

KANEKO BRINGS WORD FROM TOKIO

Japanese Agent Again With Roosevelt.

GLOSE SECRETY OBSERVED

Neutral Powers Urge Agreement in Conference.

BRITAIN REFUSES TO HELP

Japan Stands Firmly for Her Terms. Conference Likely to Adjourn Again, Which Will Be Point for Roosevelt.

OYSTER BAY, Aug. 21.—President Roosevelt has abandoned hope of a successful issue of the Washington Peace Conference. Neither has he relaxed his efforts to prevent a rupture between the conferees when they reconvene tomorrow afternoon at Portsmouth.

Events of importance succeeded each other rapidly here today. On an early morning train, Baron Kaneko, a confidential representative in this country of the Japanese Government, arrived in Oyster Bay quite unexpectedly. He has a general invitation to visit the President at any time and was received as soon as he arrived at Sagamore Hill.

That he was the bearer of important information is known, but the nature of his message is not disclosed. He remained with the President three-quarters of an hour. At the conclusion of the conference the Baron declined even to discuss the mission, although he politely expressed regret at his inability to enlighten his interrogators.

Japan Can Yield No More.

Surrounded by half a dozen newspaper men he talked with apparent frankness, but his words were not luminous with information. He expressed the opinion, which he was careful to note was simply his own, that Japan had made every concession in the conference that a victorious power could be expected to make and that the Japanese people would resent any serious recession by the envoys from the position they had taken.

"I think we will know tomorrow evening at 3 o'clock, when the plenipotentiaries meet in Portsmouth," said he. "By that time they will have determined the matter."

"Do you mean that they will have heard definitely from their governments by that time?"

"Yes, I assume so," he replied.

Baron Kaneko was asked if a proposition had been made to submit any point of difference that had arisen between the envoys to the Hague tribunal.

"Oh, I know nothing at all about that. What I read in the newspapers is all I know. The American newspapers have the ability to go to an inner mind."

Following Baron Kaneko's visit, President Roosevelt had his acting secretary, Mr. Barnes, with him for two hours. In addition to the matter which the Baron had presented to him, the President received and considered an accumulation of dispatches and letters. Late in the day important messages were received from Portsmouth, the responses to which occupied the President's attention for a considerable time.

Not the slightest indications of the character of the correspondence were permitted to become public. The President, acting as an intermediary between the two warring governments, feels that secrecy is even more incumbent upon him than as though the matter related wholly to him personally or to the United States. The President declines either to affirm or deny any of the statements made about the proposition which he submitted to the Russian envoys through Baron Rosen.

Powers Press for Peace.

There is strong reason for the statement, however, that the proposition involved far more than a mere suggestion that the matters in difference between the envoys be submitted to the arbitration of an impartial tribunal. The statement heretofore made in these dispatches that powerful pressure, not alone from President Roosevelt, but from neutral powers of Europe is being brought to bear upon the governments of Russia and Japan to insure a successful issue of the conference can be reiterated. Whether that influence takes the form of a suggestion of modification of Japan's terms or an insistence that Russia make the best bargain she can, or of an entirely new plan to bring about agreement, cannot be ascertained.

No intimation of the President's opinion of the result of the meeting when the conferees reconvene is given but that hope yet springs from the conditions surrounding the conference is evident.

SUSPENSE AT PORTSMOUTH

Awaiting Results From Roosevelt.

No Yielding Among Japanese.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., Aug. 21.—The result of President Roosevelt's efforts to save the peace conference from failure remains in suspense. No direct reply to the President's proposition communicated by Mr. Witte has come from Emperor Nicholas today, but other advices received from St. Petersburg indicate that the Emperor and his counselors are un-

shaken in their determination neither to cede territory nor pay war tributes. What the President is doing on the Japanese side remains as deep a mystery as ever.

Little light is shed upon the visits of Baron Kaneko to Oyster Bay. The Japanese do not even admit that he is their medium of communication with the President. They go no further than to reiterate that Mr. Roosevelt understands their position, and that they have the fullest confidence in him. They show not the slightest indication that they have in any wise changed their position, or are prepared to yield more than they were last Friday, when the plenipotentiaries adjourned until Tuesday.

If Mr. Witte does not receive fresh instructions before 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon, when the conference resumes, therefore, the situation will be exactly what was when adjournment was taken on Friday. It is safe to assume that in the absence of such a reply the conference will be prolonged beyond tomorrow, and every delay, in the opinion of the President's friends, means hope, faint though it may be.

Roosevelt Plays for Time.

President Roosevelt's object was officially described today as being to "prolong the negotiations." There is warrant for the statement that Mr. Witte personally sympathizes with the President's proposition, no matter how it may be regarded by his imperial master and the latter's advisers. It is a mistake to suppose that, in considering such a proposition, the Emperor consults a regularly organized council. Throughout the conference he has been calling in council such advisers as he deemed wise, some of his relatives, the Grand Dukes, members of the court and certain chosen ministers.

The Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaevich, one of the most powerful of his relatives, is known to be absolutely opposed to yielding an iota beyond what Mr. Witte has already conceded. As an alternative, he favors the continuation of the war. The spirit of all the advices received has been such as to preclude hope of an iota-hour change.

Only One Power Backs Roosevelt.

The general belief here is that President Roosevelt, who has the moral support of one of the neutral powers, has not received the active aid he expected. Great Britain's declaration to offer advice to Japan is disappointing, though the motive that actuates him in refusing to do anything that might be construed as an attempt to exercise pressure upon her ally tending to rob her of the fruits of her victory, are fully appreciated. There are evidences here that co-operation by Great Britain would have been resented by Japan.

The Japanese the only note of hope among them. With general reluctance, they seem almost resigned to the stipulations of the conference. They declare that their position is unchanged, and they speak of renewing the war with a snap of their black eyes which speaks volumes for their confidence in the success of Oyster Bay when the word is given to advance.

ARGUMENTS OF EACH SIDE

Protocols Will Show Position on Four Disputed Points.

PORTSMOUTH, Aug. 21.—Both the Russians and Japanese have almost finished the preparation of the protocols to be submitted at the meeting of the conference tomorrow afternoon. The features of the protocols will be the presentation of the reasons advanced by both sides for the divergence of views upon the articles upon which no agreement was reached.

Among the points in dispute are the Japanese claim to the possession of Sakhalin, the Alno race, which lives there, and the sovereignty of Russia over the island as well as reason of their national rights to its possession as because of Russian occupation by the Japanese since 1855. The Japanese also claim that up to 1850 Japan had never claimed any right to Sakhalin, and that the island was uninhabited Japanese land at the time of the island, during the fishing season.

Admiral Nevelskine opened the eyes of the Japanese to the value of Sakhalin and the Alno race, and initiated negotiations for the possession of the island by Russia. It was then that Japan, in order to make good her claims, tried to colonize the island, and stated that the Alno race, which lives there, belonged to the same family as the original inhabitants of the northern islands of Japan.

In 1850, Muraviev, Governor-General of Amur, tried to persuade Japan to yield her claim to the south part of Sakhalin, but she would not succeed, as the Americans had already begun to suggest the same in their attitude against Russia. The reports of all the Russian Consuls in Japan up to the year 1850 stated that the Japanese had declined either to affirm or deny any of the statements made about the proposition which he submitted to the Russian envoys through Baron Rosen.

With regard to article 3, the protocol reports that the Japanese have forth several times in the Associated Press dispatches, the Japanese claim reimbursement for the expenses of the war in the Far East, that they were forced by Russia's aggressions to resort to arms for self-preservation, and having been victorious at all points on sea and land to demand reimbursement. Russia, on the contrary, denies absolutely that Japan is in a position to dictate such a condition, as Russia does not acknowledge defeat and does not intend to pay for her love of peace and her willingness to conclude peace on an honorable basis.

Russia declares that a claim for indemnity under the terms of the treaty is unprecedented, and reviews the historical occasions where indemnity was paid in support of her contentions. Most of these precedents, however, have been made public in connection with a recent Associated Press interview with M. De Martens. The protocol also states that Russia, throughout her history, has never paid a war indemnity, not even when Napoleon the Great invaded the Muscovite empire in 1812 and occupied Moscow.

With regard to article 4, the protocol reports that the Japanese claim the right of interned warships which have sought refuge in neutral ports as a spoil of war, is not contrary to international law. Russia, however, asserts that international law affords precedent for a claim for the possession of property in the case of neutral powers.

Finally, with regard to article 5 (the limitation of the Russian naval power in the Far East), the Japanese assert that it is indispensable to secure a lasting peace. Russia, however, rejects the whole idea as being offensive to Russian honor and dignity. While declining, however, to

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NO CONCESSION ON MAIN POINTS

Russia Insists Japan Must Change Terms on Sakhalin and Indemnity.

FINAL ORDERS SENT WITTE

While Refusing Indemnity, Czar May Pay Liberally on Other Scores—Concessions Expected to Be Acceptable.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 21.—(146 A. M.)—The Russian government's final instructions to Mr. Witte, outlining the course that he shall pursue at the peace conference at Portsmouth are still in process of being put into cipher prior to being forwarded to America. With the receipt of St. Petersburg's last message, the brief, breathing spell will have ended. St. Petersburg leaves the final word with her representative at Portsmouth.

The Associated Press is in a position to state that, when the nature of these communications becomes generally known, it will be seen that in a sincere desire to effect a satisfactory settlement the government has gone as far as its extremely vital state interests will permit. It can further be said that for this reason the government is firmly convinced that, in case of failure of the negotiations, the responsibility will rest with Russia, which has conceded much already. While it is impossible to learn the actual contents of the government's communication to Mr. Witte, it can be declared that the requirements of state make concessions on the questions of indemnity and Sakhalin, as those questions were originally presented by the Japanese, impossible. It is certain that, in the matter of concessions, the four points now in dispute have been considered and studied here in the light of the concessions Russia already has granted on the other eight articles.

Russia's Hopeful and Grateful.

The foregoing is a brief but accurate outline of the platform upon which Mr. Witte will meet the Japanese plenipotentiaries. Baron Rosen's reports regarding his interview with President Roosevelt have been received here and their perusal by the government has only increased their feeling of gratitude and appreciation for President Roosevelt's continued efforts. Baron Rosen's communications to the Emperor are such as do not require a special answer.

Hopeful feeling was notable here yesterday that peace was still possible, and it is believed by some that Russia's answer will give material evidence of such a sincere desire to reach a settlement that Japan will practically be forced to accept it or appear before the world as utterly unreasonable and insolent.

Plan to Settle Indemnity.

It is believed that the questions of the surrender of interned ships and the limitation of Russia's naval power in the Far East will be satisfactorily settled. There then remains the question of the payment of indemnity and the cession of Sakhalin by Russia. The first may be overcome by Russia's following Japan's lead in avoiding the use of the word "indemnity," but consenting to make certain payments to Japan on other scores, the chief of these being Japan's bill for keeping 100,000 prisoners, which is expected to be very heavy.

The sum mentioned as the possible payment on account of these prisoners range from \$50,000,000 to \$150,000,000. Little or nothing is obtainable here regarding the possible disposition of the question in regard to Sakhalin.

Interest has been manifested lately in the attitude of the Japanese people and it is recognized in some quarters that the Japanese government and princes may have to shape their course to meet and satisfy the demands voiced by the Japanese public.

There is reason to believe that the idea that Japan might not be able to find money to continue the war has not been considered here as a serious weakness of the Japanese position.

GREAT VALUE OF SAKHALIN

Russians Show Strategic Value and Wealth of Islands.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., Aug. 21.—The following statement from an authoritative source represents the Russian view of the military and strategic value of the island of Sakhalin.

"To appreciate its military value, it must be borne in mind that the island, which is about 600 miles long, lies almost against the mainland, being separated from it by the Strait of Tartary, which in some places is only four miles wide. Physically it might almost be considered a part of the Asiatic Continent. To allow Sakhalin to pass into the hands of Japan would be like America allowing Long Island, or England allowing the Isle of Wight to pass into the possession of an ambitious and defective power. It could indeed be greater for Russia than the loss of Long Island by America, as the length of Long Island is scarcely one-fifth that of Sakhalin.

"There is no doubt that whoever controls Sakhalin, besides being in a position to threaten and invade the Atlantic Coast, would be in a position to absolutely prevent communication between the mainland and the Pacific through the Sea of Japan. The island has an area of between 60 and 65 kilometers, and although its general shape is that of a fish, at certain points its width is only 35 miles. It is therefore peculiarly adapted for offensive and defensive purposes. It could easily be transformed into a formidable

military and naval stronghold, from which expeditions might be launched and efficiently supported.

"Little use has thus far been made of the island. The population, including the natives, who belong to the Ainu and Chukchee races, and the cities, most of whose names are of Japanese origin, become settlers, amount altogether to only 30,000 souls, that is, less than one to the square mile. Exploitation of the resources of the island has been hampered by the rigorous climate, lack of communication and by almost inaccessible forests. The development of the resources by Russia was anticipated as a consequence of the completion of the Trans-Siberian Railroad. Large profits were expected from its riches, as it contains great quantities of coal, coal oil, timber, naphtha, iron and other minerals. The chief resource, however, thus far, has been its fisheries, and enormous shoals of fish, especially herring and salmon, swarm in its waters. The herring at certain times of the year are exhausted. Besides being used for food, the oil is extracted and the fish pressed into large blocks and shipped to Japan for land fertilizer. The average number of herring taken annually amounts to 500,000,000.

"The Japanese authority denied that the Japanese were prevented from fishing in the waters of Sakhalin. He admitted that they were subjected to certain rules and restrictions, the object of which was to prevent the extermination of the fish, but that was all. He said that along the coast of Sakhalin whales in considerable numbers were being killed, and that the Japanese had applied to the local government for permission to fish for the whales, especially the coal mines.

"The insignificant military forces which Russia had in the island, he said, were not her sincere belief in peace. We had not made the least preparation for military operations, either offensive or defensive. The few thousand soldiers who were there were there chiefly for the purpose of guarding the 500 convicts who were kept in the island, and some of these soldiers were former convicts who had been pardoned on condition of penal service, were allowed to enter a kind of local militia."

RUSSIAN JEWS DESIRE PEACE

Memorial to Czar's Envoys From Former Hebrew Subjects.

PORTSMOUTH, Aug. 21.—A memorial was presented to Mr. Witte and Baron Rosen from the Jewish residents of Lawrence, Mass., today by Walter E. Rutherford. After extending greetings, the documents continue thus:

"Whereas, It has pleased His Imperial Highness, Nicholas, Emperor of all the Russias, to delegate his excellency, M. Witte, and Baron Rosen, to represent the Emperor at the peace conference, with the imperial envoys of Japan, be it

Resolved, that we, Jewish residents of Lawrence, Mass., do hereby tender a hearty and devout prayer that success may follow their effort looking for an honorable peace between the warring countries of Russia and Japan.

We are not unmindful of the powerful nation you represent, nor of the high and noble position you have rendered your country and humanity to the state. Though Americans, we feel the natural love of all people for the peace and happiness of the world, and our constant prayer and hope that the whole world of peace shall find an abiding place as the result of your deliberations and that prosperity and happiness shall be the place of bloodshed, riot and discontent, not only at home, but abroad everywhere.

The memorial is signed by about 600 Russian Jews.

LITTLE HOPE IN BRITAIN.

If Roosevelt's Mediation Fails, Peace Is Considered Remote.

LONDON, Aug. 21.—The morning newspapers are not very hopeful of the result of today's peace conference at Portsmouth, and rather place reliance on President Roosevelt's efforts to secure the prolongation of the negotiations than on the possibility of a settlement.

It is felt here that, unless President Roosevelt is able to prevent a complete collapse of the negotiations, peace prospects are most remote, since, if the present conference fails, it will be very difficult to get the plenipotentiaries to another conference. Few hopes are expressed that success should crown his efforts, upon which a million Russian and Japanese soldiers are depending. The Daily Telegraph says editorially:

"If President Roosevelt can keep the envoys in Portsmouth, something will be gained. If he fails in the role of an honest broker, not in the Bismarckian sense, but in the sense of one manifestly seeking no commission for himself or his country, who will succeed?"

BRITAIN DID NOT INTERVENE

Did Not Ask Japan to Modify Demands on Russia.

LONDON, Aug. 21.—The Associated Press was informed at the Foreign Office today that President Roosevelt has not requested the British government to make any suggestion to Japan to modify her demands on Russia. The Foreign Office thinks it would be impertinent for the British government to request Japan to modify her demands, as the British government does not believe that Japan would modify her terms put forward at the opening of the conference.

Official reports received by the Government from Russia take a gloomy view of the situation. The members of the British Cabinet are divided, some taking the view that the French Ambassador at London, who has been in the hope of peace have been disappointed.

Rouvier Stays at Home.

PARIS, Aug. 21.—Officials, both governmental and diplomatic, apparently are preparing to lend every assistance to avoid the failure of the peace negotiations. The French Premier, Rouvier, has suspended his vacation in Switzerland for the purpose of attending a special cabinet council next Thursday.

Mr. McCormick, the American Ambassador, will return from Carlsbad Wednesday for the purpose of being ready to exercise any friendly influence in his power. According to the Foreign Office, Premier Rouvier's return has no direct connection with the peace negotiations. However, it will afford him an opportunity to consult with the French Ambassador at Washington, who is spending his vacation in the country, will also return to Paris in the middle of the week.

Another technical point which Senator Thurston says may gain a reversal of the verdict is the fact that under the statute of limitations the alleged crime was outlawed before the indictment was returned.

WANTS TO CONSULT MOODY

Reason for President's Delay in Appointing Oregon Judge.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 21.—Officials of the Department of Justice have heard nothing from Oyster Bay relative to the appointment of a Federal Judge for Oregon, but believe the delay is due to the desire of the President to personally consult Attorney-General Moody before making the appointment. The Attorney-General is in New England with Boston as headquarters, and as far as known here, has not

UNITE TO FIGHT BIG BEEF TRUST

Wholesale Butchers and Consumers Building Three Packing-Houses.

RAILROADS PROMISE AID

Organized in Secrecy, They Begin Attack in Chicago, After Establishing Plants in Twenty Other Cities.

CHICAGO, Ill., Aug. 21.—(Special.)—Carefully laid opposition to the beef trust, which, it is asserted, will reach gigantic proportions shortly, began operations at the partially completed packing plant owned by the Independent Packing Company this morning. With the utmost secrecy two companies, one the Western Provision Company—have organized in Chicago, and their plants will cost nearly \$500,000 when completed.

While the packers of the beef trust circle were warding off the attacks of the Interstate Commerce Commission as to private car lines and the Federal grand jury as to combination and conduct of their business, the wholesale butchers, hotel men and restaurant men, as well as other large consumers of meat were secretly organizing with a determination to succeed so strongly in their minds that no word reached the public till this week.

Railroads Promise Aid.

Men interested in the new concerns say the railroads have privately given assurances that they will aid the independents to almost any extent, as they have tired of what they term the packers' manipulations and sometimes treachery.

The two plants now nearly completed are both in the stockyards district. The Independent Company's \$250,000 packing plant is at West Forty-first and Halsted streets, and the Western Company's \$300,000 plant is at Morgan and Thirty-eighth streets. The third and largest independent plant will be built next Summer, and will cost more than \$500,000 in itself. The company which will build it is ready to obtain its charter, but will not begin actual work on the plant begins.

Organize in Many Cities.

Wholesale butchers, meat dealers, hotel and restaurant men have organized in 20 cities of the country, and are getting ready to build similar packing plants. Negotiations are partially completed with organizations having capital, energy and fight in New York City, where two packing plants have already been quietly erected, one at a cost of \$1,000,000 in San Francisco, one in Mobile, Ala.; one in Grandville, Mich., and two others in large cities of that state; one in Buffalo, and several scattered through the South. West and North in cities of 100,000 to 150,000 population.

Building Up-to-Date Plants.

The style of packing plants being built and to be built is an exact replica of the model plants of the big packing companies recently put up in Western cities. The independents now will be able to convert all by-products, thereby solving one of the most serious problems, aside from railroad rates, which has confronted the independent packers in their attempt to wrangle out of the grasp of the combined packers and to compete with them. For the first time, it appears, the idea has occurred to the independent competitors that they may also manufacture by-products, and in this way be on exactly the same economical footing for production as the big packers.

HOPE IS IN TECHNICALITIES

Thurston Expresses Belief Verdict Against Mitchell Will Be Reversed.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 21.—Senator John M. Thurston, counsel for Senator Mitchell, reached New York yesterday. In an interview bearing on the Mitchell case he virtually admits Mitchell's guilt, but expresses a hope that the Senator may ultimately escape on technical grounds. Here is what Thurston says:

"I feel quite hopeful of obtaining a reversal of the verdict against Senator Mitchell when the case, which has been appealed to the United States Supreme Court, is opened again next Spring. There are several points on which I believe we can obtain this reversal. One of these is the wording of the indictment returned against Senator Mitchell, which should specify the particular crime with which he is charged. This it does not do."

Another technical point which Senator Thurston says may gain a reversal of the verdict is the fact that under the statute of limitations the alleged crime was outlawed before the indictment was returned.

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Reason for President's Delay in Appointing Oregon Judge.

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HYDE CRITICISES CRITICS

Cotton Statistician Says Revised Estimates Are Incorrect.

LONDON, Aug. 21.—John Hyde, formerly statistician of the United States Department of Agriculture, who is at present in London, is understood to be a physician, and is prohibited by his physician from attending to business. The Associated Press tonight he said:

"I have just seen for the first time the revised cotton acreage report issued by the United States Department of Agriculture on July 25. The crop-estimating board reduces the official estimate of June 2 more than 1,000,000 acres, and even goes so far as to say that I made the estimate lower than the reports received from official reporters employed by the bureau warranted. To this statement I give unqualified denial, and assert that the most trustworthy of the various sets of figures on which the report of June 2 was based afforded the most ample warrant for my estimate."

"It is only by an entire disregard of the reports of county and township correspondents that the department's acreage report can be prevented from once more becoming the laughing-stock of the world. When concerned only with the condition of the growing crop, except under special circumstances, the reports of county and township correspondents are not without value. When, however, these correspondents report either upon the acreage or upon the yield of the crop in bales, their reports are absolutely worthless."

Hollander at Santo Domingo.

SANTO DOMINGO, Aug. 21.—The United States cruiser Galveston arrived here from New York this afternoon. Dr. Hollander, the representative of the President, who will investigate the claims against the government of Santo Domingo, was a passenger. The political situation is quiet throughout the country.

General Wood at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—Major-General Leonard Wood arrived here today, accompanied by his aide, Captain Dorey, he called on General Bates, acting Secretary of War. General Wood will shortly leave for the Philippines, but the exact date of his departure is not known.

New Postmaster at Santiam.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 21.—Postmasters appointed for Oregon: Santiam, Linn County, Samuel Harris, vice Sarah D. Harris, resigned.

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CONGRESS FOR THE ARID LANDS

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ANNUAL SESSION BEGINS

Committees Are Named and Honorary Vice-Presidents for States Represented Chosen From Among the Delegates.

TELEGRAM FOR SENATOR CLARE.

The officers of the Congress were instructed to send the following telegram to Senator Clark, who is ill in New York:

"By unanimous vote of the Congress we are directed to inform you that its first official action is to express its profound regret at your enforced absence, by reason of serious illness, and to extend its heartiest congratulations on your convalescence. Your unwavering loyalty to the cause through all the years of its history, and the distinguished ability with which you presided at the Congresses held in Ogden and El Paso, are recalled with pleasure and admiration, and we express the hope that we may have the benefit of your presence and counsel at future meetings for many years to come."

GEORGE C. PARDEE, President. TOM RICHARDSON, Secretary.

The thirteenth annual session of the National Irrigation Congress has disposed of the first day programme of formal addresses and today the delegates demonstrated in the first presentation of the subject of American progress by placing water on the arid lands that there is a topic related to peopling the West that is very much alive and must be considered—irrigation.

During the first meeting yesterday forenoon the subject looked up the form of a resolution that aroused determined debate and vigorous opposition. From Portland this week will be dispatched further pronouncement upon the topic that last week created the greatest interest in another convention.

Other Matters, Too.