

WITTE HOLDS OUT CZAR'S ANSWER

Forces Japan to Play for More Time.

HAD ULTIMATUM READY

Russian Envoys Would Have Ended Conference.

MONDAY MAY RENEW WAR

Question of Indemnity Alone Remains. Czar Offering to Divide Sakhalin With Japan.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., Aug. 26.—As indicated in these dispatches last night, there was no rupture in the peace negotiations today. Peace is by no means assured, but an important crisis has been averted, and the fact that the life of the conference has been prolonged into next week adds materially to the chances of a favorable issue.

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PARIS, Aug. 26.—The adjournment of the peace conference at Portsmouth to Monday is regarded as an important factor in favor of Japan, but it is quite certain that he will not relinquish his hope of a peaceful adjustment of the pending differences until the final dispatches at Portsmouth.

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About the same time Mr. Sato and Mr. Denison, the American counselor to the Japanese envoys, were engaged in a game of billiards. Baron Komura and Minister Takahira remained in their apartments.

From the appearance of the Russian principals and the members of their suite, who were out in force, the casual observer might suppose that the work of the peace envoys had been practically concluded. The Russians leave that impression, but their actions and their speech furnish a basis for a well-founded suspicion that they may have been engaged in a game of bluff and have overplayed their hand. It may be, however, that they are sincere in their belief that the Japanese government will be unable to harmonize its differences and that the meeting scheduled for Monday will still have some result. The impression that the negotiations will continue for a time is strengthened by the knowledge that the Russian government has forwarded to Mr. Witte an answer to Japan's demands in the nature of a counter-proposition.

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CONTENTS TODAY'S PAPER.—The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 77 deg.; minimum, 50. TODAY'S—Fair and warmer. Northwest wind.

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STARVATION IN FAIR ANDALUSIA

Famine Reduces 200,000 Spaniards to Desperation Through Hunger.

COUNTRY HAS DRIED UP