement respecting Russia's purpose in China, to the following effect: That as already repeatedly declared, Russia has no designs of territorial acquisition in China; that equally with other powers now operating there, Russia has sought the safety of legations at Pekin and to help the Chinese government to repress the troubles; that, incidentally to necessary defensive measures on Russian border, Russia has occupied Nieu Chwang for military purposes, and, as soon as order is reestablished, will retire troops therefrom if action of other powers be no obstacle thereto; that the purpose for which the various governments have co-operated for relief of legations in Pekin has been accomplished; that, taking the position that, as the Chinese government has left Pekin, there is no need for its representatives to remain, Russia has directed the Russian minister to retire with his official personnel from China; that the Russian troops will likewise be withdrawn; and that when the government of China shall regain the reins of government and afford an authority with which the other powers can deal, and will express desire to enter into negotiations, the Russian government will also name its representatives. Holding these views and purposes, Russia expresses hope that the United States will share the same opinion.

Reply of This Government.

To this declaration our reply has been made by the following memorandum:

The government of the United States receives with much satisfaction the reiterated statement that Russia has no designs of territorial acquisition in China, and that, equally with the other powers now operating in China, Russia has sought the safety of its legation in Pekin and to help the Chinese government to repress the existing troubles. The same purposes have moved, and will continue to control, the government of the United States, and the frank declarations of Russia in this regard are in accord with those made to the United States by the other powers. All the powers, therefore, having disclaimed any purposes to acquire any part of China, and now that adherence thereto has been renewed since relief has reached Pekin, it ought not to be difficult by concurrent action, through negotiations, to reach an amicable settlement with China by which the treaty rights of all the powers will be secured for the future, the open door assured, the interests and property of foreign citizens conserved, and full reparation made for wrongs and injuries suffered by them.

So far as we are advised, the greater part of China is at peace and earnestly desires to protect the life and property of all foreigners, and in several of the provinces active and successful efforts to suppress the Boxers have been taken by the viceroys, to whom we have extended encouragement through our consuls and naval officers. The present good relations should be promoted for the peace of China.

Other Interests in Common.

While we agree that the immediate object for which the military forces of the powers have been co-operating, viz., the relief of the ministers at Pekin, has been accomplished, there still remains the other purposes which all the powers have in common, which are referred to in the communication of the Russian charge and which were specifically enumerated in our note to the powers of July 3.

These are: To afford all possible protection everywhere in China to foreign life and property; to guard and protect all legitimate foreign interests; to aid in preventing the spread of the disorders to other provinces of the empire and a recurrence of such disorders and to seek a solution which may bring about permanent safety and peace to China, preserve Chinese territorial and administrative entity, protect all rights guaranteed by treaty and international law to friendly powers and safeguard for the world the principle of equal and impartial trade with all parts of the Chinese empire.

In our opinion these purposes could best be attained by the joint occupation of Pekin under a definite understanding between the powers until the Chinese government shall have been re-established and shall be in a position to enter into new treaties, with adequate provisions for reparation and guarantees of future protection. With the establishment and recognition of such authority the United States would wish to withdraw its military forces from Pekin and remit to the processes of peaceful negotiation our just demands.

We consider, however, that a continued occupation of Pekin would be ineffective to produce the desired result unless all the powers unite therein with entire harmony of purpose. Any power which determines to withdraw its troops from Pekin will necessarily proceed thereafter to protect its interests in China by its own method, and we think that this would make a general withdrawal expedient. As to the time and manner of withdrawal, we think that, in view of the imperfect knowledge of the military situation resulting from the interruptions of telegraphic communication, the several military commanders at Pekin should be instructed to confer and agree together upon the withdrawal as a concerted movement, as they agreed upon the advance.

Will Act at Once.

The result of these considerations is that, unless there is such a general expression by the powers in favor of continued occupation as to modify the views expressed by the government of Russia, and lead to a general agreement for continued occupation, we shall give instructions to the commander of the American forces in China to withdraw our troops from Pekin after the conference with the other commanders as to the time and manner of withdrawal.

The government of the United States is much gratified by the assurance given by Russia that the occupation of Nieu Chwang is for military purposes incidental to the military steps for the security of the Russian border provinces menaced by the Chinese, and that as soon as order shall be re-established Russia will retire its troops from those places if the action of the other powers be not an obstacle thereto.

No obstacle in this regard can arise through any action of the United States, whose policy is fixed and has been repeatedly proclaimed. ALVEY A. ADEE, Acting Secretary.

Department of State, Washington, August 29, 1900.

You will communicate the foregoing to the minister of foreign affairs and invite early consideration and response.

MANCHURIA IN ITS GRASP

Russia Needs but to Take Mukden and It Will Have the Entire Province.

ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 1.—Official dispatches confirm the report of the occupation of Taitsikar, which leaves only Mukden to be captured in order to place the whole of Manchuria in Russian possession. Apparently there is no intention to relax that hold. General Kouropathkin, the Russian minister of war, has just ordered two batteries of Krupp guns to protect the Manchurian railway. Eight new batteries of quick firers will be distributed among the four new Siberian army corps.

BATTLESHIPS AT WU SUNG

Oregon and Four Other American Men of War Ordered to Assemble at Chinese Port.

SHANGHAI, Aug. 31.—It is announced here that the battleship Oregon and four other battleships have been ordered to Wu Sung.

CUTTING THE TIME TO LONDON

Details of the Plan to Be Adopted by the New American Line of Steamers.

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LONDON, Aug. 31.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—An official communication has been received from Dover concerning the use of that port by the new line of transatlantic mail steamers, to be built and owned in the United States, and called the "Atlantic Shipping company." This company has been formed for the purpose of running weekly steamers between New York and the continent.

The first port for these liners on this side of the Atlantic will be Berchaven, on the extreme southwest of Ireland, at the entrance of Bantry bay. This is a naval station for the British fleet, and is defended by forts erected on an island and on the mainland. It contains all the necessaries, including depth of water, for such a port.

Among the bills passed by Parliament last session was one enabling a railway to be constructed from the pier in Berehaven harbor almost in a straight line to Rosslare, on the east coast, where the Great Western railway of England is now establishing a line of fast mail steamers to do the fifty-seven miles passage to Fishguard, Wales, in two and three-quarter hours.

The effect of this arrangement will be that a special train leaving Berehaven with mails and passengers will be at Paddington in less than thirteen hours. This, as compared with the Queenstown route, is a clear gain of over eight hours in time, as Berehaven is six hours west of Queenstown. On the many occasions of stormy weather when mail steamers cannot get into Queenstown and must proceed to Liverpool, the gain will be increased, as Berehaven harbor is available in all weathers. It has two entrances perfectly sheltered with forty to fifty fathoms of water.

The steamers of this new line, after leaving Berehaven, will call at Havre and then come to Dover, subsequently proceeding to Flushing. Steamers are to be constructed to maintain an average speed of twenty-five knots across the Atlantic.

ANNA'S BROTHERS ARE GOOD

Gould Boys Pay Off the Importunate Creditors of Their Titled French Brother-in-Law.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.)

PARIS, Aug. 31.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—It is now known why the sale of Count Castellane's castle was countermanded. Countess Anna, though failing to sway her brothers, and especially her sister, Helen, and obtain money for Count Boni on their last trip to New York for that purpose, some months ago, decided to make a last appeal, and her distress was so pitiful that Edwin was touched and he finally prevailed upon George. The brothers then sent for Count Boni and after imposing upon him some rather severe conditions put up enough money to pay the main creditors and stop the sale.

Some well informed friends allege that Count Boni, when he saw how ...eirous the Gould family was to pr... the scandal of a sale under the hammer, took advantage of the situation and refused to accept any help unless his whole debts were wiped out. The same people further affirm that George Gould refused to trust the money into the count's hands and paid the creditors himself, the sum thus advanced aggregating 8,000,000 francs (about $1,600,000. Edwin sailed yesterday on the St. Louis from Cherbourg. George and his wife are still here.

FIRST BLOOD SHED IN NEW WAR

Two Bulgarians Killed in Conflict with Roumanians Near Iron Gate of the Danube.

VIENNA, Sept. 1.—As a result of the tension between the Roumanian and Bulgarian governments, due to the demand of the former for the suppression of the Macedonian revolutionary committee, a frontier conflict took place yesterday between Roumanian and Bulgarian peasants at Veroiorova, a few miles from the celebrated "Iron Gate" of the Danube, on the Roumanian side of the stream. Two Bulgarians were killed and many of both parties were wounded.

HEAR FROM AERONAUT ANDREE

Buoy of Long-Missing Arctic Explorer with Hopeful Message Found in Norway.

STOCKHOLM, Aug. 31.—Captain Grendahl telegraphs the following message here from Skjervoe, Norway:

Andree's buoy, No. 4, has been found here and contains the following:

"JULY 11.—10 p. m.—Greenwich. Our voyage gone well so far; are now at an altitude of 200 metres. Original direction, north 33 degrees each, compass undeviation. Later north 45 degrees east, compass andeviation. Four carrier pigeons dispatched. They are flying west. We are now over ice, which is very rugged. Weather splendid the whole time. In excellent spirits.

"ANDREE,
"FRENKEL,
"STRUDEBERG? (STRINDBERG.)

"Above the clouds; fine; 7:45 Greenwich mean time."

NEW TREATY IS APPROVED

Nicaraguan Congress Passes Upon Agreement Providing Reciprocal Commercial Relations.

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (Via Galveston), Aug. 31.—The Nicaraguan congress today approved the commercial reciprocity treaty between Nicaragua and the United States.

New Cabinet in Peru.

LIMA, Peru, Aug. 31.—(Via Galveston, Tex.)—The cabinet crisis is ended. President Romana has appointed the following ministers:

President of the Cabinet and Minister of Home Affairs—Senhor Enrique Coronel Zegarr.

Minister of Foreign Affairs—Senhor Felipe Osma Pardo.

Minister of Finance—Senhor Jose V. Larrabure.

Minister of Justice—Senhor Pedro C. Olaechea.

Minister of Public Works—Dr. Miguel A. Rojas.

Minister of War—Colonel Pedro A. D. Canseco.

Strikers to Resume Work.

CARDIFF, Wales, Aug. 31.—A meeting of the strikers at Cardiff today confirmed the action of their committee in agreeing to a resumption of work, the company having acceded to the demands of the strikers. About 50,000 colliers went to work this morning.

New Ministry in New Brunswick.

FREDERICKTON, N. B., Aug. 31.—Hon. Henry R. E. Emerson, premier of New Brunswick, tendered his resignation today and Lieutenant Governor McClena called upon Hon. L. J. Tweddie, provincial secretary, to form a new government.

BOERS BUSY FALLING BACK

Roberts Finds Few of Them on His Immediate Front.

BRITISH FORCES ARE ADVANCING STEADILY

No Cessation in the Vigor of the Winter Campaign That is Being Waged in South Africa.

LONDON, Aug. 31.—Lord Roberts, under date of Belfast, August 29, reports to the War office as follows:

"Buller telegraphs from Helvetia that only a few of the enemy are there and that this morning French and Pole-Carew's forces will move on their flank. The advance of Dundonald's mounted troops on their front caused them to abandon a very strong position. The country thus cleared, our troops moved eastward. The South African Light Horse, after little opposition, entered Watervalhoven and drove the remnant of the enemy through the town.

"French's column reached Doorhoek, overlooking Watervalonder, with slight opposition. Dundonald, with Strathcona's Horse, is further near Nooit Gadacht. We have occupied Watervalhoven and Watervalden. Buller reports that Nooit Gadacht is apparently deserted, except by British prisoners, who are passing in a continuous stream up the line toward Watervalonder. No Boers are visible. The natives report that Kruger and all the commanders left yesterday for Pilgrims' Rest.

"French reports the railway intact as Valendor, except for a small bridge near the station, which has been destroyed."

BRITISH PRISONERS RETURN

Badly Clothed and Half Starved Men Again with Their Own Forces.

LONDON, Aug. 31.—The following dispatch has been received at the War office from Lord Roberts:

"BELFAST, Aug. 31.—About 1,800 British prisoners released at Nooit Gedacht have reached French and Pole-Carew. They are badly clothed and some are said to be half starved. Ambulances are out picking up many of the sick and weakly ones. The captured officers are reported to have been taken to Barberton. Some of them escaped, including the earl of Leitrim and Vicount Ennismore. The prisoners report that Kruger, Steyn, Botha, Lucas Meyer and Schalkburger left Nooit Gedacht August 29 for Nelspruit. The Boers seem to be scattering."

CYCLONE WORSE THAN CANNON

Mafeking Suffers from Windstorm, Which Unroofs Houses and Levels Military Hospital.

MAFEKING, Aug. 31.—A cyclone that visited Mafeking last evening did more damage than the seven months' bombardment. It blew down or unroofed numerous buildings and leveled the military camp hospital, causing much suffering among the sick and wounded. One person was killed and two were injured and there were many narrow escapes.

WESTERN LINES WILL UNITE

Transcontinental Passenger Association is Now Said to Be an Assured Thing.

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, Colo., Aug. 31.—The committee of seven appointed yesterday by the meeting of railroad officials to draft a form of agreement looking to the establishment of a transcontinental passenger association has not been able to submit a report to the main body as yet and at a late hour tonight were in session. They appeared twice before the main body and requested further time to deliberate. It is said there is no hitch in the discussion of the main question, but the committee is trying to perfect plans. It is known the following points have been agreed to: The organization will be independent and in no wise connected with any other in existence; that the territory to be covered will not extend beyond the Missouri river on the east. The Santa Fe representative, Mr. Nicholson, favored associating with some existing organization, but did not urge the point.

Not the least doubt is expressed but satisfactory arrangements can be made with the two eastern passenger associations, so that there will be harmonious relations. It is thought the action of the committee, as soon as reported, will be quickly ratified, and after referring amendments to subcommittees another meeting will be held at an early date.

POOL TO KILL COMPETITION

Big Transcontinental Lines Join Hands in Effort to Increase Rates.

CHICAGO, Aug. 31.—The Record tomorrow will say:

It is reported that the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific and the Union Pacific railroads have entered into an agreement to cease unprofitable competition for transcontinental business and to strengthen rates to the normal figure. The three lines hope to force the Santa Fe, which lately has become one of the strongest competitors for transcontinental traffic, to be a party to the arrangement.

St. Paul Gets Line to Duluth.

CHICAGO, Aug. 31.—The St. Paul road has just closed a hundred-year contract with the St. Paul & Duluth company whereby it will use the northern company's tracks and make its own rates between Duluth and St. Paul and Minneapolis. The contract makes it optional with the Chicago line to operate its own trains over the Duluth line if conditions shall warrant such operations, but for the present the St. Paul will use the Duluth's equipments. The arrangement has given to the St. Paul that which it long has desired—a practicable outlet from the Twin Cities to Duluth.

Grand Island's New Official.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Aug. 31.—The appointment of H. Fernstrem as chief engineer of the St. Joseph & Grand Island road was announced today. He comes from St. Paul and has been chief engineer of the Chicago Great Western for several years.

Forest Fires in Colorado.

PAGOSA SPRINGS, Colo., Aug. 31.—Forest fires are raging along nearly the entire north boundary of Archuleta county and devastating large areas of timber. The largest fire is burning near the head of Four Mile creek, doing great damage.

RED CLIFF, Colo., Aug. 31.—A timber fire prevailing for the past few days in the vicinity of the deserted village of Gold Park, twelve miles from here, has assumed threatening proportions and is raging through a large acreage of timber on Homestake mountain. Everything is exceedingly dry on account of the almost entire absence of the customary rainy season, and unless the drouth is promptly raised incalculable damage will result.

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska:
Thunder Showers; Cooler

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	73	1 p. m.	85
6 a. m.	72	2 p. m.	86
7 a. m.	73	3 p. m.	87
8 a. m.	75	4 p. m.	86
9 a. m.	78	5 p. m.	85
10 a. m.	80	6 p. m.	83
11 a. m.	80	7 p. m.	82
12 m.	84	8 p. m.	78
		9 p. m.	76

OMAHA WOMAN IS CHOSEN

Mrs. W. A. Dillworth Elected President of Pythian Sisterhood at Detroit.

DETROIT, Aug. 31.—The supreme lodge of the Knights of Pythias today confirmed the reappointment of General J. R. Carnahan of Indianapolis as major general commanding the uniform rank. The following members of the board of control were elected: L. G. Aldrich of Mississippi, C. F. S. Neal of Indiana and John A. Harvey of Illinois. The rest of the session was devoted to the introduction and discussion of bills and amendments.

The competitive drills for Class A and the battalion drills continued today.

The Rathbone sisters today elected the following officers: Supreme chief, Dell P. Glazer of Fort Madison, Ia.; supreme senior, Belle Quinlan of Galesburg, Ill.; supreme junior, Lydia A. Monroe of Riverside, Cal.; supreme manager, Flora A. Schiff of Corrigan, Tex.; supreme mistress of records and correspondence, Josie Nelson of Union City, Ind.; supreme mistress of finance, Anna Young of Zanesville, O.; supreme protector, Mary E. True of Erie, Pa.; supreme guard, Maud F. Hays of West Branch, Mich.; president of insurance branch, Mrs. F. L. Ingham of Villisca, Ia.

The Pythian sisterhood elected the following: Supreme chancellor, Mrs. W. A. Dillworth of Omaha; supreme vice chancellor, Mrs. D. W. Boyd of Plain City, O.; supreme prelate, Mrs. G. W. Adams of Haverhill, Mass.; mistress of exchequer, Mrs. L. A. Small of Farmington, N. H.; keeper of records and seals, Mrs. Robert Smith of Richwood, O.; mistress of arms, Mrs. J. O. Arthur of Pittsburg; inner guard, Mrs. J. Marill of New York; outer guard, Mrs. W. D. Ladd of Providence.

WILL KEEP OUT OF POLITICS

General Maximo Gomez Will Not Participate in Cuban Constitutional Convention.

HAVANA, Aug. 31.—General Maximo Gomez has declined to accept the nomination offered to him by the national party to the constitutional convention. He says he has always kept out of politics and does not wish to enter now. The national party did not join with the other parties in a telegram sent today to President McKinley asking that the clause referring to the future relations between the United States and Cuba in the order calling the constitional convention be modified. The parties which did sign the dispatch call the nationalists unpatriotic. The nationalists reply in substance that they trust the Americans, but that if the United States government should finally say that Cuba must accept a protectorate they would refuse to assist in drawing up the constitution.

PROSPERITY SMILES ON CUBA

Rule of Americans Under Governor General Wood Results in Far Better Times.

JUCARO, Cuba, Aug. 31.—Governor General Wood, after a careful canvass of the island, will return to Havana Sunday evening. The effect of his tour has been excellent. Wherever he has been he has found good order prevailing, and the jails for the greater part are empty. The reconstruction of the country is slow, but much is being accomplished. Nowhere has he seen evidence of suffering from hunger. The health of the United States troops at all points is good. The political situation still retards the investment of foreign capital, but the public school system is steadily expanding, with the probability that at an early date places will be found for 250,000 children.

CUBAN TEACHERS RAISE ROW

Party Just Returned from United States Object to Their Treatment at Function in Havana.

HAVANA, Aug. 31.—Some trouble was caused during the entertainment given yesterday at the Tacon theater to the visiting school teachers because many of them were unable to obtain seats, residents of Havana having occupied the larger part of the house. Finally several of the teachers went on the stage and called upon the others to withdraw from the theater, alleging that they were being insulted there. For awhile confusion reigned supreme. The police arrested a number of teachers, though afterwards releasing them. After some delay the difficulty was adjusted by providing seats for the teachers in the boxes. The entertainment in other respects was highly successful.

BANDITS REACH BAD LANDS

Union Pacific Train Robbers Said to Be Surrounded in Southern Wyoming.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Aug. 31.—(Special Telegram.)—A report has reached the railroad that the posse in pursuit of the four bandits that dynamited and robbed the Union Pacific express train at Table Rock Wednesday night have been surrounded in a wild spot in the bad lands of southern Wyoming, known as the "Hay Stacks," and that they cannot escape. The robbers are known to be well armed and if they were thoughtful enough to supply themselves with food it may be many days before they can be starved out of their hiding place.

American Coal for Austria.

PENSACOLA, Fla., Aug. 31.—A local coal company closed a contract today for 100,000 tons of Alabama coal, to be shipped through this port to Fiume, Austria.

Movements of Ocean Steamers Aug. 31.

At New York—Arrived—St. Paul, from Southampton and Cherbourg; Minneapolis, from London; Campania, from Liverpool and Queenstown; Columbia, from Hamburg; Cap Fric, from Hamburg, etc.

At Hamburg—Arrived—Bulgaria, from New York; Fuerst Bismarck, from New York.

At Liverpool—Arrived—Cymric, from New York. Sailed—Numidian, for Montreal.

At Sydney, N. S. W.—Sailed—Moana, for San Francisco.

At Moville—Sailed—Anchoria, from Glasgow, for New York.

At Southampton—Sailed—Auguste Victoria, from Hamburg, for New York, via Cherbourg.

At Queenstown—Arrived—Lucania, from New York, for Liverpool and proceeded. Sailed—New England, from Liverpool, for Boston.

At Naples—Arrived—Kaiser Wilhelm II, from New York, for Genoa and proceeded.

At Cherbourg—Sailed—Auguste Victoria, from Hamburg and Southampton, for New York.

HARD NUT TO CRACK

England Guessing at Import of Russian American Exchange of Notes.

ATTITUDE OF UNITED STATES DISTURBING

Great Britain Opposed to Evacuation of Pekin as Matters Stand.

TWO CONDITIONS ARE NAMED BY LONDON

Indemnity Must Be Paid and Ringleaders of Revolt Must Be Punished.

OBJECTION IS MADE TO LI HUNG CHANG

English Newspapers Charge Government at Washington with Breaking the Concord of the Powers by Its Latest Move.

LONDON, Sept. 1.—4:20 a. m.—In the absence of other news from China the papers are again filled with discussions of the Russo-American proposals, which so far as may be gathered from the representations of opinions in the various European capitals, are calculated to subject the unity of the allies to an exceedingly severe and dangerous test.

In Germany especially these proposals are so diametrically opposed to Emperor William's policy that they have produced something like consternation. As the Daily News editorially remarks, "Count von Waldersee was assuredly not sent to assist in restoring the empress dowager."

It is recognized on all sides that Germany's decision is the pivot of the matter. Emperor William intended by dispatching Count von Waldersee to have the master hand in the Chinese settlement. Russia has taken the wind out of that officer's sails and is now posing as the friend and protector of China.

What "the Thunderer" Has to Say.

The morning papers express the greatest suspicion of the intentions of Russia. The Times' editorial fairly represents the opinion of all, saying:

"The advantages of Russia's policy are not manifest and it is very doubtful whether it will recommend itself to powers like England and Germany that have large commerical interests in the establishment of a stable and progressive government to replace the reactionary clique which has impeded all progress and development in China in recent years.

"Negotiation with Li Hung Chang would be a condonation of government crimes and the throwing away of all the advantages gained by the occupation of Pekin.

"Much mischief may have already been done by the hesitation to enter the Forbidden city. To withdraw from Pekin would be interpreted as proving not only that the allies are cowards, but that they are hopelessly divided. It may be that some of the powers will withdraw, but that does not imply that others are bound to leave Pekin and to acquiesce in the restoration of a government guilty of a gross international crime."

The Standard says: "Diplomacy sometimes makes strange bedfellows. It is curious to find the mighty autocrat of the old world and the great republic of the new gently coaxing the other powers along the paths of peace. Nothing could be better than the spirit of these documents, and it is interesting to find two powers so anxious to determine the controversy in an unselfish spirit."

Mail Thinks Russia Leads.

The Daily Mail says: "Russia has forced the hand of the United States against the better judgment of the latter. At the same time the United States government has adduced such valid reasons why the Russian policy is a bad one that it will hardly be expected that the other powers will concur."

The Daily News, which complains bitterly that the British government does not communicate a particle of information respecting these important negotiations, calls Mr. Adee's dispatch "very able" and asks what the British government is doing in the matter.

The Daily Chronicle thinks the question of the "open door" will prove the rift within the lute which now sounds such sweet harmony between the United States and Russia.

"Russia," says the Chronicle, "has heard of the 'open door' before from a greater naval power than the United States and has replied by simply slamming the door in that power's face."

The paper then proceeds to comment upon the difficulty of understanding Russia's real motives and the dangers of following Russian leadership.

The Daily Telegraph remarks: "The Russian proposals are among the most extraordinary coups attempted of recent years, even by Russia. The upshot will probably be the acceptance of Li Hung Chang to negotiate some kind of a compromise with the empress dowager."

Awkward for Austria.

Vienna specials show that the Russo-American proposals have caused extreme annoyance there. It is believed that Austria-Hungary will follow in Germany's steps, but it is recognized in both Berlin and Vienna that the withdrawal of Russia and the United States from Pekin would leave the other powers little option but to follow.

The afternoon papers of yesterday also appeared to be perplexed at the Americo-Russian accord to secure the prompt evacuation of Pekin. They point out how completely this upsets preconceived notions of the grouping of the powers on the Chinese question and the consensus of London's editorial opinion is that the proposals are antagonistic to British interests and that the allies should remain in Pekin until the Chinese government is re-established and the ringleaders of the present uprising are punished.

The Globe seizes the opportunity to indulge in unfriendly criticism, accusing the United States of breaking the concord of the powers and playing into the hands of Russia against Great Britain by supporting the suggestion of the employment of Li Hung Chang, who, the paper declares, is notoriously hostile to Great Britain and friendly to Russia.

The Globe urges that the British government oppose to the uttermost the idea of the evacuation of Pekin, in which course, the paper adds, it will be supported by Emperor William of Germany.

RUSSIAN PLAN IS FAVORED

European Governments Consider it Best to Withdraw Their Troops from Pekin.

LONDON, Aug. 31.—The Associated Press has official authority for announcing