

TAFT ABROGATES RUSSIAN TREATY

Democrats Somewhat Piqued by President's Move to Anticipate Move.

HOUSE GETS RECOGNITION

Resolution Necessary to Complete Chief Executive's Act Will Be Joint One-State Department Is Gloomy.

(Continued From First Page.) Culbertson, of Texas, and Hitchcock, of Nebraska, the latter a member of the foreign relations committee, served a preliminary notice to this effect in the Senate today. Senator Culbertson accused President Taft of trying to strip the House of one of its prerogatives, and asserted that the President was trying to "steal the Democratic thunder."

Old Treaty Out of Date. In his message to the Senate, President Taft transmitted a copy of the letter American Ambassador Guild, at St. Petersburg, had transmitted to the Russian Foreign Office. In it was expressed the view of the United States that the old treaty no longer met the political principles or commercial needs of the two nations, and should be terminated. The American Government, with marked courtesy, suggested further that it would be most agreeable to this country if a new treaty could be negotiated to replace the ancient and outlived document.

Trade Not Expected to Suffer. State Department officials do not believe the heavy trade between the United States and Russia necessarily would be jeopardized by the abrogation of the treaty, inasmuch as it is possible and Russia would have the right to exclude American ships from her ports.

American imports from Russia approximate \$14,000,000 a year, principally in hides, wool and skins. The balance of Russian trade in favor of the United States, however, is \$11,000,000. The foreign relations committee was in session nearly three hours today, but the only points discussed were whether the House should be considered in the matter and whether the Senate should act in open session.

Democrats Somewhat Piqued. Senator Culbertson tonight he could not venture a prediction as to how far the Democrats would go in their opposition to the Lodge resolution or any other resolution approving the action of the President in taking the matter out of the hands of Congress.

HEYBURN SAYS WAR MAY COME Idaho Senator Discusses Abrogating Russian Treaty at Dinner.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 18.—That the action of the United States in abrogating the Russian treaty of 1825 today may precipitate a war with that country was the assertion of both United States Senator Heyburn, of Idaho, and Governor Mann, of Virginia, in speeches at the annual dinner of the New Jersey Society of Pennsylvania here tonight.

Senator Heyburn said that where the cause was just he stood ready to follow the American passport into any foreign land with "our Constitution, our flag and a cannon."

HOUSE FAILS TO PASS BILLS Brief Display of Bad Temper Is Seen on Both Sides of Chamber.

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have the problem thus presented is unsolvable, and that the only way Russo-American commerce can be placed upon the treaty basis will be through the complete omission from the new treaty of any matter of residence and travel. This would fall to improve the condition complained of.

Text of Message Given. The text of President Taft's message to the Senate on the Russian situation follows:

"By instructions, which I caused the Secretary of State to transmit to the American Ambassador at St. Petersburg on the 15th day of December, 1911, there were given the Imperial Russian Government, dated December 17, 1911, official notification on behalf of this Government of intention to terminate the treaty of commerce and navigation of December 18, 1825, between the United States and Russia on the expiration of the year commencing on the 1st of January, 1912, the notification contemplated by article 12 of the existing treaty having been embodied in the following note addressed by the Ambassador to the Minister for Foreign Affairs:

"Under instructions from my Government, and in pursuance of the conversations held by the Secretary of State with the Russian Ambassador at Washington, I have now the honor to give to the Imperial Russian Government on behalf of the United States the official notification contemplated by article 12 of the treaty of 1825, whereby the interests of both governments I am directed by the President, at the same time, to emphasize the great value attached by the Government of the United States to the historical relations between the two countries and the desire of my Government to spare no effort to make the outcome of the proposed negotiations contribute still further to the strength and cordiality of these relations."

"I avail myself of this occasion to offer to your excellency the renewed assurances of my highest consideration."

I now communicate this action to the Senate as a part of a treaty-making power of this Government, with a view to its ratification and approval. WILLIAM H. TAFT."

GUILD NOTIFIES RUSSIANS

St. Petersburg Inclined to Look With Favor on Taft's Way.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 18.—The American Ambassador, Curtis Guild, Jr., acting under instructions of the President of the United States, today notified the Russian Foreign Minister, M. Sazonov, that the treaty of 1825 between the United States and Russia would be abrogated January 1, 1912, in accordance with provision made in Article III.

It is pointed out in official circles that Russia has no cause to be dissatisfied with this turn of affairs. President Taft's action, in view of the previously contemplated procedure, being likely to increase his popularity here.

The notification, it is added, was given with full right and tactfully made no mention of motives underlying the abrogation of the treaty, which leaves full latitude for conducting new negotiations with the controversial factor eliminated.

The nature of the situation has attracted attention and seems to be fully appreciated. The Russian government finds not the slightest grounds to object to the abrogation in such shape as is actually assumed in Ambassador Guild's note, which is dated December 12.

In a note December 18 the Russian Foreign Minister acknowledges receipt of the notification, and says that Russia takes note thereof.

The Novos Vremya tomorrow will say: "President Taft judiciously has chosen the best way to put an end to the scandalous Jewish agitation, which is dangerous to both countries. At the same time, the incident bears witness that the Jewish bankers have become the real lords of America."

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TROOPS TO ADVANCE

Russia Prepares for Invasion of Persia.

CABINET'S OFFER SHUNNED

Official Attitude Suggests Passive Resistance, but Provincial Sentiment Is Strongly Opposed to the Russians.

TEHERAN, Dec. 19.—The National Council has refused to accept the Cabinet's proposals regarding a solution of the Russian difficulty, and the Russian troops are preparing to advance on the capital.

It is believed the advance will begin Thursday. The people are apathetic and only the women continue an active boycott. The official attitude suggests passive resistance, but the provincial sentiment is strongly opposed to the Russians.

The Foreign Minister in presenting the questions before the National Council today made a determined effort to secure the support of the Council. He represented that the Cabinet had made every effort to retain Mr. Shuster, but the plight of the country was desperate.

The former Shah, he said, was advancing on the one hand and Salar Ed Dowleh on the other, while Russia refused to abate her demands. Therefore, he argued, the Cabinet should be empowered to conciliate Russia.

Despite his appeals, the deputies insisted that the retention of Mr. Shuster was Persia's only hope, and that nothing was to be gained by yielding.

FISHER SAYS AMEND LAW

(Continued From First Page.) servation question, following to a great extent the plan pursued in his speech today.

"Conservation, it seems to me, means absolutely nothing but National efficiency," he said. "The people of the East have begun to realize that there is a lack of conservation in the 'no use' policy as those of the West realize that there is a lack of the real conservation policy in the 'misuse' theory. The question now is how to handle the great resources of the Nation so that the question of the 'misuse' and 'no use' will not enter."

"To do this all portions of the country must divorce themselves from local interests and self interests. The communities involved must get together and form laws and plan uniformly to develop them for the purpose of real conservation."

Among the other speakers were Governor Oddie, of Nevada; ex-Governor Brady, of Idaho; William Hanley, of Oregon; L. W. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway, and Howard Elliott, president of the Northern Pacific Railway.

The addresses dealt with the trip of the Governors through the East and the benefit which they declared both the East and West would receive from the journey.

Enright Denied Supersedeas Writ. SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 18.—The Supreme Court today denied a writ of supersedeas in the case of Maurice Enright, the alleged Chicago labor "slugger," under sentence of life imprisonment for the murder of Vincent Altman.

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REIN PUT ON EPIDEMIC

SEVENTY-FIVE CASES OF SCARLET FEVER IN CLARK COUNTY.

Vancouver Schools Ordered Closed by Health Officer—Theaters May Cease Operations.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The alarming spread of scarlet fever at Vancouver and throughout Clark County resulted in drastic action being taken here today by City and County Health Officer Black, who ordered the grammar and high schools in this city closed immediately to check the contagion.

It is pointed out in official circles that the school at Minnehaha is closed on account of the epidemic. Four women teachers in the Vancouver schools are quarantined at a residence on Eleventh street, and two of them are said to be ill with the fever.

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LAUNCH VIGILANT BURNED

Gas Explosion Causes \$2000 Damage to Craft at Ilwaco.

ILWACO, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The launch Vigilant, which has been used by the engineers on the north jetty for several months, took fire today from a gas explosion and sustained \$2000 damage. The fire was extinguished by those employed on the boat, assisted by the life crew and the launch Hilda.

The launch belonged to the engineering department at Fort Stevens and is valued at \$12,000.

The naval title "admiral" is derived from an Arabic phrase which means "ruler of the sea."

Books For Xmas

The Gift of a Book at Christmas is a Compliment to the Intelligence and Taste of the recipient and reflects no less credit to the taste of the Donor.

BOOKS, books, books, table after table full—the new and the old—for all sorts of people and all sorts of tastes—for every condition of life—fine gift editions for those with well filled purses—inexpensive editions for those with limited amount to spend, and such splendid books, too, can be had at Gill's with very little expenditure. Come and enjoy looking over the new things of the year. Here are just a few suggestions from our large assortments:

Newest And Best Fiction

- The Broad Highway, \$1.35 Jeffrey Farnol. The Land Claimers, \$1.18 John Fleming Wilson. The Prodigal Judge, \$1.25 Vanghin Kester. Mary Midthorn, \$1.25 Geo. Barr McCutcheon. The Case of Richard Meynell, \$1.35 Mrs. Humphry Ward. Five Gallons of Gasoline, at \$1.25 Morris B. Wells. The Common Law, \$1.40 Robt. W. Chambers. Kennedy Square, \$1.18 Hopkins Smith. The Harvester, \$1.35 Gene Stratton Porter.

- Story of the Otherwise Man, 50c I Wish You Joy (new), 50c The Little Boy Who Brought Christmas (new), 50c The Gift of the Wise Man, 50c The Beauties of Friendship, 50c Neat Books, 50c All That's Lovely, 50c The Value of Friendship, 50c Friends (collected), 50c Dicken's Christmas Carol, 50c Popular Copyright Fiction (formerly sold at \$1.15), 50c Spell of the Yukon, by Robert Service, \$1.00 James Whitcomb Riley's Poems, \$1.00 Ella Wheeler Wilcox's Poems, \$1.00 The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam, \$1.00 Poems That Have Helped Me (new), \$1.00 O. S. Marden's Essays (inspirational), \$1.00 Good Book on Art (to be selected), \$1.00 New Fiction (titles to be selected), \$1.00 The Mansion (new), leather, by Henry Van Dyke, \$1.00 Choice Book of Essays (see our list), \$1.00 Bible of Prayer Book (Nelson's), \$1.00 Oxford, \$1.00 Ben Hur (players' edition), \$2.00 Vanity Fair (Becky Sharp ed.), \$2.00 The Holy Land (handsomely illustrated), \$2.50 The Rubaiyat (handsomely illustrated), \$2.50 Romantic California (E. Peirrotto), \$2.50 My First Summer in the Sierras, by John Muir, \$2.50 Treasure Island (illustrated), \$2.00 Wyeth.

Books For The Children

- Linen Books, Unwearable, at 5c to \$2.00 Board Picture Books now only 10c to 90c Peter Rabbit Series now at only 25c to 50c The Chatter Box for 1911, at only 90c Travelers Five, \$1.25 Annie Fellows Johnson, Little Lord Fauntleroy, now only \$2.00 Illustrated by Birch. Regular edition, \$1.00 Grimm's Fairy Tales, now at only 50c to \$6.00 The St. Nicholas for 1911, bound in two vols, \$4.00 Two Little Savages, 50c Ernest Thompson Seton. Boy Scout Books 25c, 50c Favorite Stories 25c, 50c See our special displays.

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