

DOVE HOVERING OVER PORTSMOUTH

Rapid Progress Made Yesterday,
But the Crisis Is Not Yet
Reached.

FOUR AND SIX AGREED UPON.

Russians Hold That Japan Has Secured More Than She Dreamed Of Calming Before War.

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 15.—The crisis in the peace negotiations upon which the eyes of the world are fastened is approaching rapidly and the end of this week or the first of next at the latest should witness the deadlock and the end, if the conference is to go to pieces.

Two more of the twelve articles—numbers four and six, were disposed of today. Article four consists of mutual pledges to observe the integrity of China and the policy of the "open door" for the commerce of all nations, and article six covers the surrender of the Russian concessions to the Tung Tung peninsula. Port Arthur, Dairen, and the Bloude and Elliott islands.

The article four both parties gave ready assent and the official statement of the adoption of that article took care to state that it was agreed to "unanimously."

Article five, the consideration of which was passed until later, provides for the cession of the island of Sakhalin. Discussion appearing useless at this stage on account of the firm negative given in the Russian reply, it was decided to postpone the subject. Japan has deferred its discussion thus revealing the Japanese intention of postponing to the end the life and death struggle.

DODGING RESPONSIBILITY.

This is the usual procedure followed in diplomatic negotiations, enabling the negotiators to come to an accord upon all possible points before tackling the crucial issues, and the fact that the Russians acquiesced in the proposition shows that they, too, are as careful and as exacting as the Japanese that their words should not be construed of being responsible for precipitating the break, if break there is to be, and wrecking the conference.

This in itself is a hopeful sign. Besides, by postponing the burning question of the financial and geological moment for bargain and compromise arrives. Then hurriedly the last trump cards and the game is done.

And there is growing hope of compromise. To the closest observers the final solution begins to crystallize quite naturally. The Russians yielding the island of Sakhalin, including "the cost of the war," but taking compensation in the money to be refunded to Japan by China on account of the transfer to her of the Chinese Eastern railroad, which Russia controlled as a private corporation, therefore unconditionally to Japan, the Russian government property in Port Arthur and Dairen, and reparation for the maintenance of the 100,000 Russian prisoners in Japan.

According to the Russian view, Japan has already given up and now can't be made to change her mind. To insist upon a man who has still half a million men confronting her in the field making good the cost of war, the price of peace would, the Russians say, change the character of the settlement, because from one, to certain principles, to one for the extraction of "blood money."

All questions relating to Korea and Manchuria, except the cession of the Chinese Eastern railroad, the main Siberian line running through northern Manchuria, from the station "Manchuria" on the Amur River, Harbin-Vladivostok, are settled in the five articles already adopted. Some confusion has arisen about these articles, and the following resume can be accepted as absolutely accurate:

WHAT THEY ARE.

"One—Recognition of Japan's 'pre-eminent influence' in Korea, etc.
"Two—Mutual obligation to evacuate Manchuria, Russia to retrocede to China all special privileges, etc.
"Three—Joint obligation to restore the sovereignty and administration of China in Manchuria.

"Fourth—Mutual obligations to respect the territorial and administrative integrity of China and the principle of the 'open door.'

"Fifth—The surrender of the Russian bases to the Liaotung peninsula, including Port Arthur, Dairen, and the Bloude and Elliot islands."

The remaining seven articles, given in numerical order, are: The cession of Sakhalin, reimbursement for the cost of the war, the cession to China of the Chinese Eastern railroad, the article relating to that portion of the main line of the Siberian railroad running through northern Manchuria which includes provision for policing of the road by China and not by Russia; the article relating to the southern coast of Vladivostok to the Bering sea; the article affecting Russia's naval power in the far east, and that providing for the surrender of the Russian warships interned in far eastern waters.

RUSSIA OBJECTS.

To all of these Russia has more or less objection. Besides indemnity and Sakhalin, M. Witte will strenuously oppose the surrender of the intended warships, which are the chief of Russia's naval power and the cession of the Chinese Eastern railroad to China. The article relating to the Chinese Eastern railroad is number seven and comes up at the session tomorrow morning.

The Russian delegation, according to documents recently made public, is not passed over, to show that the railroad is a private corporation, owned by the Russo-Chinese bank. M. Pokotoff, one of the Russian delegates, was manager of the bank of St. Petersburg until a few months ago, when he was sent to Peking as minister upon the death of M. Lesser. M. Berger, the attorney of the bank, is also here, and the fight upon this article is sure to prove extremely interesting and possibly prolonged, as Russia will contend that the Chinese company is the real owner of the railroad and that it was built for purely strategic purposes.

The only jar in the sessions of the conference today occurred at the morning session, when a rather spirited debate ensued over the question of the publicity of the proceedings. Each side manifested a disposition to charge

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the other with being responsible for the leeks, and the desire to observe the strict secrecy heretofore regarding the proceedings.

Popular articles based on technical papers first published by the survey have the approval of the director whether written by members of the survey others.

All information and illustrations are as free to the outsider as to the survey members. The director has the most cordial relations with the editor of the *Miner's Engineering Journal* and with other technical publications. A constructive criticism improves the service. If any one has evidence of wrongdoing or injurious action on the part of any member of the survey, the director asks that it be sent to the president, the secretary of the survey, or the chairman of the committee appointed by the president to investigate the business methods of the government, or to the director.

CHARLES D. WALTER.

JAPAN'S SCHEME.

Japan's plenipotentiaries will continue the negotiations as far as possible without yielding on those points which Japan had long ago demanded and still demands. In after this earnest effort is impossible to reach an agreement with the article under consideration. Comparatively, Japanese authorities however, still insist that Japan will never abandon this point. They declare, however, that Baron Komura and Mr. Takahira will go to the extreme limit to secure the basis of the "treaty of Washington." They do not pretend to say that they are assured the treaty will be signed. They do not even say tonight that they are hopeful. Their position may thus be unofficially stated.

WILL VISIT PEKING.

Miss Alice Roosevelt to Leave the Taft Party.

San Francisco, Aug. 15.—Advice received today by the liner *Mangarin*, and corroborated by the Pacific Mail Steamship company, state that Miss Alice Roosevelt will not return here with Secy. Taft and party, scheduled to return on the *Korean* about Oct. 1.

Miss Roosevelt, who has been invited to visit the family of Minister W. W. Rockhill at Pekin, and will leave the Taft party upon her return to Japan from Manchua. Accompanied by her companions, Miss McMillan and Miss Boardman, she will proceed to Pekin, continuing to Japan via Shanghai, where she will board the steamer *Monkia*, arriving here on Nov. 3.

NONE TO BLAME.

Over Death of Jackie Killed in Boxing Contest.

Washington, Aug. 15.—Secy. Bonaparte, after a thorough examination of the records in the case of Raphael Cohen, the ex-priest converted cruiser captain whose death was caused by injuries received in a boxing contest held on an American warship in Dominican waters on July 9, said today that from an investigation of the records he saw nothing wrongful, although, of course, it was deplorable that he was killed.

He added that boxing and athletics generally are encouraged in the service because of their beneficial influence on the health of the men.

The court found that neither Cohen's adversary nor any other person was in any way culpable and recommended that no further action be taken.

BRIGHTER OUTLOOK.

Yesterday's Developments So Regarded in St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 16, 3:10 a. m.—The Associated Press dispatch announcing the decision of the plenipotentiaries at Portsmouth to waive the present consideration of the article relating to Sakhalin Island, and to proceed with the discussion of points that Russia is willing to accept as a basis of negotiations, were received here with some surprise and even relief by the Russian public generally, which had been forewarned that yesterday's session might end the conference.

The Russian correspondents on Monday night privately notified their papers that negotiations might be expected to end on the morrow, when the Russian and Japanese plenipotentiaries locked horns on the question of the cession of Sakhalin.

The business was apprehensive and Russia's plenipotentiaries were weak yesterday, fell off an eighth.

The postponement of the discussion of one of the two points on which the fate of the conference hangs is considered a good sign, but not a sure one, and the general opinion remains one of doubt, though pessimism is losing ground daily, pass without a murmur between the envoys.

Count Lamontoff and some of the other ministers were received in audience by the emperor at Peterhof yesterday, but the anticipated statement was not given out, and probably none will be.

The idea is advanced at several of the newspapers that an outlet may possibly be found in a compromise on the two main points of dispute. If Japan is willing to give up Sakhalin and receive from Russia not a general war indemnity, but payment for any rights that may be acquired by virtue of occupation by the Japanese troops.

CRISIS THIS WEEK.

Paris, Aug. 15.—M. Witte has received final instructions relative to the extreme limit of the Russian concessions, according to information received this afternoon by the Temps from its St. Petersburg correspondent, who says he has been informed by friends that the Japanese demand on the part of an independent that negotiations will be broken off. The decisive result, the correspondent says, is expected this week.

MARSHAL FIELD HAS \$10,000,000.

Chicago, Aug. 15.—The valuation of the property of Marshall Field in Chicago was fixed at \$10,000,000 today by the hour of review. Of the sum named \$10,000,000 is in real estate and the balance in personal property.

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