

CRISIS NEAR IN JAPANESE AFFAIR

Root Sends Warning, Which Stirs Tokio.

EXCLUSION LAW MAY PASS

Unless Japan Stops Flood of Immigrant Coolies.

HAYASHI EVADES ISSUE

Replies to Ambassador's Demands Call Forth Strong Dispatch From Root—Staves Off the Crisis Till Fleet Reaches the Pacific.

TAKAHIRA FORMALLY CHOSEN.
TOKIO, Jan. 11.—(2 P. M.)—It is officially announced today that Baron Takahira has been chosen Ambassador to the United States to succeed Viscount Aoki.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—(Special.)—Negotiations between the United States and Japan have reached a serious stage. While war as an eventuality is not seriously apprehended, largely because of Japan's unpreparedness, it is known that the historic friendly relations are strained almost to the point of breaking. The official denial given at the State Department of cabled reports of demands having been made upon Japan are literally true in a diplomatic sense, but the denial, in a measure, is an evasion. The "oral representations" and the exchange of "memoranda," reduced to plain English, mean just this:

Japan Dodges Issue.

Ambassador O'Brien, acting under instructions, has, since reaching his post last October, been attempting to secure from the Japanese government satisfactory assurances that under the pledge given at the time of the passage of the immigration law last February the Japanese government would assist in restricting the immigration to this country of objectionable Japanese labor. Twice has he communicated to Secretary Root replies obtained from Count Hayashi, in which the Japanese government attempts adroitly to dodge the issue.

Hints at Stringent Measures.

Mr. Root has submitted to the Japanese government, through Mr. O'Brien, statistics prepared by the Department of Commerce and Labor, showing that the immigration of the undesirable class of Japanese since the Japanese government gave its promise has been monthly at least twice as large as before the promise was given, and during some months four times as large.

The presentation of cold statistics showing laxity, coupled with the intimation that Congress may adopt more stringent measures, possibly an exclusion law, brought from the Japanese government the second reply, which reached Mr. Root a few days ago in the form of a cablegram which cost several thousand dollars.

Root Staves Off Crisis.

Mr. Root is now preparing an answer, with the assistance of several experts in Oriental affairs. The Japanese government will be informed that assurances cannot be given that an exclusion act will not be passed, but that the administration will exercise its influence to prevent such legislation, if possible, pending negotiations.

The issue in official circles in Japan has caused acute agitation, and because of the strained condition of affairs, Mr. Root will not unnecessarily precipitate matters, with the battleship fleet so far from its base in the Pacific.

FRANCE MAY SAY ARBITRATE

Deputy Asks Chamber to Prevent War Between America and Japan.

PARIS, Jan. 10.—Lucien Millevoye, a member of the Chamber of Deputies, who first achieved notoriety by his connection with the Boulanger movement, is the author of a sensational article published this afternoon, in which he calls upon Great Britain and France to intervene in the American-Japanese crisis before it is too late.

He declares that Great Britain, supported by France, holds the key to the situation, but says the difficulty is that no one is able to fathom the secret hopes of the British government.

M. Millevoye lays the responsibility for the Russo-Japanese war at the door of Great Britain. This war, he says, made a cemetery of Manchuria, and he asks, is Great Britain now desirous of "another orgy of blood which will make the world shudder?"

Continuing, M. Millevoye argues that Great Britain may believe that she can rule the Far East upon the ruins of Japan and America, but he contends that if she does hold this conviction, she is playing with fire, as a war might arouse the Asiatics from the India to the Amur.

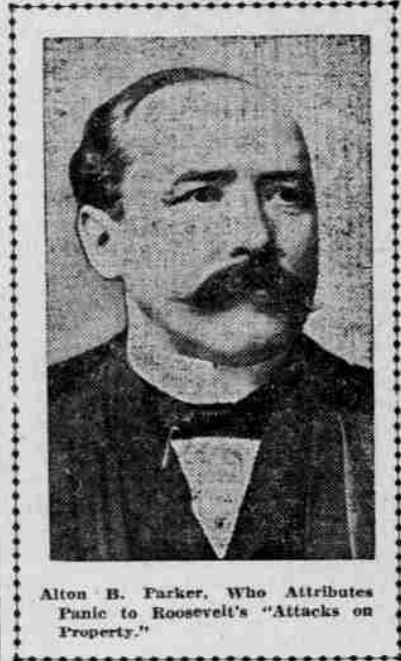
M. Millevoye insists that the interests of Europe, both economical and political, lie with the United States.

"The time for arbitration has arrived," he says, "tomorrow may be

NO FRICTION IN NEGOTIATIONS

Government Cannot Understand the Constant Rumors of Trouble.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Considering the smoothness with which exchanges are progressing between America and Japan, relative to the adjustment of questions growing out of the immigration of Japanese labor into the United States, the officials of the State Department are puzzled to account for the publication in various foreign capitals as well as in this country of reports calculated to convey the impression that there is serious friction between the two countries over this subject. The latest of these reports to the effect that the Japanese Foreign Office is reluctant to accede to a "demand" of Ambassador O'Brien that an agreement to restrict Japanese coolie immigration into the United States be reduced to writing, meets with unqualified



Alton B. Parker, Who Attributes Panic to Roosevelt's Attacks on Property.

contradiction at the State Department. The officials do not care to discuss negotiations of this importance while they are still in progress, following the general rule based on a belief that such discussion is calculated to defeat the objects sought.

What O'Brien is Doing.

But it develops that what Mr. O'Brien is doing is merely aiding Japanese officials to perfect internal regulations that will serve to stop the indiscriminate immigration of coolies into this country. He is not expected to negotiate any treaty with Japan on this subject or to secure a modus vivendi or anything in the nature of the written agreement referred to in some press dispatches. He has, under instructions, sent the State Department acquainted the Japanese Government with the fact that the measures adopted in Congress last Spring, following the undertaking of the Japanese Government to restrict undesirable immigration to the United States by a careful regulation of the issue of passports, have proved utterly ineffective.

The Japanese officials were surprised at the figures presented by Mr. O'Brien, illustrating not only the continuance of immigration of coolies into this country, but the startling increase, even after the adoption of the Japanese restriction policy. Therefore, the Japanese officials have been endeavoring to frame regulations that shall be effective, and in the course of that effort they have naturally communicated freely with the American Ambassador. The latter has acquiesced in the Japanese Government's plan by cable with the nature of the proposed restrictive measures, and the Department in turn has not hesitated to suggest amendments to the regulations based on the experience of the immigration inspectors and customs officers in this country. This involved the co-operation of the Department of State and the Department of Commerce and Labor, the latter being directly charged with the enforcement of the laws.

No Need of Written Pledge.

There is pending before the Washington officials a very long report by cable from Mr. O'Brien covering the latest phase of the Japanese project. The officials are carefully considering this and will not hesitate to indicate how it may be improved, but it is possible, notwithstanding the fact that the Ambassador has expressed the belief that the plan proposed is satisfactory. Should the department coincide in this view, it is stated that it will only be necessary for Mr. O'Brien to signify to the Japanese Government that fact, and there will be no necessity for him to secure any written pledges or indeed to make any suggestion that might in the slightest degree reflect upon the good faith of the Japanese Government in this matter.

It is suggested at the State Department that a possible explanation of the circulation of the report that Mr. O'Brien has been seeking to obtain written pledges from the Japanese government, may be found in the fact that about a year ago, negotiations were actually in progress between America and Japan looking to the confirmation of a treaty for the regulation of immigration. These negotiations, however, were suspended and finally entirely abandoned as a result of the feeling excited between the two countries over the trouble in San Francisco arising from the exclusion of Japanese children from the public schools and attacks by mobs upon Japanese bathhouses and restaurants.

MAINTAINS HE IS SUCCESSFUL

Emissary of Canada to Japan Returns to Make Report.

OTTAWA, Ont., Jan. 10.—"I am perfectly satisfied that my mission to Japan on behalf of the Canadian Government has been an entire success," stated the emissary of Canada to Japan, who returned to Ottawa today. That was the statement made to the Associated Press today by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, as he was about to visit the Prime Minister.

"While I am not now in a position to give the details concerning the important business which was entrusted to me, I have no objection to saying, frankly, that I was successful. I expected to see the Premier and report what has occurred, also to my colleagues, before saying anything further on the subject. As for further rioting at Vancouver, I was not aware of it. My mission was not a failure. It has been reported that I failed because I did not take the American Ambassador into my confidence. In that regard, I

NEW ASSISTANT GIVEN TO HENEY

T. C. Becker to Prosecute Land Frauds.

BEFORE TAKING UP LAND GRANT

Bonaparte Says Suit Will Soon Begin in Oregon.

DEFINE RAILROADS' RIGHTS

Buffalo Lawyer Assigned to Help Prosecution Until Land-Grant Cases Are Ready—Attorney-General's Advice to Settlers.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, D. C., Jan. 10.—It will be several weeks before the Government is ready to institute suit against the Southern Pacific Company with a view to bringing about a forfeiture of its grant. In the meantime T. C. Becker, special counsel to prosecute this case, will assist F. J. Heney with the land fraud cases.

The Attorney-General has received many letters relative to the status of land held under railroad and wagon road grants in Oregon which have not been disposed of by the grantees. The purpose of the inquiries is to determine whether private persons cannot now secure the right to purchase such land, value of which in most instances exceeds \$250 per acre. To such letters the Attorney-General has replied: "Proceedings will shortly be taken to determine the rights and responsibilities of railroad companies holding title to the land mentioned. Further than this I am not authorized by law and the practice of the Department to advise you in the premises, but it is recommended that you take no steps involving expense to yourself in connection with this matter, except upon advice of counsel of unblemished reputation and high standing and well known to you."

T. C. Becker, of Buffalo, N. Y., who is to assist Francis J. Heney in the prosecution of the Oregon land fraud cases, was recently appointed by the Attorney-General to take charge of the Government's interests in the prospective suit to compel the Oregon & California Railway to sell land to actual settlers for \$2.50 under the terms of the company's grant. Mr. Becker is now in Buffalo and it was expected that he would soon come to Oregon to look into the situation in regard to the railroad land. Now that he is to assist Mr. Heney he will doubtless come to the Pacific Coast sooner than he had before intended.

OUR AMAZING COURTS



WILL TENDER KEYS TO HENEY

W. C. Bristol Will Quit District Attorney's Office Today.

When Francis J. Heney arrives this morning, as he is expected to do, he will find the office of the United States District Attorney vacant and the keys awaiting him. While W. C. Bristol has not resigned, he yesterday tendered the keys of the office to T. B. Neuhausen, special inspector for the Interior Department, but Mr. Neuhausen refused to accept them. It is Mr. Bristol's intention to tender the keys to Heney upon his arrival, which proves conclusively that Heney will have to conduct the legal battle against John H. Hatt along with him and some one willing to assist him. Since the withdrawal of his nomination by the President, Bristol has not spent any time around the district attorney's office, but has devoted his time to picking up the threads of his private practice, which he dropped when he became United States Attorney. His private papers and his law library were taken from the rooms on the third floor of the Postoffice building days ago. Yesterday James Cole, who has been acting for two years as Assistant United States Attorney, finished moving his books and papers. Last night he turned over the keys to Heney.

When Heney takes the reins of the office upon his arrival, in addition to being special assistant to the Attorney-General, he will also be United States Attorney for Oregon. Whether Christian Schuebel will be forced into harness, through an appointment as Assistant District Attorney by Heney, is not known, but there is some gossip to the effect that this is what Heney will do, now that the office is without a District Attorney or an assistant.

The wrangle over Bristol's appointment has taken many angles during the past two years. The latest is that but for Bristol's social lack of respect for departmental ethics, he would have been offered the berth of assistant to the Attorney-General, a title and position now held by Heney. If this is true, then it was never intended that Bristol's nomination in the Senate was to have been acted upon, but that Schuebel was to be made assistant to the Attorney-General. This is evidently what Schuebel intended when he gave out during his interview with Bristol that he expected the decks to be cleared when he assumed office.

LAVISHED ON GRANDNIECE

Thousands of Dollars Given to Young Girl—Snell Will Case.

CLINTON, Ill., Jan. 10.—Cashier Murphy of the State National Bank, added new interest to the hearing of the Snell will case today when he testified that Colonel Tom Snell told him that he had given Mabel Snell, the young grandniece, with whom the aged millionaire was infatuated, the house and lot in Kansas City, costing \$17,000, and other property worth \$20,000. He also paid for a trip to Europe and gave her thousands of dollars at a time. He intended to make her independent while she lived. Her total receipts from him were about \$15,000. It is expected that another woman to be figured prominently in the case and that letters from her will create a sensation greater than did those from Mabel Snell.

FOUR FIREMEN DIE IN NEW YORK FIRE

Twelve-Story Building Burns Down.

FIRE NEVER UNDER CONTROL

Apparatus Helpless to Subdue Fierce Flames.

MANY THRILLING ESCAPES

Six Men Saved Only by Line Shot to Roof From Mortar on Next Building—Firemen Cut Off Because Their Scaling Ladders Burn.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—Four firemen went to their deaths tonight when they responded to a fire that ruined the Parker Building, a 12-story business structure occupying the block between East Eighteenth and Nineteenth streets, on Fourth avenue.

Fought by half the firemen of Manhattan and apparatus that blocked the streets, the flames were never controlled and only with difficulty were they confined to the building in which they originated.

Floor after floor gave way and dropped to the basement, and beneath these and crumbling walls no less than 30 firemen were caught and either killed outright or seriously injured.

Missing and Probably Dead.

Thomas Phillips.
Thomas O'Connor.
John Lynch.
Tim Hutchinson of Patrol Number Three was removed dying to the hospital.

One Thrilling Escape.

On the top floor in the Suffolk Engraving Company's establishment, six men were working. Their escape was cut off and they fled to the roof. Flames surrounded them on three sides and they were in imminent danger of death when rescued by means of a life-line shot from a mortar gun and manned by a hook and ladder company on the roof of the Florence Hotel adjoining on Eighteenth street. Down this rope, hand over hand, the six men dropped to safety.

Meantime, the Florence Hotel had been emptied of its 200 guests and nearby houses were also vacated.

Seven firemen of engine company No. 77, which first arrived, ran up to the 12th

floor of the burning building after 15-foot extension ladders had been raised to the windows of that story to make possible the firemen's retreat. After a fruitless effort to stay the flames at the place of origin, the firemen were driven to the windows only to find that the tops of the ladders had been burned, cutting off their only retreat.

Three of the seven made a desperate effort to reach the roof. They were not seen again and are supposed to be dead in the ruins. The other four were rescued by men of hook and ladder company No. 7, who at the risk of their own lives, ran up scaling ladders and dragged the more or less burned men from the windows. These men had barely reached the ground when the great masses of cement which formed a pillar of the steel framework gave way and crashed through to the ground, carrying with it everything below the seventh floor.

Score Struck by Falling Wall.

John Fallon, Tim Hutchinson and Sergeant Kelley went down in the wreck-



John H. Walsh, Chicago Banker, Who Completes Testimony in His Defense.

age. Fallon was not seen again. Hutchinson and Kelley, fighting desperately against the plaster and cement which threatened to bury them alive, managed to reach the street, though frightfully injured. Hutchinson was able only to say that his partner, Fallon, was in the debris when he collapsed and was removed in a dying condition. More than a score of firemen were working within the wall or near enough to be struck when it collapsed.

Battalion Chief Shea was rendered unconscious by a blow on the head and received a gash in the cheek. Deputy Chief Langford and Captains Weldon and Darvan were also removed to the temporary hospital. Meantime the fire practically had its own way and the efforts of the firemen were successfully directed toward the saving of adjacent property.

Twenty Dead, Forty Hurt

Train Wrecked in Ecuador Near the Village of Machachi.

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador, Jan. 10.—A train was wrecked near the village of Machachi in the Province of Pichincha, today. Twenty persons were killed and 40 injured.

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TAFT ANSWERS MANY QUESTIONS

Stands Fire Before Audience of Workmen.

TALKS OF CAPITAL AND LABOR

Defends Rights, Condemns the Wrongs of Each.

WOULD FIGHT MONOPOLY

Reasons for Opposing Government Ownership—Cause of the Panic. He Defends Injunctions, but Would Change the Law.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—For the first time since he became a recognized candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination, Secretary Taft faced a New York audience, set forth in detail his stand on the question of the relative interests and rights of labor and capital, and in turn submitted to a rapid-fire attack from the audience, which quizzed him keenly and in a somewhat controversial spirit, according to the practice of the People's Institute, whose guest he was. The Secretary proved equally effective in attack and defense, and his prompt and forcible replies and occasional witty sallies evoked the same demonstrative applause as greeted the salient points of his address proper.

Cheered as Next President.

Two thousand persons, its capacity, had crowded into Cooper Union when police reserves were summoned to clear the walks in front of the building, where a thousand or more had congregated. As the form of the Secretary of War made its way through the throng a shout of "Three cheers for the next President!" was the signal for a noisy ovation that continued until Mr. Taft made his accustomed platform bow.

In his prepared address the Secretary pointed out the dependence, one upon the other, of capital and labor. He declared that great aggregations of wealth properly employed widened the field of labor and were to be welcomed, while wealth improperly used was to be condemned. He advocated unionism in so far as sympathy and the results of co-operation made for the public good.

Answers Many Questions.

"Do you think a laborer gets enough money?" was a question, to which Mr. Taft laughingly replied: "I don't know what the laborer gets. I don't know what labor he performs, but I do know that some get more than they ought to have, and I think some should get more."

There was a loud shout when the Secretary commenced to laugh while reading over a question which inquired why he had changed his attitude toward labor since he left the Ohio bench. The Secretary declared that his attitude had not changed, and that the things he had said tonight he had always stood for.

Necessity of Injunction.

A question concerning the right of an employer to bring injunction proceedings induced the Secretary to cite a case in which he appeared as counsel. Moore & Co. had obtained a judgment for \$100 against a labor union, he said, and it took ten years to obtain the money. The Secretary added that, if an injunction had not been obtained by Moore & Co. they would not have suffered any damage. Shortly afterward a humorously inclined auditor sent up the following question, which caused a general laugh: "If it took Moore & Company ten years to collect \$100, how long would it take the United States to collect \$20,000,000 from the Standard Oil?"

The Man Out of Work.

"What is a man to do who is out of work in a financial crisis and is starving?" There was a pronounced pause. The Secretary looked to the far corners of the big room and the long lines of workmen gathered there. "God knows," he replied. "They have my deepest sympathy if they cannot get work. It is an awful case when a man is willing to work and is put in this position." "I am asked," said the Secretary, "if the Government ownership of mines and ownership of mines and railroads would make disputes between labor and capital easier to settle. I don't think so. Do you realize what a power you would put in Washington? You would put a power in the hands of one man or set of men that would make you tremble for the safety of the Republic." These and many other questions were

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