



REFORMS IN RUSSIA

ASSEMBLY IS CREATED

Representatives to Be Elected by the People.

AUTOCRACY FUNDAMENTAL

The Tsar, While Upholding the Fundamental Law of Autocracy, Believes the Interest of the Empire Requires Creation of Consultative Assembly.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 18.—Emperor Nicholas today announced a grant to the people of Russia of a National consultative assembly to be formed by elected representatives from the whole of Russia. The manifesto is published simultaneously here and in Moscow and will be read in all the churches of the empire. The manifesto says in part:

"While preserving a fundamental law regarding autocratic power, we have deemed it well to form a lower house of assembly, and to approve regulations for the elections to this assembly, extending the validity of these laws to the whole of the empire with such exceptions as may be considered necessary in case of some regions in which these special conditions do not obtain."

St. Petersburg, Aug. 18.—Russia's national representative assembly, the fruit of decades of stress and striving for reform, which endows the Russian people with the right of being consulted through their representatives in suggestion, preparation and repeal of legislation, today takes place among the fundamental institutions of the empire. In a solemn manifesto Emperor Nicholas announces the fruition of his plans of summoning the representatives of the people, and fixes the date for the first convention at mid-January.

RUSSIA TO REDUCE DUTIES ON MACHINERY.

New Commercial Treaty Between Russia and United States Responsible.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 18.—The Associated Press is informed that M. Witte will soon make an official announcement in America of a reduction in the duties on American machinery, etc., which have been operative since 1901. Ambassador Meyer secured this concession after extended negotiations with the ministers of finance and foreign affairs.

Through Ambassador Meyer the United States proposed to Russia a commercial arrangement between the two countries under Section 3 of the tariff act of 1897. This was agreed to, and in anticipation of such an arrangement Russia decided upon the reduction.

CATHOLIC BISHOP AND COMPANION MURDERED

Berlin, Aug. 18.—A dispatch from the governor of German East Africa says that native reports announce that a

FARMER'S WIFE TURNS FORGER.

Eugene, Ore., Aug. 18.—Mrs. C. W. Powell, a farmer's wife residing north of Eugene, spent Wednesday night in the Lane county jail, having been arrested at Irving that evening for forging orders on two dry goods firms in this city and obtaining goods thereon to the amount of over \$50. Mrs. Powell's husband had been employed by George T. Hall, a local groceryman. Mr. Hall gave her an order on a milliner for a cheap hat, and she raised the order several dollars. She then forged Mr. Hall's name to two orders for over \$20 and \$30 respectively, and obtained that amount of goods.

In the justice court yesterday afternoon the owners of the stores where the goods were obtained declined to prosecute the woman, and she was allowed to plead guilty to simple larceny. Sentence was suspended upon her returning the goods.

FATAL AUTO ACCIDENT.

Machine Goes Over Embankment While Going Mile a Minute.

Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 18.—W. B. Jay of Buffalo was probably fatally injured today in an automobile race. Jay's machine crashed through the fence down an embankment and into a pond of water. It is believed that Jay was blinded by the dust and steered into the fence. He was driving a mile a minute.

PRESIDENT HAS VISITOR

Confidential Representative of the Japanese Government Calls.

Belief That Baron Kaneko's Fourth Visit to President Is Related to Conference at Portsmouth, Though He Did Not Come as Envoys' Representative.

Oyster Bay, Aug. 18.—President Roosevelt's visitor today was Baron Kaneko, who conceals the precise mission of his visit, but he is known to be the confidential representative of the Japanese government. This is the fourth visit to the president in a few weeks.

Reasons have developed for the statement that Baron Kaneko's call had relation to the proceedings of the conference at Portsmouth, although it appears that he did not come as a representative of the envoys. Whether he was the bearer of a message from Japan to the president is not known.

STEEL IN HIS EYEBALL.

For Three Years It Caused Lane County Man no Trouble.

Eugene, Ore., Aug. 18.—Three years ago a piece of steel from a wedge penetrated the right eyeball of H. S. Banty, who resides at Mabel, in the Mohawk valley. It caused no particular pain or annoyance, and the incident was almost forgotten until about a week ago, when the splinter began to work out and the edge scratched the eyelid, causing considerable annoyance. Mr. Banty came to Eugene yesterday to consult a physician. The piece of steel was removed, and it was found to be nearly half an inch long by a quarter of an inch wide. It is considered remarkable that the piece of metal imbedded in the eyeball caused no pain nor trouble during the three years.

FRANCIS IS PRESIDENT

OFFICERS ARE ELECTED

Head of St. Louis Exposition Addresses the Congress.

INTERESTING SPEECHES MADE

Trans-Mississippi Congress Places Itself on Record as Favoring Department of Mines by Government and Creation of Permanent Fund for Improvements.

Portland, Aug. 18.—The Trans-Mississippi commercial congress this afternoon decided to recommend the following officers for the ensuing year: President, David R. Francis of St. Louis; first vice-president, Colonel H. D. Loveland of San Francisco; second vice-president, former Governor L. B. Prince of New Mexico; third vice-president, M. B. Larimore of North Dakota; fourth vice-president, R. A. Fellows of Kansas; secretary, Arthur F. Francis of Colorado; treasurer, H. B. Topping of Missouri.

Powerful speeches in favor of establishment of a department of mines and mining were advanced before the congress at today's session. That the American mining congress was unable to combat the alleged throttling of small producers by mining trusts was the admission contained in the answer of Judge J. H. Richards, president of the American mining congress, in answer to a question as to whether the mining congress had taken any action to prevent the big mine-owners from controlling the small producers in the output of copper. Richards replied that the board of directors of the American mining congress had reached the conclusion that the only power on earth which can control the situation is the government of the United States.

Persistence of effort to secure a department of mines and mining was advocated by Edward J. Benjamin, president of the California Mining association. He said he believed the only way to secure such a department was to keep on introducing resolutions until every pigeon hole was filled, and to hammer on the doors of congress until it grants the demand.

The resolution adopted in committee today on Chinese exclusion straddles the question by advocating a "comprehensive immigration law, framed to remove all unreasonable restriction, but to exclude all undesirable persons of every nation." It is expected that when the resolution comes before the congress tomorrow the radical element will oppose it.

Among the resolutions introduced today were, advocating an appropriation of \$900,000 for the completion of the Columbia river jetty, favoring the issuance by congress of \$100,000,000 in bonds to form a permanent fund for the improvement of rivers and harbors and recommending statehood for Oklahoma.

It was expected that the resolutions committee would be able to report after the session opened today, but after a long wait, Governor Prince of New Mexico, chairman of the day, forced a change in the order of business owing to the length of the program. He then announced that the addresses would begin.

The first speaker was Hon. J. H. Richards of Boise, Idaho, president of the American mining congress, on the subject of "Department Mines and Mining." The chairman then introduced David R. Francis of Missouri, who took for his subject "The Influence of Expositions."

He said that if the amounts expended on the St. Louis fair had never been returned the benefits derived from the exposition fully compensated every expenditure.

Governor Francis was followed by Draper of San Francisco, advocating the establishment of a department of mines and mining.

The last speaker on this subject was Edward H. Benjamin of San Francisco, president of the California Miners' association.

Dr. Roland Dwight Grant of Vancouver, B. C., was then specially invited to address the congress and delivered an address on "American Scenery. Its Influence on the World's Travel."

Colonel H. G. Loveland of San Francisco then stated that owing to the length of the program he would forego the pleasure of reading a paper entitled, "Encouragement to Home Manufacturers." The paper was then read by title and placed the records of the congress.

Portsmouth, Aug. 18.—In the event of the expected break in the peace negotiations the emperor of Japan will renew to the president his deep appreciation of the president's efforts for peace and his disappointment that these efforts were not crowned with success because of circumstances over which the president could have no control.

Portsmouth, Aug. 18.—The Associated Press is able to state that the reserved point in Article 7 to which an agreement was reached "in principle" relates to the establishing of a status south of Harbin from which the ceded branch of the Chinese Eastern railway is to begin.

Russia returned a negative to Article 10 (the surrender of the interned warships) on the ground that such a proceeding was against all precedent.

On Article 11 (the limitation of Russia's naval power) Witte declines to agree to allow such a provision to go into the treaty, but says Russia has no intention of maintaining in the Far East a naval force which would constitute a threat against Japan.

WITHDRAW LAND FROM ENTRY

Washington, Aug. 18.—The secretary of the interior has ordered the withdrawal from entry of 160,000 acres of land in the La Grande, Ore., land district on account of the Umatilla irrigation project.

SHEEP RUSTLERS GROW BOLD.

With Shotgun Compel Owner to Help Run Off Sheep.

Victoria, B. C., Aug. 18.—Sheep raiders, who for years past have been the bete noir of the British ranchers on islands in the Gulf of Georgia archipelago, have lately achieved a boldness that is perhaps without precedent in the Northwest, a boldness of which illustration was afforded during a third visitation within a month, just reported from Prevost island. The sheep thieves had come from the American side in two sloops, and were loading sheep aboard when Lightkeeper Georgeson arrived on the scene with the intention of frightening away the daylight robbers.

Instead of hastily taking to the sloops at the appearance of a resident of the island, the thieves assumed the aggressive. One of the three in the raiding party covered Georgeson with a shotgun and compelled him to assist in the loading of the sheep, half a dozen of which he recognized as belonging to his own flock. The lightkeeper was kept covered with the menacing gun until the sloop caught a fair wind. He then hastened to report his adventure to Constable Loney, who now is working on the affair. The majority of the sheep stolen belonged to J. Richardson, the former lightkeeper.

STRIKE DECLARED OFF.

Question Being Voted on by Northern Pacific Operators.

St. Paul, Aug. 18.—The strike of the telegraphers on the Great Northern was officially called off tonight. The question of continuing the strike or returning to work is being voted upon on the Northern Pacific.

CONFERENCE MAY END

CRISIS NOW AT HAND

Powers May Prevent Conference Going to Pieces.

THE SITUATION IS CRITICAL

Both Sides Now Await Instructions from Respective Governments—Unless Compromise Is Effected Tuesday Will Be Farewell Session.

Portsmouth, Aug. 18.—Black pessimism reigns at Portsmouth tonight, and the prevailing view is that the fate of the peace conference has already been settled, that it has ended in a failure and all that now remains is for the plenipotentiaries to meet next Tuesday, to which day they adjourned this afternoon, sign the final protocol, go through the conventions and bid each other farewell. But there is still room for hope, as neither President Roosevelt nor the powers will see the chance for peace shipwrecked without a final effort.

King Edward is understood to be lending a helping hand and the financiers of the world are known to be exerting all their energies toward securing a lasting peace. The Japanese have listened and explained, but have yielded not one iota of the substance of their original demands.

Witte has accepted outright seven of the 12 Japanese conditions, and one in principle. Of the remaining four, including the main issues of the indemnity and the cession of Sakhalin, he rejected two. The other two, the limitation of Russia's naval power and the surrender of the interned warships, might have been arranged had there been any prospect of an agreement on the two points upon which the divergence seemed irreconcilable.

Now both sides turn to home for the last word before the cards are thrown face upward upon the table next Tuesday.

In the interim fresh instructions are received by either side a compromise is yet possible, but the chances are recognized as slight, for as far as the Russian plenipotentiaries are concerned, there never was a chance of them yielding both the indemnity and Sakhalin.

The cession of Sakhalin without the indemnity was the extreme limit to which Witte would consent to go, and tonight a new factor has been introduced which lessens materially the chances of an agreement, namely the issuance of the emperor's manifesto granting a popular representative body to his subjects. The bearings of this "historical document," as Witte described it upon issue, are easily comprehensible, as it is bound to ameliorate the internal situation in Russia.

It is an entering wedge for the realization of a century old dream of the Russian people.

VICTIMS OF WRECK FLOAT WITH THE TIDE

Norfolk, Va., Aug. 18.—Thirteen bodies have been recovered and the death list of the wreck on the Atlantic Coast line is far from complete. It is said that a score of bodies floated down with the

At Tokio it is impossible to tell what view will be taken. Peace could probably be secured by the sacrifice of the indemnity. Intimations tonight come from the Japanese side that the "demand for the cost of the war" might be moderated.

The gravity of the situation from the Japanese point of view is contained in the following statement to the Associated Press: "I cannot say positively, but I fear the meeting Tuesday will be the farewell session of the Washington conference. Japan has done its utmost for peace. Russia knows Japan's irreducible minimum."

Tonight the situation can be summed up in one single sentence: Prompt and heroic action by outside influences alone can save the conference.

KICKS MARSHAL CLAY FATALLY.

Prisoner in Montesano Jail Faces a Charge of Murder.

Aberdeen, Wash., Aug. 18.—Prosecuting Attorney E. E. Boner went to Elma this morning to investigate the circumstances connected with the death of Marshal C. E. Clay of that place, which occurred this morning. While attempting to arrest Sam Tremain at Elma, Monday, Clay was vigorously resisted by Tremain, who kicked him in the abdomen, inflicting injuries which probably caused his death. It is probable that Tremain, who is now in jail at Montesano, will be held on the charge of murder.

COMPLAIN OF THE JUDGE

Required Citizens of Town to Furnish Residence.

Citizens of Globe, Arizona, Object to Furnishing House of Associate Justice in Order to Have Him Make the Town His Residence.

Washington, Aug. 18.—Charges have been filed in the department of justice by the citizens of Globe, Ariz., against Associate Justice Tucker of the territorial court, which, it is said, involved his judicial personal conduct. It is alleged that Justice Tucker let it be known to the citizens of Globe that if he made that city his home a residence would have to be provided for him, otherwise he would be compelled to take up a residence in another part of the district. It is charged that the residence was actually provided.

TORNADO KILLS STOCK.

Wellfleet, Neb., Aug. 18.—A tornado passed north of this place last night. Twenty-eight horses and 56 cattle were killed. No lives were lost.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

Yellow Fever Situation Up to 6 P. M.—Eight Deaths.

New Orleans, Aug. 18.—Official report to 6 P. M.: New cases 62, total 1,285; deaths 8, total 188; number cases under treatment 415.