

# Morning Oregonian

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## JAPAN'S ANGER BEGINS TO BOIL

### Has Absolute Proof That Russian Fleet Uses Kamranh Bay as Naval Base.

## IS BITTER AGAINST FRANCE

### May Call on Britain for Aid Because France Has Helped Russia. France Induces Russia to Order Fleet to Move On.

## BRITISH FLEET GETS READY

SPECIAL CABLE.  
HONG KONG, April 22.—Great Britain is preparing all of her ships in these waters for sea service. The armored cruiser Hague is getting ready to go to sea on two hours' notice.

These facts are significant, owing to Japan's charges that France has violated her neutrality by allowing the Russian fleet to lie in Indo-Chinese waters and a demand of the Japanese press that England aid Japan in case France openly violates neutrality.

## SPECIAL CABLE

TOKIO, April 21.—The situation, in so far as France and Japan are concerned, is still most serious, and the Japanese government is by no means satisfied with the disavowals on the part of France of Russia's action in using Kamranh Bay as a naval base. The protest forwarded to France has been answered in a manner that has displeased the Cabinet, and it is expected that the Tokyo government will issue a note to the powers calling attention to what will be termed an absolute disregard of neutrality.

Information has been received by the Japanese government from an absolutely reliable source that the main Baltic fleet is at present anchored in the inner harbor, taking on board large quantities of supplies, ammunition and coal, and extending such repairs as were made necessary by the long voyage from St. Petersburg. Divers have scoured the hulls of most of the ships, and they have been placed in condition for battle. Scoutships patrol the coast and watch for the Japanese fleet, and all its intents and purposes Kamranh Bay is at present a Russian naval base.

The feeling against France is intensely bitter in the War Office and at navy headquarters, and it would not be surprising if the forthcoming note was couched in vigorous language. It is pointed out that Russia asked China for a port, and that the latter nation refused, with the result that France was called on, and, despite her protestations of neutrality, placed no obstacle in the way of Russia in securing a base in the China Sea.

In so far as the French claims that the Russian fleet in the vicinity is not strong enough to enforce neutrality are concerned, Japanese officials declare that, if the French Admiral had demanded that the Russians move and the Russian commander had refused, this fact called to Paris would have resulted in France being placed in a better light before the world. Even had the French Admiral been forced to resort to force of arms, the Russian commander would hardly have resisted, as the sight of a French squadron cleared for action would have brought Rojstevsky to his senses.

The next developments of the case are expected in London, and it is expected here that England will soon have something to say on the treatment her ally is receiving at the hands of France. Under the treaty between Japan and England the latter nation is pledged to aid Japan should a second power take a hand in the war, and the Japanese strategists claim that France's action in giving Russia a naval base amounts to an act of hostility.

## FLEET ORDERED TO MOVE ON

### Scared by Japan's Protest, France at Last Enforces Neutrality.

PARIS, April 21.—Following close upon the heels of the complications with Germany over Morocco, the Franco-Japanese incident has suddenly assumed serious proportions, and unusual energy was shown in preventing its embroiling France in complications in the Far East. In order to secure definite co-operation among three departments of the government, namely, naval, colonial and foreign, a conference was held this afternoon among leading representatives of each department. This brought about a clear understanding regarding the measures necessary for the maintenance of neutrality of Indo-Chinese waters, and orders were sent to Governor-General Deau to specifically report the exact location of the Russian second Pacific squadron, and whether it had or had not withdrawn from French waters.

Communications with St. Petersburg led to orders being transmitted by the Russian government to Vice-Admiral Rojstevsky to vigorously respect the neutrality of French waters. It was even stated that Foreign Minister Lamdorff would carry the question before Emperor Nicholas in order to assure complete respect.

Probably the most significant development from the energetic measures adopted was the receipt of a dispatch from Saigon, saying that imperative orders had been given for the disarmament of the Russian cruiser Diana, which sought refuge in the harbor of Saigon eight months ago for purposes of repair. The main portion of the Diana's machinery must now be handed over to the French naval authorities at Saigon.

The anticipated debate in the Chamber

of Deputies of the question of neutrality was postponed owing to the Delcasse announcement. The only reference to the subject was the inquiry by Deputy Delcasse and the brief reply from Premier Rouvier, who said:

"Formal, precise and repeated orders have been given our agents in Indo-China to assure the absolute neutrality of France in Indo-Chinese waters."

It was stated at the Foreign Office late this afternoon that no representations of any kind had been presented by Great Britain concerning neutrality. At the same time it is anticipated that some such representations will be made. The fact that the British Ambassador, Sir Francis Bertie, has given up his Easter holiday and will return to Paris tonight after a conference with Foreign Secretary Lansdowne, appears to support this view. However, the cordial relations existing between France and Great Britain would doubtless modify any representations so as to relieve them from serious significance. Anything like an energetic protest from Great Britain at this time would deeply wound France, who relies on the Anglo-French entente as a counterpoise to Germany's menaces over Morocco.

## RUSSIANS PRAY FOR THE FLEET

### It Has Sailed for Vladivostok and Is Nearing Togo.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 22, 2:30 A. M.—Reports are current here that the Russian second Pacific squadron has already left Kamranh Bay and is on the way to Vladivostok, but the government will proceed with action on the Japanese protest as if the squadron has not continued its voyage.

A special service was held in the Admiralty Church yesterday to offer prayers for the safety of the squadron and its successful arrival at Vladivostok. The service was attended by High Admiral Grand Duke Alexis, Admiral Avellan, chief of the admiralty, other prominent naval officials and a distinguished congregation.

## CRUISER DIANA MUST DISARM

### France Gives Long-Delayed Orders Regarding Russian Ship.

SAIGON, French Cochinchina, April 21.—Orders have been given for the disarmament of the Russian cruiser Diana, which took refuge under one of the coast forts in August, 1904. She has undergone important repairs to essential portions of her machinery, which now will be handed over to the French authorities here.

Dispatches under date of September 8, 1904, stated that the French minister at Tokio had informed the Japanese government that the Russian cruiser Diana, which sought refuge at Saigon on August 26, would disarm. It appears from the foregoing dispatch that the disarmament was not effective at the time previously indicated.

## NO ANSWER FROM ADMIRAL

### Orders to Respect Neutrality Will Be Slow Travelers.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 22.—No reply is expected from Vice-Admiral Rojstevsky for several days relative to the instructions to him to respect the neutrality of French waters. Admiral Wrenius stated last night that Rojstevsky's telegram announcing his arrival at Kamranh Bay took four days in transmission.

Admiral Wrenius added that he had no idea of the present whereabouts of Rojstevsky, but that he believed he had left Kamranh Bay. In any case, he said, at this season territorial waters offer no great advantage, because the weather is good and the sea calm.

## RUSSIANS TAKE AGGRESSIVE

### Prepare to Invade Northeast Corea and Block Road to Vladivostok.

TOKIO, April 21.—It is reported from various sources that the Russians are concentrating their forces in the vicinity of Posiol Bay and are planning to cross the Tumen River and then move southward into Northeastern Corea.

(Continued on Fifth Page.)

## FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER WHO THREATENS TO RESIGN

PARIS, April 21.—Foreign Minister Delcasse has withdrawn his resignation which was tendered at the cabinet meeting yesterday afternoon. It was pointed out to him that if he persisted in retiring, his action would precipitate a crisis and that the government must fall, inasmuch as his associates in the cabinet did not desire to continue in office were he to retire.

M. Delcasse finally decided to bow to the will of his fellows and withdrew his resignation.

## DELICASSE WILL STAY IN OFFICE

### Threatened to Resign Because of Policy Toward Germany and Japan.

## OPPOSED CHANGE OF FRONT

### Japan's Protest and Kaiser's Action in Morocco Cause Discussions in French Cabinet—Socialists Are Against Russia.

PARIS, April 21.—After a notable service of nearly eight years in the division of foreign affairs, Theophile Delcasse today informed President of the Council Rouvier of his desire and intention to resign. This announcement came as a surprise and shock to M. Delcasse's colleagues of the Cabinet, who immediately took steps to endeavor to secure a reconsideration of his determination.

A cabinet council was held this afternoon, at which M. Rouvier, in the absence of M. Delcasse, laid the situation before the Ministers. It was the unanimous determination of the council that the interests of the country at this time required that M. Delcasse retain the portfolio of foreign affairs. Accordingly, at the conclusion of the council, M. Rouvier proceeded to the Quai d'Orsay, where he held an extended conference with the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The president of the council, voting the wishes of President Loubet and the Ministers, earnestly besought M. Delcasse to retain his place in the Cabinet.

It is evident that M. Rouvier's earnest appeal caused M. Delcasse to waver in his determination. When the president of the council came from the interview he stated to his colleagues that he bore a favorable impression of its results. M. Delcasse, he said, had given no final answer, but had promised to reserve his determination until tomorrow, when a final answer will be given. It is believed that M. Delcasse will yield to the insistence of President Loubet and the president of the council.

The motives leading up to M. Delcasse's sudden determination to retire from the Cabinet are primarily attributed to international controversies over the Moroccan question, and this to some extent has been accentuated by similar controversies over French neutrality in the Far East. The opposition has been quick to seize upon both questions, and, headed by Socialists and Nationalists, has directed its criticisms during recent days on the Moroccan question, and this appears to have finally decided M. Delcasse to surrender the question into other hands. It is felt that his retirement now would be hailed in Germany as a German triumph, and is one of the main considerations leading M. Rouvier earnestly to appeal to M. Delcasse to remain in the Foreign Office.

The news of M. Delcasse's intentions

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made a profound impression in the Chamber of Deputies, where it was first received with incredulity. Later, however, when M. Delcasse (Republican) questioned the government upon the neutrality question, and M. Rouvier replied instead of M. Delcasse, it was realized that the report had solid foundation. Several deputies stated that M. Delcasse had sent a letter of resignation to the president of the council, and that M. Rouvier had declined to accept it, saying that he would be obliged to present it to the Council of Ministers. It was as a result of this presentation to the council that M. Rouvier persuaded M. Delcasse to withhold his final decision until tomorrow.

## MOROCCO CAUSE OF TROUBLE

### Delcasse Policy Set Aside in Mollifying Germany.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—Diplomats in close touch with European chancelleries hold the opinion that Morocco, more than the menace to French neutrality in the Far East, is responsible for the threatened retirement of M. Delcasse, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs. It is learned that France has informed Germany that nothing could have been further from her intentions than to injure German interests in Morocco, and even has gone so far as to say that the French position there not only furnishes a protection to the commerce of other nations, but insures rather than threatens the integrity of Morocco and thereby the maintenance of the status quo which was the special cause of concern to the Berlin government.

So satisfied is Germany, it is said, with the attitude of France, and so different is this attitude from what Germany believed, that it is believed here that Berlin and Paris are approaching complete accord on the subject. European advice indicates that Germany's suspicions were aroused by the apparent unwillingness in the past of the French Government to discuss Morocco, even when the subject was directly brought up. It is thought here that this change in conditions may account for the fact that M. Delcasse has gone so far as to contemplate retirement.

In the diplomatic corps here M. Delcasse long has been regarded as one of the few world diplomatists of today.

## HOPE DELCASSE WILL STAY

### British Statesmen Say Fall Would Be Victory for Kaiser.

LONDON, April 21.—It is a long time since the fate of any Foreign Minister has been watched with such keen attention in Great Britain as that of M. Delcasse is today. Part author of the Anglo-French entente, M. Delcasse, by his long and skillful conduct of foreign affairs, has come to be regarded here as the embodiment of the new era of stability in French policy which has raised France to a position of such great influence in Europe, and the possibility of his disappearance is the subject of editorial articles in the morning newspapers expressing regret.

It is unanimously admitted that his downfall would be a great victory for the German Emperor, and the strongest hopes are expressed that M. Delcasse will continue to remain in the cabinet. It is felt that from the French Cabinet at this time, when so many delicate questions of policy, such as Morocco, Far Eastern neutrality, etc., are requiring the ablest man at the helm.

## DELICASSE OFFERS TO RESIGN

### Reversal of French Foreign Policy Causes Cabinet to Disagree.

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## HYDE STATES HIS POSITION

### Tells Agents Whole Story of Equitable Troubles and Assails Enemies.

## SCHEME TO DRIVE HIM OUT

### Every Concession Used as Basis for Further Demands—Tells Agents to Mind Their Own Business and Resents Butting In.

## AGENTS ARE BUTTING IN

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NEW YORK, April 21.—James H. Hyde tonight issued a statement in reply to that of the committee of agents of the Equitable Life Assurance Society which waited on him yesterday. In this statement he says:

"I feel that I have been treated with great injustice and that no one has so serious a cause for complaint as I have. So far as any good results could be served by the resignation of any officers responsible for the injury which the society has suffered, and is doubtless to suffer in the future, your report is misdirected."

"In view of the concessions I have been wanting to make for the welfare of the society, I resent your misguided action, taken in utter ignorance of the true situation, of which you cannot possibly have adequate knowledge. Your request, perhaps unwittingly on your part, is merely another move in the campaign of attack originally devised. When the real facts are known to the policyholders, I believe that all right-minded men among them will be as indignant as I am at the methods that have been employed by my enemies for their own ends, in pursuing which they have not hesitated to sacrifice the best interests of the society and to disregard the proper protection of the policyholders. Your action, instead of furnishing a solution of the present unfortunate situation, renders the difficulty more acute. It is regrettable that in this situation the convention of managers did not take advantage of its opportunity to become a factor in promoting honorable peace."

"I assume that you have been kept informed through the newspapers of the assaults that have been made on me, but I doubt whether you have seen the full of the efforts I made to avoid the injury to the society from these attacks."

## Tells How Trouble Began

"You probably know in a general way of the circumstances under which I was hastily summoned to the offices of the president by telephons from the country, on the eve of the annual meeting, and shortly before the expiration of the trust under which my stock is held; that I was there confronted, without previous notice or warning, with a memorial of officers and employees, which had been secretly circulated and in many instances signed under coercion; that my immediate retirement was demanded under threats; that I peremptorily refused to retire, and that such refusal was followed by the immediate submission to the board of directors of a demand for my retirement and for the practical disfranchisement of the stock of the society. It may surprise you to learn that the leaders of this attack upon me and the society have persistently disclaimed responsibility for all of the newspaper publications assailing me and defaming the society and its management. The plea of mutualization was a mere sham, under cover of which it was designed, by these leaders to wrest the control of the society from the responsible hands of the most representative body of directors in the country and to transfer it to their own grasp through the use of the agencies as instrumentalities."

"I can understand the desire of your body for mutualization, but I have never believed, and I do not believe, that a sys-

tem of control which virtually places the agents over the directors and officers is sound in principle. At the threshold of this matter, and before any public controversy had arisen, it was, however, urged upon me that there was a general desire upon the part of the policyholders that they be given the right to vote for directors. Therefore, notwithstanding my own view on the subject, and in order to meet this desire of the policyholders and to give time for the careful consideration of the proper method of bringing this about, I offered to place my stock in the hands of trustees for five years, to be voted in accordance with the directions of the board of directors. I could hardly have given a stronger evidence of my solicitude for the welfare of the society. This offer was not accepted. The authors of the conspiracy made impossible demands. Finally, although I was advised by eminent counsel that the power of control of the stock could not be lawfully taken away without the consent of its holders, either by the board or by the Legislature, I consented, so far as my stock was concerned, that the policyholders should elect 25 of the 50 directors of the society.

Concessions Used by Enemies.

"This concession was intended for the benefit of the policyholders, but in practical effect, as I then feared and now believe, it was the purpose that any concessions by me should be utilized for the benefit and account of the instigators of this movement, who proposed to erect a constituency of agents to control the votes of policyholders. This belief is confirmed by the extraordinary proceedings at your recent meeting in this city, in which the power dominating the meetings was quite apparent."

"Although it was represented that this important concession would assure permanent peace for the society, it was followed by new demands, to which I again acceded, in the belief that faith would at last be kept and peace restored. Then I was told that these concessions which had been secured from me because of my loyalty to the society and on the repeated assurances given to the board of directors and to me that they would, if granted, be accepted as a complete settlement, were simply a means to an end, and that the warfare would go on until I should be forced out of office and the voting power of the stock, which had been expressly reserved, should be completely destroyed."

"It is evident that I have been designedly tricked. Thus far I am the only person in this controversy who has made any sacrifices. The others have no such substantial interests in the society, and nothing to lose by this warfare against its prosperity. I now know that those sacrifices which I have been deceived into making have been simply an encouragement to further attempted invasions of the rights of stockholders. As a fitting phase of these proceedings you are, at this juncture, gathered here from all parts of the country, and, under the exciting influence of false rumors, induced to pass unfortunate resolutions without so much as informing yourselves of the facts of the situation."

## AGENTS ARE BUTTING IN

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"I am justified in further reminding you that the matters upon which you have assumed to act are matters not for your consideration and action, but for the consideration and action of the board of directors of the society. These matters are now in their hands, and the facts relating to them are being definitely ascertained by an investigating committee appointed by the board. To the board and to the committee I have made a number of communications, stating the facts and expressing my views upon these subjects. I do not feel at liberty to further discuss them also to you. I can only say I think you are making a mistake in the course you are following, and that your duty to the society requires you rather to submit loyalty to the lawful direction of the board of directors than to associate yourselves for the purpose of stirring up further strife and endeavoring to override the action of the board."

"While I resent and I am justified in resenting your mistaken action toward me, I am by no means indifferent to your good will or anxious to your hostility, and I trust that in the future of the society's affairs I shall be able to gain for my own part in their administration the support and approval of the men who have now so intemperately misjudged me. Yours very truly,

JAMES H. HYDE."

## CHAFFEE ON INSPECTION TOUR

### Oklahoma City, Okla., April 21.—

Lieutenant-General Adm. R. Chaffee arrived here today on a tour of inspection of the Southwest. He will be accompanied from here by Major-General Sumner, commanding the Southwestern division.

## HIGGINS' VIEWS ON EQUITABLE

### Concerned More in Interests of Policy-Holders Than of Any Others.

## TALKS FRANKLY TO AGENTS

### Committee of Agents Also Gets Assurances From Commissioner Hendricks—Salt for Receiver Begun in Federal Court.

## ALBANY, N. Y., April 21.—

The crisis in the affairs of the Equitable Life Assurance Society was laid before Governor Higgins at the executive chamber this afternoon by the committee of thirty-five of the managing agents of the society which earlier in the day at Syracuse had made the same appeal for mutualization of the society to Superintendent Hendricks of the State Insurance Department. The views of the agents were presented to the governor by John Bowers, manager for the Equitable at Baltimore, Md., as chief spokesman. The agents also presented to the governor the resolutions adopted earlier in the week by the agents' convention in New York City.

Governor Higgins made very evident his appreciation of the great seriousness of the situation in the Equitable Society. His reply was greeted with applause. He said that the governor and legislature had not the power to settle the Equitable difficulty; that the matter was in the court, properly, he thought. He continued:

"I do not feel at the present moment that I can assure you as to whether the time will come in the immediate future when it will seem to me wise to communicate with the legislature and ask it to pass any particular bill in reference to the Equitable Life. But I can say to you this, with the utmost frankness and sincerity, that at all times I shall be interested more in the interests of the policyholders of the Equitable Life Assurance Society than in the interests of any other person or party connected with it. And if I come to the conclusion that I can further the interests of those policyholders, if I should come to that conclusion, you can rest assured that no act will be left undone by me that will bring about better conditions for that society."

## HENDRICKS MEETS AGENTS

### Declares for Mutualization and Exclusion of Dummy Directors.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., April 21.—Preferably mutualization, the turning over of a substantial interest to the policyholders, or some other remedy to relieve the embarrassing situation in the affairs of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, was the burden of the request made of Superintendent of Insurance Francis Hendricks by the committee of general agents which laid their wishes before him here today.

About 40 members of the special committee of 72 appointed at the meeting of general agents recently held in New York were present at the conference held at noon in Mr. Hendricks' office, at the State Bank of Syracuse, of which he is president. Among the prominent agents present were: Wyman Ellis, Helena, Mont.; W. S. Bowen, Albuquerque, N. M.; J. H. Allenberg, Spokane.

Joseph Bowers, of Baltimore, was spokesman of the committee. To Mr. Hendricks, the state superintendent of insurance, Mr. Bowers reviewed the action of the agents of the company in favor of mutualization, and then made an address. He declared the policyholders wanted. The prevailing conditions have alarmed the policyholders, he said. The original plan of the founder, he said, contemplated mutualization.

"For the first time the question of ownership of the vast surplus has arisen," he said. "The time has come for the change, when the society can no longer be regarded as the patrimony of one man. I am informed on reliable authority that 25 or 30 directors do not own the requisite amount of stock required by the charter. There is no animosity among the agents against Mr. Hyde, but a change must be made to deprive him of the immense power he wields."

"Mr. Hyde's elevation was due to sentiment because of his descent from the founder. For five years he has been watched, helped and forgiven, until sentiment has been exhausted."

E. A. Woods, of Pittsburg, president of the agents, next addressed Mr. Hendricks. He told of the immense tangible interests of the agents, and declared that under the present system of control the Equitable stock could be transferred to a party even more dangerous than Mr. Hyde. The agents were opposed to any change which did not conserve the interests of policyholders, and had suggested a committee of policyholders as trustees, appointed by President Roosevelt, or to designate ex-President Grover Cleveland, or a committee of college presidents. He believed adverse legislation in other states could be prevented by prompt action in New York.

Archibald Haynes, of Portland, Me., followed with similar remarks.

In his reply, Mr. Hendricks said:

"As far as the mutualization of the company is concerned, I have already expressed myself very clearly. I am very much in favor of that outcome. I am not sure, however, that you can obtain the relief desired by legislation. Of course, I speak to you as Superintendent of insurance. You know I have no control over the Legislature and cannot say what that body will do. The question has got to

## AGED SENATOR WHO DIED LAST NIGHT

### Senator Obituary H. Platt of Connecticut.

NEW YORK, April 21.—Senator Obituary H. Platt of Connecticut died last night at his home in New York City. He was 82 years of age. He was a member of the Connecticut legislature for many years, and served in the United States Senate from 1875 to 1891. He was a prominent member of the Republican party and was known for his conservative views. He was a member of the American Historical Association and the American Society of International Law. He was also a member of the Connecticut Historical Society and the Connecticut State Historical Society. He was a member of the New York Historical Society and the New York State Historical Society. He was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the American Academy of Political and Social Science. He was a member of the American Philosophical Society and the American Philosophical Association. He was a member of the American Historical Association and the American Society of International Law. He was a member of the Connecticut Historical Society and the Connecticut State Historical Society. He was a member of the New York Historical Society and the New York State Historical Society. He was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the American Academy of Political and Social Science. He was a member of the American Philosophical Society and the American Philosophical Association.

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### Threatened to Resign Because of Policy Toward Germany and Japan.

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## DELICASSE WILL STAY IN OFFICE

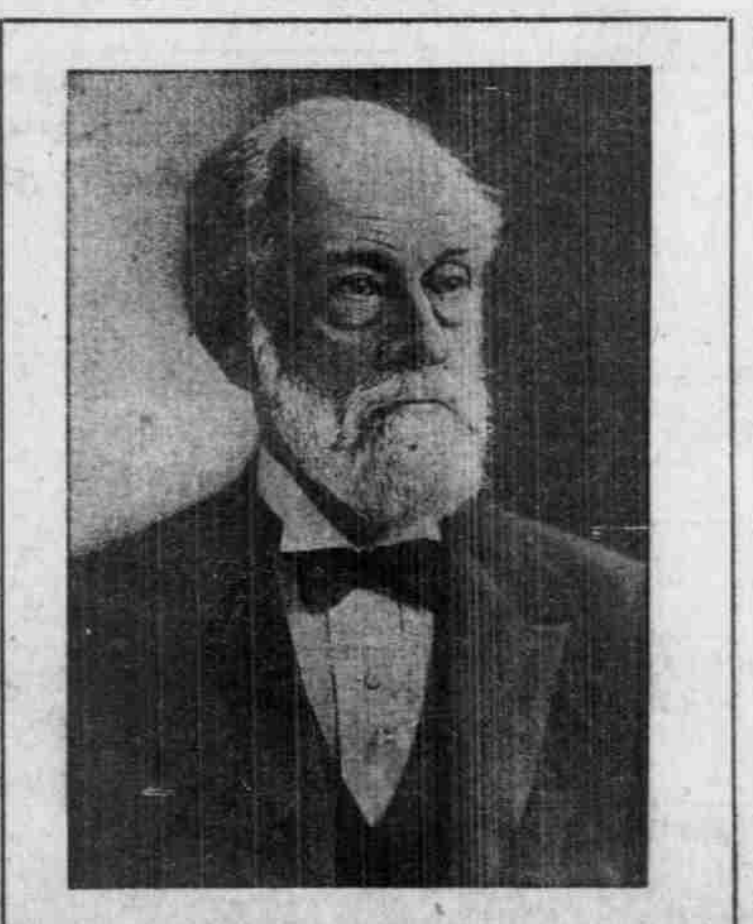
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THEOPHILE DELCASSE.



SENATOR OBITUARY H. PLATT OF CONNECTICUT.

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