

Mikado's Plan to Secure Peace in the Far East

These various conditions carry a degree of humiliation which Russians in Washington say their Government never will accept. They had reconciled themselves to the loss of the Port

proposed to offset the demand for an indemnity by surrendering it to the Russians. The Chinese Government's line is even longer than the branch leading to Port Arthur, and, besides being more costly, enabled the Russians to go farther than they were yet to the Pacific and to assert its rights as a Pacific power. The Trans-Manchurian line and the Port Arthur branch would have cost \$200,000,000. Ostensibly, Russia did not construct the road. Under the agreement, which was signed in Peking nine years ago, the Chinese Government was to have granted a concession to build the road. As a matter of fact, Russia was the one to build the line, and the Imperial treasury at St. Petersburg was the one to finance it. The agreement provided that at the end of 36 years the Chinese Government should own the lines, and at the end of 80 years the Russian Government equipment should pass unconditionally to the Chinese.

Ussuri Province. In other words, every mile of the Russian railroad in Man-

When Emperor Nicholas I. struck the first blow which marked the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railroad, he and his Russian countrymen, believing that the Russian Empire would be connected by an all-Russian railroad with European Russia.

on the Pacific to be used by Russia and other nations feared that it would result, as it subsequently did, in Russian occupation of Manchuria and the extension of the Russian empire to the ultimate absorption of all of Northern China by the Slav Empire. Japan proposes to prevent for all time the Russian Empire from growing. It is not considered sufficient that Russia should be expelled from Port Arthur and Dalny, and that her troops should be withdrawn from the Korean Peninsula. The Japanese Government desires that Russia retain possession of the line crossing Manchuria, which connects Russia with Sakhalin with Vladivostok, and that the movement of troops between Korea and Port Arthur will be re-opened. By taking control of the Manchurian line, as well as the Port Arthur line, Japan would cut off Russia from the military fortress at Vladivostok, unless she should choose to build a branchround Man-

Further information here indicates that Japan does not intend to give

Russia any excuse for building another line around Manchuria. It has been known for some time that the Tokio Government has seriously considered the advisability of demanding

the razing of the fortifications at Vladivostock.

In addition, it is understood to be the purpose to insist upon the limitation both of naval force in the Pacific and the military force in Siberia. To cap the project of depriving Russia of the means of making war in the future in the far east, it is proposed to demand that the open door shall be declared in Siberia as well as Manchuria.

FEVER SITUATION

IN NEW ORLEANS

Hopes of Eradicating Disease Before Frost—21 New Cases in 24 Hours.

Galveston, Texas, Aug. 1.—The State of Texas has inaugurated another quarantine against the state of Louisiana.

New Orleans, La., July 31. — New cases up to 6 p.m., 21; cases to date, 302; death to 6 p.m., 5; total deaths

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By the end of the present week the authorities in charge announce that the scourge can be eradicated before the coming of frost.

Meriden, Miss., July 31.—Dr. Donald, state health officer in charge of Hattiesburg and points below that place, reported today that five Italians attempting to escape from the yellow fever detention camp near Lumberton, Miss., were fired upon by the cordon of soldiers. Two were killed and three seriously injured. The guards repeatedly called on the fugitives to halt, but no attention was paid to their orders.

**Date of Election Arranged for
October 14—Assembly to
Meet Nov. 14.**

St. Petersburg, Aug. 1.—It is understood that the elections for members of the proposed national assembly will be held on Oct. 14, and that the first meeting of the assembly will be held at St. Petersburg on Nov. 14. The Emperor has the right to prorogue or dissolve the assembly as well as to determine the duration of the session according to the amount of business to be discussed.

The president of the assembly can authorize the presence of the press at the sessions, except at such meetings as are devoted to the election of a minister for reasons of state. The national assembly will be entitled to pronounce not only on all government bills, but also on the provisional regulations of the budget, credits, cessions of state property and the formation of companies requiring exceptional privileges.

Optimism Prevails.

London, Aug. 1.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times telegraphs as follows:

"I am assured that Russia views with favor the projected visit of the British Emperor to the East, and that attention is vouchsafed here to the German Emperor's intention to convert the fleet into a closed sea."

Optimism prevails in diplomatic circles.

unanimity displayed by the representatives of foreign powers in appraising the situation deserves notice. They believe that in the first place a national assembly will be surely convoked—perhaps within a few days. Secondly, they believe that the internal condition is far from presenting the desperate character, which they have been led to believe by the reformers. Thirdly, they believe that the Russian Empire to proceed through a national assembly to work out peacefully such a form of the constitution as best suits the needs of the people.

"The opinion of so many distinguished and impartial observers of the political condition of the country, the utmost consideration. Such opinions have not been justified in the past, but Russia is proverbially a land of surprises, and it is not without a certain possibility that the diplomats may be right and the reformers wrong in their opinion."

There still remains one cloud upon the horizon, namely, the difficulty of reconciling the Liberal intentions with the repression of what is the bitterest of the reformers is most conspicuous.

Counselors Meet.

In significant connection with the peace conference is the meeting of the Emperor's chosen counselors. Twenty-two in number, which will pass their opinion on the national assembly project. The Emperor has appointed the conclusion before Aug. 12, the birthday of Grand Duke Alexis Nicholasovich, the throne, and a manifesto generally expected, and the promulgation of an acceptable reform project would make the acceptance of such a decision of the peace conference.