

CAN'T SWALLOW IT,

Meaning the Conger Message Sent Through Mr. Wu.

PROTESTS RECEIVED BY HAY.

Consul General Goodnow at Shanghai Doubts Its Authenticity.

STATE OFFICIALS' FAITH UNSHAKEN.

It is Hinted the State Department is Endeavoring to Secure Further Evidence Which Will Clear Away Every Vistage of Doubt About the Peking Situation.

Washington, July 23.—The state department was the center of interest on the Chinese situation.

Secretary Hay was at his desk by 9 a. m., and for an hour was busily engaged with a matter of such importance that he declined to be interrupted by any one.

About 10:15 the Chinese minister arrived and was with the secretary for some time. On the departure of the minister the department gave out the imperial edict of the Chinese government, the substance of which had been previously made known.

The state department has received a deluge of dispatches from all quarters of the globe relating to the Conger message.

These show the attitude of foreign governments. Without exception the official view taken by all foreign officers is that the dispatch is not genuine and does not afford a basis for action. This incredulity is also shared by United States Consul General Goodnow at Shanghai, who has communicated to the state department his disbelief in the authenticity of the message.

The text of these several messages is not made public as they are inconclusive and do not add anything in the way of definite news to the situation at Peking, the entire tenor being one of doubt and suspicion.

The official doubts are based on various theories. One of them is that the deception was practiced by the Tsung Li Yamen itself. Still another is that it emanated from a high Chinese official—a man holding a position like that of Sheng or Prince Tuan, the latter being at the head of the anti-foreign element and at last accounts connected with the Tsung Li Yamen.

Notwithstanding this flood of doubt from official quarters, the state department holds to its position as to the authenticity of the message, Secretary Hay's position being now as it always has been, that there is every possibility of the genuineness of the message, although always a possibility that a fraud may have been perpetrated, but aside from this remote possibility, Mr. Hay feels there is absolutely no motive for the perpetuation of such a monstrous deception.

The Washington government is unshaken, therefore, in its position on the message, while the rest of the world has made it known to this government that this message is not accepted as coming from Conger on the 18th instant. Concerning the proposition of mediation, made to the United States by China, the state department was not prepared to make any statement. It was surmised that Mr. Hay was engaged in considering the government's answer, which would probably be delivered to Minister Wu later, but no statement as to the course of procedure could be obtained in any official quarter. As communication will be required between Washington and the president, it is hardly likely that the answer will be forthcoming at once.

Both the state department and Chinese officials took occasion early in the day to deny a report that plans were on foot to order the delivery of Mr. Conger by the Chinese authorities to Admiral Remy at Tien Tsin.

There is reason to believe that the government is again using every effort to secure communication with Mr. Conger, and this time to get an answer from our minister, which will be so conclusive as to remove any shadow of doubt.

In this connection it was reported that Minister Wu sent another cable dispatch to Minister Conger, but there is a strong disinclination in official quarters to discuss the various steps being taken while they are still in an inconclusive form.

Views of an American.

Chicago, July 23.—John P. Roberts of Shanghai, an American civil engineer who has spent 3 years in China, and who left Shanghai last May, passed through Chicago on his way to New York to visit his old home. "Knowing the Chinese as I do," said Mr. Roberts, "I have little doubt but that all the foreigners in Peking were murdered long ago. The government is weak and the mob undoubtedly got the upper hand. I know too much of what Chinese mobs have done in the past to doubt that they murdered the foreigners. An army of 40,000 regular troops is all that is necessary to take Peking," he continued. "The stories to the effect that the Chinese have an army of 950,000 men are ridiculous. There are not more than 20,000 drilled troops in China. The rest are poorly organized and poorly armed. If they had modern arms they would not know how to use them, and they do not constitute an effective fighting force."

An Inconsistency.

London, July 23.—Though there are some indications that hardened pessimism is beginning to melt under the warm shower of Chinese assurances, so that it is now admitted that perhaps not all the foreign ministers at Peking have been killed, still incredulity remains the dominant note of European comment. No one seems able to reconcile the assurances of the imperial edict with Minister Conger's statement in his alleged message to Secretary Hay that he was in hourly expectation of death by massacre, though both documents purport to have been sent off from Peking on the same date. It is confidently anticipated, however, that the mystery will soon be solved as all the governments following the lead of the United States have taken steps to test the sincerity of Chinese officialdom by insisting upon free communication with the ministers.

To Send Troops to Taku.

Washington, July 23.—The war department is considering the advisability of sending the Hancock, which sails from San Francisco July 28, with four batteries of artillery and 500 marines direct to Taku instead of to Nagasaki. The troops were to have gone on the Meade which sails August 1, but it has been decided owing to the urgent necessity of getting reinforcements to China to have the Hancock make a special trip. She will carry stores and provisions only for the troops in China. The Meade on the first proximo will take out one battalion of the 15th infantry, one squadron of the Third cavalry and one company of engineers from West Point, in all 1,171 men and 60 officers.

Troops From Cuba.

New York, July 23.—The United States transport Crook, having on board a detachment of the Eighth United States Infantry from Havana, arrived here. The enlisted men of the Eighth infantry on the Crooks number 642 and are under the command of lieutenant P. H. Mills. The troops comprise six companies, band and hospital corps. The officers of the regiment with families and servants number 36 persons. The Eighth infantry contingent are expected to proceed immediately after release from quarantine to a post in the west, probably Fort Snelling, where the regiment is recruiting to full strength for service in China.

Thinks They Are Safe.

Detroit, July 23.—Baron Paul Merling, German consul general to Peking, China, and an intimate friend of the late German minister, Baron von Ketteler, passed through Detroit en route to New York, whence he will sail Wednesday for home. Just before leaving Peking he had a long conversation with Minister Conger, who, he said, was very sure that the uprising would not amount to much. "I cannot believe," said Baron Merling, "that all the foreigners have been massacred."

Differs From Conger Message.

Washington, July 23.—The state department made public the following: "The state department has received a dispatch from Mr. Goodnow, the consul general at Shanghai, dated July 23, saying that Prince Tuan wires that an officer of the Tsung Li Yamen saw all the ministers on the 18th, that none was injured and that no attack was at that time being made. He does not say to whom the dispatch of Prince was addressed, and it is to a certain extent at variance with the dispatch of Mr. Conger of that date, describing the legation as being under heavy fire at that time."

Remy Goes to Tien Tsin.

Washington, July 23.—The bureau of navigation received the following cablegram from Admiral Remy: "Going to Tien Tsin, leaving a senior officer here. Newark gone Nagasaki for docking."

TAPS ROBERTS' LINES.

General Dewet Steals a Clever March on British Commander.

CAPTURED A HUNDRED HIGHLANDERS

Communications Both by Railway and Telegraph Between Pretoria and the Outside World Cut by the Alert Boers.

London, July 23.—General Dewet has again succeeded in cutting Lord Roberts' communications, both by railway and telegraph and captured 100 of the Highlanders. The story of the federal commander's bold raid comes in the form of a telegram from General Forester-Walker, dated at Cape Town, Sunday, July 22, forwarding a dispatch from General Knox as follows:

"Kroonstadt, July 22.—Following from Broadwood sent by dispatch rider to Honingspruit, wired thence to Kroonstadt: 'Have followed commando since July 16. Hard sharp fighting at Palmietfontein July 19. Prevented from pursuing laager by darkness. Eight hundred Boers found. Our casualties five killed and 76 wounded. Reach Voolkrantz today. Enemy doubled its way back through Paardekraal in darkness. Shall march tomorrow to Roodevaal station. Send supplies for 3,500 men and horses, also any news of the enemy's movements. I believe the commando consists of 2,000 men and four guns and is accompanied by President Steyn and both the Dewets'."

General Knox continued: "The wire and main line of the railway north of Honingspruit have been cut and also the telegraph to Pretoria via Potchefstroom. According to my information Dewet has crossed the railway and going north."

General Kelly-Kenny telegraphs from Bloemfontein under date of Sunday, July 22: "The railway has been cut north of Honingspruit and a supply train and 100 Highlanders captured by the enemy. A report was received that a large force of the enemy is moving on Honingspruit. All communications with Pretoria is cut off. The second and Third cavalry brigades are following the enemy."

Purchased Bonds.

New York, July 23.—The hearing in the case of the Gaynors and Benjamin D. Green, looking toward their removal to Georgia, for trial for alleged conspiracy with former Captain Carter in connection with the Savannah harbor frauds, was continued before United States Commissioner Shields. George M. Gibson, of the firm of Watson & Gibson, the first witness, stated his firm had transactions with Captain Oberlin M. Carter in purchasing securities from him. Mr. Gibson identified a check drawn by Captain Carter to the order of Watson and Gibson for the sum of \$5,493.75 for payment of certain securities purchased for him. A copy of the transaction of Carter with the firm as shown by the books of the latter was allowed in evidence. It shows that in 1892 and 1893, Carter had purchased over \$19,000 worth of bonds.

Havill Released.

St. Louis, July 23.—Ora Havill, a former Transit company detective who was arrested with dynamite in his possession at the time, recently, when Transit cars were being blown from the track nightly, was released in the criminal court. Havill pleaded guilty to the charge of being in unlawful possession of dynamite and carrying concealed weapons. Two other charges of carrying concealed weapons were dismissed on the understanding that the prisoner should leave the city. The court costs, including the fines assessed against Havill amounted to \$251.

About Campaign Speakers.

New York, July 23.—Senator Martin V. Scott of West Virginia, came up from Washington and went at once to the rooms of the Republican national committee. Senator Scott will have charge of the Republican speech making. He said: "We hope to have a great many prominent men speak in various parts of the country. We expect such men as Senator Burrows, Senator Lodge, Postmaster General Smith and Secretary Smith to deliver campaign speeches. Ex-President Harrison may make a few addresses."

Columbus, O., July 23.—George U. Murphy Pottery company, East Liverpool, \$75,000; Marietta Athletic Club, Marietta; Johns & company, Cleveland, increase from \$6,000 to \$100,000; Brass Manufacturing company, Cleveland, amendment changing name to Lyons Brass Manufacturing company; Pennsylvania Coal company, Tiffin, \$10,000; Logan Brick Manufacturing company, Toledo, \$50,000.

MOB HELD BACK.

Sheriff at Huntsville Prevents an Attempt to Lynch a Negro.

Huntsville, Ala., July 23.—Elijah Clark, a negro charged with committing criminal assault upon Sussie Priest, a 13-year-old white girl, was lodged in jail.

The doors of the jail were broken down by a mob and a rush made to pass Sheriff Fulgham and his deputies, when the deputies opened fire. Will Vining was shot in the shoulder and another man received serious wounds. The mob has placed dynamite under the jail and threaten to blow it up if the prisoner is not delivered to them. Governor Johnson has telegraphed Judge E. S. Peake, to impanel a jury and try Clark at once. Judge Peake agreed to try Clark at 3 p. m. The mob is quiet and its members say they will remain until they are assured the negro is getting quick justice. A stick of dynamite was thrown into the jail and great damage was done by the explosion. The mob now threatens to touch off more dynamite.

Have High Signs.

Chicago, July 23.—The inhabitants of Chinatown in this city have evidently adopted a signal, in case they should be attacked by a mob. Over 100 responded to a call for help from Moy Yen, proprietor of a restaurant and nearly overpowered Sergeant Mooney and two detectives of the Harrison street station before the astonished policemen could announce their identity and convince the excited Mongolians that they were making an arrest and not seeking to avenge atrocities committed in China. As the three officers approached Yens place a cry of alarm was raised. Every doorway then swarmed with Chinamen.

Attempt to Wreck a Train.

Three Lakes, Wis., July 23.—Eighteen ties were piled on the railroad tracks five miles south of this station. Alex. Swan, a laborer, coming to town early removed the obstruction just in time to prevent a passenger train from striking it. Swan also removed a number of large rocks from a bridge a short distance north, his action probably saving the lives of 30 members of the Three Lakes Rod and Gun club, who were on the train.

Caused Great Alarm.

Paris, July 23.—About noon the first accident occurred on the underground railway, causing great alarm among the passengers involved. It was due to inattention of an engineer who had just past the Hotel de Ville station. Stopping too sharply a short circuit ensued, the lamps were extinguished and the train remained in darkness for some time. The engineer's face was severely burned by sparks.

A Murder Mystery.

St. Joseph, Mo., July 23.—Two unknown young men were found beside the Chicago Great Western railway tracks at Savannah, Mo., 12 miles north of here dead, with bullet holes in the back of their heads. Both were well dressed. The theory is that they were murdered on a train and thrown off. A coroner's jury is investigating.

Shot by a Robber.

Chicago, July 23.—John A. Barsanti, a saloonkeeper in Van Buren street, was shot and fatally wounded by a holdup man at his place of business. Barsanti had refused to send over his money on the demand of the robber and the shooting was done during a rough and tumble fight between the men. The robber escaped.

Dead Bodies Found.

St. Joseph, Mo., July 23.—The dead bodies of two men were found on the Maple Leaf right of way, 30 miles north of here. Wounds on the head in the same spot on each man indicate murder. The local police are firm in this belief and the railroad detectives are at work on the case, but give out nothing.

Warehouse Burned.

St. Paul, July 23.—The St. Paul Cold Storage and Warehouse company's large warehouse was destroyed by fire. The total loss is estimated at \$750,000, with an insurance of \$550,000. The warehouse was filled with butter, fruit, tobacco, eggs, tea, whisky and other commodities.

Death of Goodall.

Youngstown, O., July 23.—William Goodall, at one time the champion heavyweight pugilist of England, died here after a brief illness, aged 64 years. During his career as a fighter, Goodall met Jim Mace, Joe Goss and many other pugilists.

Both Drowned.

San Francisco, July 23.—Ernest Gueldner and his eight-year-old son were drowned by the capsizing of their boat off Lime Point, just inside the Golden Gate. Dave McWirtter and E. Makowski were rescued.

COURT AND LAWYERS

Mutually Object and Except to Statements of Each Other.

LIVELY SPAT DURING POWERS' TRIAL

Judge Cantrill Denies That the Law Gives Crowds of Armed Men the Right to Gather in the State of Kentucky.

Georgetown, Ky., July 23.—The court room was only about half filled with spectators when the case was called. The prosecution gave notice that they would excuse a half dozen persons summoned as witnesses for that side. Among those excused was Ike Golden, brother, of Sergeant F. Wharton Golden.

Lieutenant John Ricketts, an officer in the Barbourville military company of which John Powers was captain, was the first witness. He arrived in Frankfort January 25 with the train load of mountaineers.

Before the train reached Frankfort, witness said the men were told to report to W. H. Culton for rations. The men were armed with guns and pistols. Arriving at Frankfort they took possession of the agricultural building and stacked their guns there.

Witness said each morning a crowd of from 300 to 600 mountain men occupied the yard in front of the legislative building. Witness saw Youtsey frequently and talked with him. He had a conversation with Youtsey the day before the assassination. Youtsey said Goebel had to be put out of the way and he (Youtsey) had \$100 which he would give for that purpose and knew of 10 or 12 others who would also contribute toward such a fund.

Youtsey also said Goebel could be killed from the executive building, that the assassin could escape through the basement and never be detected. Fifteen minutes before the assassination witness saw Youtsey and the latter told him he wanted 25 or 30 men to accompany him to the executive building.

Continuing witness said: "Youtsey put us inside the executive building near the stairs. He told us something was going to happen and we must remain there. When he started through the hall, I left and went into a private residence across the street from the building. I had been there a few minutes when I heard the shots. I did not know any of the men, whom I left at the foot of the stairs in the executive building."

Witness explained that the men whom Youtsey placed were just outside the office of secretary of state. He said he left because he did not want to be present in case of killing.

R. E. Combs, private secretary to appellate Judge Hobson, next witness, told of a conversation between two mountaineers in the house lobby a day or two before the assassination in which they spoke of "picking them out," meaning the Democrats.

During the cross examination of Combs, ex-Governor Brown objected to testimony that the mountaineers went to Frankfort armed, as the right to carry arms was a constitutional privilege. The court took issue on this point and said that the law did not permit crowds of men not in the military service and called out in the regular way to gather for any purpose.

Brown filed an exception to remarks of court regarding the unlawfulness of crowds arming themselves and repeated a previous statement as to what the defense expected to prove as to the purpose of the organization of the mountaineer excursions.

"Yes," interrupted Judge Cantrill, "and the court objects and excepts to the continued reiteration by counsel of things which the court thinks is meant for the spectators in the court room and not for the court."

"We object to that statement of the court," came from several attorneys for the defense. Both the court and Brown showed irritation.

Jones at Chicago.

Chicago, July 23.—James K. Jones, chairman of the national Democratic committee arrived at the auditorium annex from Lake Minnetonka, where he has been resting a few days with his family. He was closeted with his secretary at Democratic headquarters all the morning and denied himself to everybody. He stated that he had not yet selected the sub-committees from the general committee, but probably would do so within a few days. He thought further consultation with his colleagues necessary before taking that important step. Senator Jones will remain here until the campaign machines gets fairly into working order.