4 P.M. EDITION

London Advertiser

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TEN THOUSAND OF OLD ERIN'S SONS AND DAUGHTERS WERE AT THE PICNIC

Irish Benevolent Society's Day at Port Stanley Broke All Records for Attendance and Enjoyment—Big Programme of Sports and Dancing Provided Fun for the Vast Crowds.

It's no news to tell the people of London that the Irishmen's picnic was a success.

It's no news to tell them that all previous attendance records were, as the Irish say, yesterday "knocked into smithereens or a three cocked hat."

The people have learned by experience that each picnic that is held but adds to the triumphs of the Irishmen, and they know as soon as a picnic is announced just what the result will be. Consequently, they will not be surprised to learn that yesterday more people went to Port Stanley than were ever carried over the London and Port Stanley line in a single day before.

Six thousand tickets were sold at the Grand Trunk station, 1,000 at the uptown office, and about 1,600 out of St. Thomas, or a total of close on to 8,000. These figures hold the record. The Irish picnic of 1905 has beaten all its predecessors to a standstill, and President Philip Pocock, Secretary Thomas Wilson and the other officers of the favorite society are enmeshed in glory and congratulations.

Was a Warm Day.

The day was extremely warm, but the heat did not affect the attendance. It is doubtful if rain would have materially affected the number which took in the big picnic. There is so much fun, so much good-fellowship, and so much of everything that goes to make up an enjoyable outing, that the people of London have added another tenet to their beliefs, and it is to go to Port Stanley annually with the Irishmen.

From the hour in the morning when the Twenty-sixth Band, with aged Jerry Collins in the lead, left the city, the people kept flocking to the Grand Trunk depot to go to Port. Those who had begun to wonder whether they would be strong enough to withstand the heat of the ride, heard the band play "St. Patrick's Day," and their minds were made up instantly. All day the trains left London so heavily loaded that hundreds were compelled to stand on the platform or steps of the cars. And when they reached the Port they found that a couple of thousand people had driven in from the surrounding country, making the picnic the largest that has ever been. Under every tree around the village, and on every vacant lot, horses were tied, while the picnickers enjoyed the fun on the hill or on the beach. The grounds swarmed with the pleasure-seeking throngs. Around the Fraser House grounds standingroom was at a premium, and thousands of people sat among the shrubs on the hillside and watched the sports. For a mile along the beach the bathers paddled and had no end of amusement, and all day the incline railway cars groaned and struggled up the hill with their precious loads of humanity.

A Feast of Irish Music'

The Seventh, Twenty-sixth, Toledo Newsboys' Bands and Dayton's String Band were present, and the picnickers were treated to a feast of Irish airs. Irish people and Irish music go well together, and even those who were not Irish were caught by the spell of the Celtic airs, and they threw themselves heart and soul into the enjoyments of the day. There is a spirit of fraternalism about an Irish picnic which makes it peculiar to itself. Everybody knows everybody, and everybody is to the other a hail fellow well met. Generosity is one of the paramount traits of Irish character, and the sons of Erin could not, if they would, do things by halves. Their picnic, their sports programme, their prizes, and their banquet excel all others. The pleasure of receiving always comes second to the pleasure of giving with an Irishman.

Let an Irishman hear "St. Patrick's Day," or "The Connaugh Man's Rambles," and he'll give his watch to the first beggar he meets. He must give to somebody in order to assure himself that he is doing what's right by the occasion.

As President Pocock yesterday gazed over the thousands of Irish picnickers, as well as the hundreds of members of St. Andrew's Society, and of other organizations, who had joined hands with the Irishmen to help carry out the sports, he must have felt it a great honor indeed to be at the head of such an organization as the I. B. S.—a society which holds the respect and admiration and love of all nationalities and all clases in London and in the whole London district. If the other officers of the society also felt proud they may well be pardoned. Such a crowd as that of yesterday would turn the heads of any set of men, no matter how sedate.

As the Irishmen put it, everything yesterday passed off beautifully. Not an unpleasant incident occurred on the grounds, and as far as the Irishmen themselves were concerned, everything that it was possible to do was done for the comfort and accommodation of the picnickers.

The Railway Accomodation.

But the railway accommodation, though better in some respects than that of last year, was open to criticism in others. It was well onto 3:30 this morning when the last of the picnickers arrived in London. In some of the cars, there was no drinking water, and the people, crowded into the seats, or hanging to anything they could get hold of, were almost famished with thirst. In other cars where water had been placed in the tanks, no ice had been provided, and to attempt to drink the hot stuff was nauseating.

In the afternoon the 2:20 Michigan Central mail train with engine No. 8867, left the rails while backing out of a switch near Westminster, and the line was blocked for an hour or more, until two Pere Marquette engines pulled the locomotive back onto the track. All this time the people sweltered in the cars.

One of the pleasant features of the day at the lakeside was the presentation of an Old Boy badge to each of the bandsmen of the Twenty-sixth Regiment Band by the executive of the Old Boys. This band put on a concert in Victoria Park for the Old Boys and thereby netted the association quite a sum of money. The Old Boys did not forget the band's kindness.

After Mr. John M. Daly had made a neat speech, in which he heartily thanked Bandmaster Pococke and the other musicians for their kindness, the badges were presented by Messrs. John R. Minhinnick, jun., chairman of the band committee, and Mr. James McCormick, the secretary. Then Bandmaster Pococke replied, and in accepting the badges on behalf of the men, he said that the band was always at the disposal of the Old Boys, and the musicians would be only too pleased at all times to help the association out in every way.

The Sports Programme.

The sports programme carried out by the Irishmen was as usual a great success. Of the sixteen events scheduled, only two failed to materialize. These were the fat men's race and the catching of the greasy pig. The fat men did not like the heat, and they failed to come forward when 200-pounders were asked for, and the pig, which was billed to do 100 yards in three seconds when pursued by the enemy did not come in sight. It was just as well, perhaps, for the day was so intensely warm it would have been positively cruel to have carted the porker around for hours waiting for the race. The crowds of picnickers sought shady spots on the hill away some distance from the place where the sports were held, but the steep incline of the bank set them up on behind another as in the seats at a circus, and they had a good view of every contest. Mr. B. C. McCann was there, of course. Who ever saw a sports programme in London a success unless he was there? President Focock was also on hand, with Secretary Wilson, Dr. Claude Brown, W. A. Martin, Ald. Stevely, Ald. Gillean, M. H. Holden, Dr. J. B. Campbell, Harry Ranahan, Dan Ferguson, Harry Buttrey, Dan McIntyre, Jack Stevely, Ald. Cooper, Jack McIntosh, and many others, and they all had their hands full keeping the eagerly-contesting crowds in order. Everybody wanted a prize, and from the number of entries it appeared as though half the people on the grounds were looking to get in the games.

Some of the events were very amusing in themselves, and where there appeared to be no great amount of fun, the crowd turned it into a highly humorous affair by incessant "jollying."

The past officers' race brought out just four entries, and they finished in the following order: Dr. Claude Brown, W. A. Martin, Barney McCann and John Stevely.

Barney McCann Protests.

President Pocock acted as starter, and it appeared as though he desired

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THE MIKADO'S STIFF TERMS.

What Japan Asks:

"Reimbursements" for expenses of war.
Cession of Sakhalin.
Evacuation of Manchuria.
Recognition of Japanese protectorate over Korea.
Granting of fishing rights to Japan in Siberian waters.
Relinquishment to Japan of interned warships.
Limitation upon naval strength of Russia in far eastern waters.

What Russia Will Give:

Eastern Railway between Harbin and Port Arthur.
Abandonment of Manchuria.

The Points Contested:

"Reimbursement" for expenses of war.
Cession of Sakhalin.
Limiting of naval power.
Granting of fishing rights.

The Cost of War:

Today—the 550th day of the Russian-Japanese war and the third day of the peace conference—the cost of war to Japan is officially estimated to this date to be $660,000,000.

YOUR UNCLE SAM BROUGHT TO TIME

German Threat and Chinese Boycott Drives Roosevelt to New Treaty.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 11.—The Post today says, on the authority of a high Government official, that in view of the prospect of heavy losses from the Chinese boycott, and the decision of the German Government to end the tariff arrangement under which the United States and Germany now operate, President Roosevelt has partially decided to negotiate an entirely new treaty of amity and commerce with Germany, and to submit it to the Senate at the next session for ratification. The Post adds that within a comparatively short time negotiations with the German foreign office for an entirely new treaty will have begun. The new German tariff takes effect March 1, 1906.

There are several treaties, carefully drawn by the State Department, still pending before the Senate.

The boycott of American trade has spread far beyond the anticipations of its early supporters, says a Shanghai dispatch to the New York Times. It is now regarded with serious fear by the New York Chamber of Commerce, which sees in it a bad influence on foreign trade generally. The demands of the agitators include the repudiation of forward contracts for American goods, which it is calculated will affect prominent native dealers heavily involved in such transactions. The campaign is being fostered by meetings, leaflets and a unanimous native press. The official publication of President Roosevelt's message insuring to Chinest travelers and students admission to America and courteous treatment, has been without effect.

VIRGINIAN BREAKS ALL THE RECORDS

Fast Allan Liner Does Land to Land in Five Days and Twenty Hours.

Montreal, Aug. 10.—The Allan Line's new turbiner, the Virginian, has broken all records for the passage between Moville and Rimouski. The mails will reach Montreal two hours sooner than was ever accomplished before, but not in sufficient time to secure an earlier delivery than on the occasion of the first passage of this vessel on June 15.

Leaving Moville at 3:20 p.m. last Friday, the Virginian arrived at Rimouski at 8:42 this morning, thus accomplishing the trip in the record time of 5 days, 20 hours and 22 minutes. This is two hours faster than her previous record mark. The mails will be delivered in Montreal 6 days, 20 hours and 20 minutes after they had been placed aboard the vessel at Moville.

The mail carried by the Virginian is the heaviest that has ever been carried across the Atlantic by one steamer, including, in addition to the Canadian mails, those destined for the United States. The number of bags amounted to 858, and 250 are to be distributed in American cities. The fact of the mails being so heavy may account in part for the delay in sending out the special train from Rimouski. The Virginian reached the latter port at 8:42 this morning, but it was 1:35 before the special steamed out. Had this delay not occurred the mails might have reached the city by 7 or 8 o'clock tonight, and thus been in time to connect with the night trains for New York and the west.

The passenger list of the Virginian is an unusually heavy one, being made up of 269 saloon, 286 second class and 728 steerage. Among the saloon passengers are Sir Gilbert Parker, Lieut.-Gov. Mortimer Clark, and President George, of the Manufacturers' Association. The Virginian is expected in port tomorrow afternoon.

THE MANAGERS OF THE OLD BOYS' REUNION HAVE THEIR TROUBLES

Serious Complaints About the Side Shows—Balloting in Queen Contest.

The Old Boys' reunion is practically over, but the troubles of Mayor Campbell and Secretary McCann appear to be only commencing. The side shows of Frank Hatch are causing all the unpleasantness.

Today a number of ministers called on his worship and said that they had been informed that one of the shows—the "Streets of Cairo"—was not just all it should be.

Their information appeared to be hearsay, but as they are all men whose word goes a long way in London his worship promised a still further investigation at once.

Ald. Matthews and others of the aldermen who visited the tents declare that they saw nothing immoral in any of them, and it would appear that if the stories which are going the rounds be true, the promoters of the shows must have different classes of attractions for different audiences.

It is not improbable that his worship with the aldermen for a body guard will swoop down upon the shows and if there is anything in them which is immoral the police will be instructed to close the places at once.

Then there is the complaint regarding the market to be dealt with. Today the mayor ordered Mr. McCann to have the market cleared tonight and the secretary does not know what to do.

On July 7 the council by unanimous vote granted the shows the use of the market square as follows:

"Three on that portion of the market square facing Talbot street towards King street; one between the weigh scales and the market house; one between the market house and the butter house," etc.

The mayor says, however, that a resolution of the council does not amount to much, and he can, if he chooses, order the police to clear the market at any time.

The city looks for a peaceful settlement of the matter, and it is expected that the showmen will clear the square as far as possible tonight.

There is much difference of opinion among local merchants as to just how much good the reunion has done the city. Today a grocery man stated that he has done the smallest week's business of any week since the middle of January. He laid in a large stock of everything, but his vegetables were allowed to rot on his hands. He bought tomatoes at 80 cents a basket

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JAP PRICE IS TOO STIFF; WITTE'S ANSWER TOMORROW

Russian Plenipotentiary Will Reply to Mikado's Envoys Saturday Morning—Generally Believed Terms Are Too Humiliating.

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 10. — These are the peace terms presented to M. Witte by Baron Komura today:

Reimbursement for the expenses sustained in the prosecution of the war.

The cession of the Island of Sakhalin.

The cession of the Russian leases to the Liao Tung Peninsula, comprising Port Arthur and Dalny.

The evacuation of the entire Province of Manchuria.

The retrocession to China of any privileges Russia may have in the province, and the recognition by Russia of the principle of the open door.

The cession to Japan of the Chinese Eastern Railway below Harbin, the main line through Northern Manchuria to remain Russian property.

The recognition of the Japanese protectorate over Korea.

The granting of fishing rights to Japan in the waters of the Siberian littoral northward from Vladivostock to the Bering Sea.

The relinquishment to Japan of the Russian warships interned in neutral ports.

A limitation upon the naval strength of Russia in far eastern waters.

The word "indemnity" is carefully avoided, the term employed being "reimbursement" for the cost of the war.

No sum is fixed, the amount being distinctly adjourned for mutual adjustment between the two countries, after the Japanese expenditure has been ascertained.

These are the two all-important conditions, and those which the Russian plenipotentiaries find absolutely unacceptable.

Considered Unacceptable.

Unacceptable as they are, however, it can be stated that these two principal conditions did not come as a surprise to the Russian plenipotentiaries.

The friendly fashion in which Baron Komura explained the conditions before handing them to M. Witte and the avoidance of the use of the word "indemnity" in the presentation of Japan's bill for the cost of the war without fixing a sum leaves the way open for negotiation, and constitutes the main hope that a final agreement is possible.

Certainly the danger of a sudden rupture, no matter what the ultimate result may be, is precluded by today's developments.

The other terms are substantially what the world expected and, with one or two exceptions, probably could be entertained as bases for negotiation.

Terms Are Offensive.

As a whole, the terms are regarded as exceedingly hard by the Russians.

In addition to the two principal conditions, which cannot be accepted, under M. Witte's instructions, those relating to the limiting of Russia's naval power in the far east and the granting of fishing rights upon the Russian littoral are considered particularly offensive to the amour propre of their country, and of such humiliating character as to be inadmissible.

The Japanese, on the contrary, as Baron Komura announced at the conference today, consider them moderate, contending that they only represent a fair compensation for the expense of the war and the victories they have achieved on land and sea, their sole purpose being to attain the objects for which they have fought, the spoils claimed being only such as to which they are legitimately entitled to as the result of their military and naval successes.

The Russian plenipotentiaries, as soon as the Japanese terms were in their hands, called in the five expert delegates attached to the mission, and spent the whole afternoon in the consideration of the terms.

Meantime, the conditions had been placed in cipher and cabled to the Russian Emperor, with M. Witte's personal recommendations.

It is hoped a reply will be received from the Emperor tomorrow, in which case M. Witte expects to have the Russian response ready by Saturday, but it is likely that Saturday, being the first anniversary of the birth of the Czarevitch, the presentation of the reply will be deferred until Monday.

Meantime, the plenipotentiaries will not meet unless some unexpected necessity for a conference should arise.

The Japanese plenipotentiaries manifest not the slightest annoyance at the prospect of a few days' delay.

They realize how serious the issue is and are perfectly willing to give their Russian colleagues ample time for consideration.

M. Witte and Baron Rosen had accepted yesterday an invitation to dine with Assistant Secretary of State Pierce and, in spite of their arduous labors at the navy yard today, they kept the engagement.

At 9 p.m., upon their return to their quarters in the hotel, they again engaged in their work and the lights in the room burned until long after midnight.

Witte's Answer Ready

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 11. — The Russian reply is already practically completed, and will be handed by M. Witte to Baron Komura at 9:30 o'clock tomorrow morning. M. Witte has officially notified Baron Komura of this fact, and the official call for a meeting of the conference at that hour, has been issued.

M. Witte this morning explained to the Associated Press correspondent that he had written the reply during the night in Russia, and that the secretaries were now engaged in translating it into French and English. The revised document, he said, would probably be ready by 4 o'clock this afternoon, and it might be possible to deliver it to the Japanese plenipotentiaries at 5 o'clock, but in order to cover unexpected contingencies he had notified Baron Komura that it would be ready tomorrow morning. M. Witte took occasion to deny the current report that the answer had been dictated in St. Petersburg. He explained that his powers were such that it was not necessary for him to await instructions from St. Petersburg or Peterhof.

THE AYLMER TRAGEDY

Mrs. Guay Will Recover But Meiner Is Still Unconscious.

Aylmer, Ont., Aug. 11.—Mrs. Napoleon Guay, who was shot in the head on Wednesday morning by Joseph Menier, with whom she had eloped some months ago, is getting along nicely, and will recover. Menier, who turned his revolver on himself after shooting Mrs. Guay, is still unconscious, but the doctors in attendance report his wounds much better this morning. Nothing has been done with Menier so far. However, he will have his preliminary hearing on Monday morning in the town hall if his condition permits of his being present.

DETROIT MURDER MYSTERY SOLVED

One of the Two Men Arrested Confesses Comrade Killed Pawnbroker Moyer.

Detroit, Aug. 11.—Harry Johnson, who said his home is at Sherman, Tex., early today made a confession to Chief of Detectives McDonnell, in which he said that Harry Parker, who was arrested with Johnson last week in Cleveland, murdered Pawnbroker Joseph Moyer in his Monroe avenue pawnshop, on July 28, while Johnson rifled the display windows of diamonds and jewelry. Parker's name, Johnson said, was assumed, but his own name was correct, as registered by the police.

After Johnson's confession he was confronted with Parker, and the latter, who has been the more stolid all along since the arrest of the pair in Cleveland, is said by the police to be almost on the verge of a collapse. Parker, it was stated, admitted that the case against them was too strong to be successfully fought, but said he would not talk further at present.

Bounty on Rails Abolished.

Ottawa, Aug. 11. — The Government has passed an order in council providing that the bounty on steel manufactured in Canada shall not apply to steel rails. This action was taken because the industries at the Soo made, and successfully sustained, the contention that under the previous regulation they were entitled to the bounty on steel rails they manufactured as well as on structural steel.

FIRE LADDIES WERE PARBOILED

New York Firemen Have Desperate Combat With Burning Soap Factory.

New York, Aug. 11.—Twenty firemen were carried, burned and unconscious from boiling soap, five of them very badly parboiled, from a fire in W. H. Daggine & Sons' soap factory in West Twelfth street today. Tanks containing 70,000 gallons of soap fats exploded after a fire in the three-story building had been brought under control. For five hours the firemen fought this new danger, crawling on their stomachs on sidewalks outside the building, unable to stand in a poisonous cloud of smoke which poured from the fiery soap greases and continually exposed to little rivers of the scorching fluid which flowed out of the building. Water seemed for the first three hours to have no other effect on the burning soap fats than to cause them to flow more freely, with great peril to the fire fighters.

Before the fire was under control six of the firemen had been carried to the hospital and many other who did not go were barely able to walk. The loss was estimated at about $50,000.

MORE RIFLE RANGES

Govt. to Encourage Shooting in All Parts of the Dominion.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Aug. 11.—The militia department, with the object of encouraging rifle practice, is negotiating for the purchase of sites for new rifles ranges at St. Catharines and New Westminster, and is considering also applications from Amherst and Springhill, both in Cumberland County, Nova Scotia, for sites at those points. The St. Catharines site has practically been settled and will be within three miles of the town. At New Westminster the rifle practice will be carried on on the opposite side of the Fraser River. Improvements are in progress upon the Toronto rifle range, and the contractor has written the department stating that unless shooting is stopped at a reasonable distance from the work that is now in progress, he will hold the Government responsible for damages.

BRITT TO FIGHT NELSON

Former Ready to Go 50 Rounds for $40,000 Stake.

San Francisco, Aug. 11.—Jimmy Britt came out yesterday with a statement which makes the way clear for a battle with Battling Nelson in the near future, says the American. Britt announced that he would fight Nelson fifty rounds in September for a purse of $30,000 offered by J. W. Coffroth. Britt said that he would insist upon a side wager of $10,000 and that the winner take all the purse. In other words, the winner will be $40,000 richer by the victory. As this proposition was originally made by Nelson the fight under the conditions named seems assured. The matter is expected to be settled today when the fighters and the clubs represented will come together and sign articles.

CONTEST STILL OPEN

Winner of Mr. Hyman's Gold Watch Will Be Decided Saturday Night.

The gold watch given by Hon. C. S. Hyman for presentation to the London mother having the greatest number of sons and daughters at the reunion of the Old Boys has not yet been awarded, owing to a misunderstanding.

The stipulation was made by the committee in charge of the matter that they should be furnished with satisfactory proof of attendance by the registers at the city hall or otherwise. Many of the Old Boys and Girls did not take the trouble to have their names recorded at civic headquarters, and the committee desires that mothers whose sons and daughters did not do so should furnish proof of their presence before tomorrow night.

THE WEATHER.

Tomorrow—Fine and Very Warm.

London, Friday, Aug. 11.

Sun rises..5:17 a.m. Moon rises..4:56 p.m.
Sun sets...7:29 p.m. Moon sets...1:51 a.m.

Toronto, Aug. 10—8 p.m.

Fine, very warm weather has prevailed today over the greater portion of Canada, but a few scattered showers and thunderstorms have occurred, noticeably in Saskatchewan and the Maritime Provinces. The outlook is still for very warm weather in all districts.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 54—66; Edmonton, 50—74; Calgary, 50—78; Qu'Appelle, 52—76; Winnipeg, 60—78; Port Arthur, 54—70; Parry Sound, 64—80; Toronto, 62—88; Montreal, 58—84; Quebec, 62—80; St. John, 54—66; Halifax, 64—74.

FORECASTS.

Friday, Aug. 11—8 a.m.

Today and Saturday—Light to moderate southwest to south winds; fine and very warm; a few scattered thunder showers.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather.
Calgary	56	54	Cloudy
Winnipeg	64	56	Clear
Parry Sound	68	50	Fair
Toronto	74	68	Cloudy
Ottawa	72	68	Fair
Montreal	76	72	Fair
Quebec	66	62	Cloudy
Father Point	62	54	Rain

WEATHER NOTES.

In British Columbia and the Territories and Manitoba the weather has been very fine and moderately warm. Elsewhere in Canada, with the exception of a few scattered showers or thunderstorms, the weather has been also very fine, and as a rule extremely warm.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Thursday were: Highest, 88°; lowest, 66.5°.

Saved Lord Roberts' Life; Is Now in a U. S. Prison

Victoria Cross Man Who Spiked Guns Under Fire Gets 12 Years.

Salt Lake City, Utah, Aug. 11.—Twelve years in the penitentiary for burglary is the sentence pronounced here on Sam Grice, who, almost 30 years ago, saved the life of Gen. Lord Roberts, the head of the British army. Grice for his bravery received from the hands of Queen Victoria the Victoria Cross.

During the war with the Afghans in 1877, a force of British, under command of Gen. Roberts, was almost surrounded by an overwhelming force of half-savage tribesmen. Gen. Roberts was caught between the lines and had his horse shot from under him, the beast pinning him down when he fell.

Grice, with bullets fairly raining about him, ran a distance of 600 yards, and, pulling Roberts from under the animal, mounted him on his own horse and led the way back to the British lines.

Roberts, seeing the enemy was about to close in on him, ordered a retreat, but it soon became evident that the artillery would have to be sacrificed. He called for a volunteer to go back and spike the guns. Grice responded, and alone turned back, and with tribesmen shooting from all directions, spiked the nine guns that were by this time almost in the hands of the Afghans.

Grice afterward fought in Africa, and about ten years ago came to Utah.

He has since served a couple of terms in the penitentiary for burglary, besides being sent to jail at different times for petty offenses.

BRITISH HOUSE ENDS A WARM SESSION; EDWARD THANKS US FOR OUR PATRIOTISM

His Majesty Especially Refers to Taking Over of the Defenses—Hopes for Peace in Far East and Comments on World Matters.

London, Aug. 11.—Parliament was prorogued this morning after a checkered session which will long be remembered for the unprecedented numbers of votes of censure and motions for adjournment moved with a view to the embarrassment of the Government.

The session produced two measures of sociological interest—the Aliens Act and the Unemployed Workmen's Act, the latter creating facilities for the providing of work and wages for all able-bodied applicants—and the conflict between the Scottish churches was also settled. Otherwise the work of the session was mostly of a routine character.

Not more than 50 members of the House of Commons assisted at today's closing scene. The black rod summoned them to the House of Lords where there were only two peers besides the three royal commissioners.

The lord high chancellor, the Earl of Halsbury, read King Edward's speech, the most interesting clauses of which, from an international point of view, referred to the peace negotiations and the crisis in Sweden and Norway.

Regarding the peace negotiations the speech says:

"Negotiations, due to the initiative of the President of the United States, are about to be entered upon between the Russian and Japanese Governments for the purpose of terminating the deplorable conflict still proceeding in the far east. It is my earnest hope that they may lead to a lasting and mutually honorable peace."

Concerning the Swedish-Norwegian situation the speech says:

"A dissolution of the union between Sweden and Norway apparently is imminent. I am confident that, by the exercise of wise moderation on each sde, a settlement will be arrived at which will be acceptable to both countries, and that it will be of such a nature as to enable my Government to maintain with the people of the Scandinavian Peninsula the same friendly relations which have prevailed in the past."

The speech refers to the continued friendly relations with other powers, and "cordially hopes" that the outcome of the conference summoned by the King of Italy to consider the establishment of an international institute, dealing with agricultural information "will be of service to agriculturists both at home and abroad."

IT PRAISES THE "PATRIOTIC OFFER" OF CANADA TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEFENSE OF HALIFAX AND ESQUIMALT, WHICH IS "CORDIALY ACCEPTED."

Otherwise the speech was of no general interest.

Parliament was nominally adjourned to Oct. 30, when it will be further adjourned.