

THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, 6th SEPT., 1905.

SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.00 A YEAR,
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

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Editor & Proprietor.

We thank those of our friends who have responded to our request for subscription remittances, and we trust the beginning thus made will be followed up with accelerated motion. Promptness is a most satisfactory feature of matters of this kind, and we rely on our friends to delay as little as possible.

The peace treaty was signed by the plenipotentiaries of Russia and Japan at Portsmouth about five o'clock yesterday afternoon. The ceremony of attaching the signatures took place in the room where the sessions of the conference had been held in the government building at the navy yard. The proceedings were of the simplest and most unostentatious. As soon as the signatures of the plenipotentiaries had been affixed, M. Witte reached across the table and grasped the hand of Baron Komura and shook it warmly. The other plenipotentiaries followed suit. The Russian envoys after the ceremony went to a church where a solemn *Te Deum* was sung.

The New Provinces.

The inauguration of the new Province of Alberta took place at Edmonton Friday, the 1st inst., and was attended with elaborate ceremonies. Flags and bunting were displayed in profusion, numerous arches were erected and other appropriate decorations abounded. His Excellency, the Governor-General, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier were in attendance, and many other distinguished visitors were present. The new Lieutenant Governor, G. H. V. Bulyea, was sworn in at noon. There were athletic games and other amusements, after the parade of citizens and school children and the review of the mounted police. The festivities terminated with a grand ball in the evening. Like ceremonies took place at Regina on Monday, when the new Province of Saskatchewan was inaugurated.

The press accounts of the celebration at Regina accentuate one feature that created surprise and regret; that was the utterly ignoring of Premier Haultain. He was not given a place on the programme at all. Mr. Haultain has been Premier of the Northwest for the last fifteen years or more, and has been sustained again and again in his appeals to the people. His government was non-partisan, although he himself is a Conservative in Dominion politics. He took into his cabinet men who are Liberals in Federal politics, foremost among them being Mr. Bulyea. When the bills relating to the autonomy of the two new Provinces were being drafted at Ottawa, Mr. Haultain and Mr. Bulyea came to Ottawa on the invitation of the Federal Government, to lend their aid and advice as to the requirements and conditions of the country from which these Provinces were to be carved. Mr. Haultain took exception to certain features of the proposed legislation by the Dominion Cabinet and expected Mr. Bulyea would assist him in his endeavor to change matters. But Sir Wilfrid and his colleagues got hold of Bulyea and offered him inducements that caused him to desert his erstwhile chief and go over to the side of his Liberal friends. He has now got his promised reward; his is Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Alberta. Lieutenant Governor Forget, of the Northwest Territories, whose chief adviser Mr. Haultain had been all the time Mr. Forget held office at Regina, has been appointed Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, and it would not be unnatural to suppose that he would be permitted to ask Mr. Haultain to form the first Provincial ministry. Sir Wilfrid would not permit this and selected Mr. Walter Scott, Liberal member in the House of Commons, to be the first Premier. Not satisfied with thus sidetracking Mr. Haultain, the Federal Government has further humiliated him by completely ignoring him in the inaugural ceremonies. The whole machinery of the Federal Government is made to do duty to swing the governments of the two new Provinces into the Liberal column. But Mr. Haultain and his friends will likely be heard from.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

Grand Trunk Pacific.

During the discussion of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway question in the Dominion election campaign last autumn, it was pointed out by the Conservatives that the enormous expenditure of public money for this undertaking was not required; that the west was fairly well supplied with railroads, and that the new line would parallel the Canadian Pacific, the Great Northern and other roads that are doing the business of the west sufficiently well. The answer of the Liberals to these contentions was that the Grand Trunk Pacific was to open up, from ocean to ocean, new and unoccupied territory; that it was to be a great national colonization railway that was to give the country greater breadth, and nowhere, unless at terminals, would it be nearer than thirty miles to the Canadian Pacific, the Great Northern or other railways in the west. This was the shibboleth of the Liberal party throughout the election campaign. This was the burden of every Liberal speaker's song on every public platform from one end of the country to the other. The truth is now coming out. The contract for three hundred miles of the road has been let, and it is found the road through Manitoba and Saskatchewan will parallel at close quarters the Canadian Pacific and Great Northern. From Portage westward the new road, for the first fifty miles, will be within two miles of the C. P. R. for another fifty miles within three miles; five miles for the next fifty, eight miles for the fourth fifty and eighteen miles for the remainder of the contract. The clause of the act relating to distance from other roads is subject to the approval of the Governor-in-Council, and this approval has been given in the case under review. The C. P. R. appealed to the Railway Commission, and the Commissioners have confirmed the Government's approval. Here we have the most positive proof of the false pretences under which the Government saddled the country with the enormous cost of a road not needed, and the duplicity of those who advocated the Government cause in this particular. The promoters of the road, the grafters, supplied the money necessary to win the elections; they are masters of the situation; they will build the road where it suits them best and the Government must obey. A nice position for a Government!

Peace Proclaimed.

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 29.—The long and bloody war between Japan and Russia is ended. The terms of peace were settled by M. Witte and Baron Komura at the session of the conference this morning, and this afternoon preliminary arrangements for an armistice were concluded and the actual work of framing the "treaty of Portsmouth" was by mutual agreement turned over to Mr. De Martens, the great Russian international lawyer, and Mr. Denison, who for 25 years has acted as the legal adviser of the Japanese foreign office. The treaty is expected to be completed by the end of the week.

JAPAN YIELDS EVERYTHING.

This happy conclusion of the conference which a week ago would have been shipwrecked had it not been for the heroic intercession of President Roosevelt, was sudden and dramatic. For the sake of peace Japan, with the magnanimity of a victor, at the last moment yielded everything still in issue. Russia refused to budge from the ultimatum Emperor Nicholas had given to President Roosevelt through Ambassador Meyer. No indemnity under any guise but an agreement to divide Sakhalin and reimburse Japan for the maintenance of the Russian prisoners were his last words, which had been repeatedly reiterated in M. Witte's instructions and in the form of a written reply to the Japanese compromise proposal of last Wednesday they were delivered to Baron Komura this morning. M. Witte went to the conference declaring he was powerless to change the dot of an "i" or the cross of a "t" in his instructions. Emperor Nicholas' word had been given not only to him, but to President Roosevelt, the head of a foreign state. When Baron Komura therefore first offered the new basis of compromise outlined in the Associated Press despatches last night (the complete renunciation of indemnity coupled with a proposition for the redemption of Sakhalin at a price to be fixed by a mixed tribunal consisting of representatives of the neutral powers—in fact if

not in words the solution offered by President Roosevelt —) M. Witte again returned a non-possimus.

WITTE EXPECTED A FAILURE.

It was what M. Witte termed in his interview with the Associated Press the "psychological moment." M. Witte did not flinch. He expected a rupture, and, as he expressed it afterwards, he was stunned by what happened. Baron Komura gave way on all the disputed points. With the prescience that has enabled the Japanese to gauge the mental processes of their adversaries on the field of battle and upon the sea, they had realized in advance that peace could be obtained in no other way. They had warned their government. President Roosevelt had also, it is believed, advised Japan that it was better to meet the Russian position than to take the responsibility of continuing the war for the purpose of collecting tribute. The Mikado at the session of the cabinet and elder statesmen yesterday had sanctioned the final concession. When Baron Komura yielded the rest was mere child's play.

TWO MORE CONDITIONS WITHDRAWN.

Articles 10 and 11 (interned warships and the limitation of Russia's sea power in the Far East) were withdrawn. Japan agreed that only that portion of the Chinese Eastern railway south of Chantafu, the position occupied by Oyama, should be ceded to Japan. Both sides, once the deadlock was broken, wanted a "just and lasting" peace, and in that spirit it was decided to practically neutralize Sakhalin, each country binding itself not to fortify its half of the island, and Japan assuming an obligation not to fortify La Perouse Strait, between Sakhalin and Hokkaido, which would bar Russia's commercial route to the Pacific. They decided to add a new clause in the nature of a broad provision for mutual commercial privileges, by which each country will secure for the other the benefit of the "most favored nation" clause and the "open door."

GETTING VERY FRIENDLY.

The new treaty will therefore be a wonderfully friendly document of a character almost to raise the suspicion that the two countries have not negotiated peace but have concluded the basis of a future alliance. There is, however, no evidence, as rumored, that any secret clauses are to be appended to the present treaty. Before leaving the conference felicitations were exchanged with the president at Oyster Bay. Both Baron Komura and M. Witte telegraphed. The former confined himself to appraising Mr. Roosevelt of the conditions upon which peace had been concluded. M. Witte, more expansive, frankly laid his tribute at the president's feet. In his message he said: "History will ascribe to you the glory for the peace of Portsmouth," and adding the expression of Russia's hearty appreciation of the president's "generous initiative."

SCENES OF WILD REJOICING.

Mr. Roosevelt replied with words of thanks and congratulations. Then began the jubilation. M. Witte and Baron De-Rosen returned to the hotel for luncheon. The Japanese had remained at the conference hall to lunch with Mr. Peirce. The news that peace had been concluded had preceded the Russian plenipotentiaries, and such scenes of wild rejoicing have never before been witnessed in the state of New Hampshire as greeted them upon their arrival at the hotel. M. Witte, dazed at the sudden and happy termination of the conference, was fairly overpowered by the tremendous ovation he received. He could only express his gratitude by shaking the hands of everybody, and in response to the volley of questions fired at him as to the terms murmured, "We pay not a copeck and we get half of Sakhalin."

THE JAPS HAVE MET THEIR PORTSMOUTH.

Later in his room when he had partially recovered himself he declared that he could not have dreamed of such a victory—for that he regards it as a diplomatic triumph of the first magnitude he makes no attempt to conceal. And that is the general verdict here tonight. The Russians are overjoyed at the result. "We have had our Liao Yangs and Mukdens on land," they say, "and our Tushimas on sea, but the Japanese have had their Portsmouth."

THE TRIUMPH OF WITTE.

Although M. Witte is not a diplomatist they declare that he has outmaneuvered the Japanese, yielding one by one to the conditions until he

forced them into a corner on the main issue of indemnity and left them no escape except surrender or to convert the war into a war to collect tribute. The Russians declared that diplomatically the Japanese made their colossal blunder when they agreed to consider the conditions serious. The Japanese correspondents, though they said little, plainly showed their dissatisfaction with the terms during the afternoon. They stood aloof silent in the midst of the general jubilation, for as the afternoon advanced the air was filled with the sounds of rejoicing. Bells were rung in Portsmouth and New-castle and the fleet in the harbor was adding to the din with their sirens and bells. On a smaller scale it recalled the finish of an exciting international yacht race at Sandy Hook. One of the Japanese, however, gave the true note when he remarked: "Tell me that the Mikado has approved of it and I shall be satisfied." In that sentence was compressed the Spartan heroism of the Japanese nation, and when later Mr. Sato issued the official explanation of the reasons that moved the Japanese plenipotentiaries, and it showed that the Mikado had approved, there was a perceptible change in the feeling of the Japanese. Considerable disappointment, however, continued to be manifested. Baron Komura, following the rule he has set for himself, declined to make any statement, and Mr. Takahira, quite reserved as usual, would only say when asked by the Associated Press to make a statement: "For the sake of humanity and civilization, and, as we believe, in the interest of both countries and the world, we have made peace."

JAPAN HAS GAINED ALL SHE WANTED.

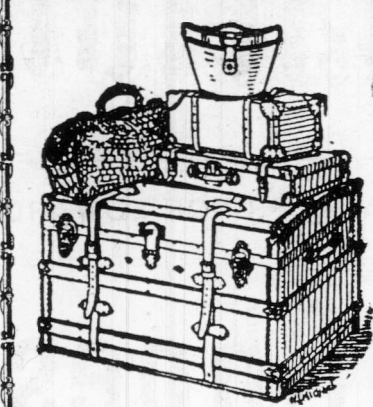
Despite the fact that neither of the Japanese plenipotentiaries would talk for publication, however, the Associated Press can present their line of reasoning in the words of another:

"The Russians may indulge in boasting now. They may call it a diplomatic victory, but we are confident that upon calm consideration the world will applaud our course. To yield upon the question of our demand for the expenses of the war was the only road to peace. We had obtained the objects of the war. We had established our predominant position in Korea. We had obtained the leases to Port Arthur and the adjacent territory. We had obtained the Chinese Eastern railway and the evacuation of Manchuria. We had even obtained important fishing rights along the Russian Littoral. These covered the objects which we have kept steadily in view for nineteen months of bloody war. Those objects insured the resumption of the great works of peace we had planned—the mission we have set ourselves of progress and civilization in our part of the world. To have now set ourselves a new object—that of obtaining money from Russia to defray the expenses of the war—would have involved the continuation of the sacrifice of blood and treasure; at the end, what? We could not go to Moscow or St. Petersburg. The internal conditions in Russia had to be considered. Our very successes might have created conditions which would make it impossible to secure indemnity. Besides in the final analysis there was the recognition of the fact that to obtain indemnity a country must hold the other by the throat. That is the lesson of history. We renounced such a purpose that our people might return to the peaceful work and that the commercial and normal life of the world might proceed."

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 30.—The actual work of drafting the treaty of Portsmouth began today. It is being done by Mr. De Martens and Mr. Denison, acting as legal advisers for the respective sides. While the "bases" of peace have been accepted by the plenipotentiaries considerable detail remains to be worked out in the elaboration of the articles of the treaty. This is especially true in regard to the articles dealing with the Chinese Eastern railway and the surrender of the leases of the Liao Tung peninsula and Port Arthur and Taitien Wan (Dally). Mr. Pokotiloff, the Russian minister to Pekin, who was formerly manager of the Russo-Chinese Bank at Pekin, and who has an intimate knowledge of all the details relating to those matters, is assisting Mr. De Martens. A very anomalous situation exists as to the impression created by the conclusion of peace. While the outside world applauds in Japan there is great disappointment in the terms, and in Russia, where it would seem that there should be universal rejoicing over the great diplomatic victory M. Witte has won the government, seems to have received coldly. With the people it will make M. Witte at great and popular figure and add to his laurels, but at court evidently the very victory M. Witte has achieved makes it all the more bitterly resented. It is an open secret that the "military party" hates and fears Witte, and that when the emperor appointed him chief plenipotentiary they expected him to fail. They did not want peace, and it was freely predicted in St. Petersburg when M. Witte left that he had been given an impossible mission and sent to America to "break his neck." They expected him

(Continued on 3rd page)

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