

One of her officers, Commander Rytschagoff, who speaks English, explained the event to the newspapers as follows:

About three weeks ago the *Lena* was ordered to proceed from Vladivostok to San Francisco, in response to an urgent request from the Russian consul general at San Francisco that a war vessel be sent here. What the reason for his request was I do not know, but to-night the captain is to have a conference with him. We came by the great northern circle, passing the Aleutian islands, but we are out of coal, and the boilers are in such a terrible condition that they must be thoroughly overhauled before we can go to sea again. I understand that the ship will be dismantled, and it may be necessary to remain here a whole month before the repairs are finally completed.

Rear-Admiral Goodrich, of the American navy, Pacific squadron, reported the arrival of the *Lena* and was ordered from Washington to hold his squadron at San Francisco until the *Lena* departs. An examination by the American navy department has shown that she could not leave at once without positive danger of being lost in the first storm. Repairs would require a delay of about six weeks. No decisive action has yet been taken either by the American government or the Japanese. The Japanese minister called at the state department at Washington on the 13th, but merely to acquaint the department officially with the fact of the *Lena's* appearance in the harbor of San Francisco. He made no protest against her presence nor any demand as to her withdrawal, but simply expressed his willingness to allow the United States government to deal with the case without interference or suggestion from him. Meanwhile, Rear Admiral Goodrich has taken the precaution of surrounding the *Lena* with torpedo-boat destroyers, for the double purpose of guarding her against Japanese attack and insuring her detention until her case is disposed of by the American government. On the 14th her captain was notified to state early and definitely whether he desires to make temporary repairs and put to sea upon their completion, or to remain at San Francisco until the war ends. No reply has yet been reported.

The most important proceeding

of the twelfth conference of the Interparliamentary Union, which assembled at St. Louis on the 12th, related to the war. Francis B. Loomis, first assistant secretary of state of the United States, representing President Roosevelt, made the address of welcome, after Congressman Richard Bartholdt of Missouri had been elected president of the conference. There were 226 delegates in attendance from fifteen parliamentary nations. At the session of the second day, the 13th, two important resolutions were adopted, one of which referred directly to the Russian-Japanese war. It was as follows:

The Interparliamentary Conference, shocked by the horrors of the war that is being waged in the Far East between two civilized states, and deploring that the Powers signatory to the Convention of The Hague have been unable to have recourse to the clauses thereof, which direct them to tender their mediation immediately upon the outbreak of hostilities, asks the Powers signatory of the Convention of The Hague to intervene, either jointly or separately, with the belligerents in order to facilitate the restoration of peace, or instruct the Interparliamentary Bureau to bring the present resolution to the knowledge of said Powers.

At the same session of the Conference the following resolutions relative to a second arbitration conference at The Hague (vol. ii, No. 69, p. 9) were adopted without dissent:

Whereas, enlightenment, public opinion, and the spirit of moderation and civilization alike demand that differences between nations should be adjudicated and settled in the same manner as disputes between individuals are adjudicated—namely: by the arbitrament of courts in accordance with recognized principles of law; the Conference requests the several governments of the world to send representatives to an international conference to be held at a time and place to be agreed upon by them for the purpose of considering:

1. The questions for the consideration of which the conference at The Hague expressed a wish that a future conference be called.
2. The negotiaton of arbitration treaties between the nations represented at the conference to be convened.
3. The advisability of establishing an international congress to convene periodically for the discussion of international questions.

And this Conference respectfully and cordially requests the President of the United States to invite all the nations

to send representatives to such a conference.

A few days prior to the conference mentioned above, the 38th annual session of the International Peace Union was held, also at St. Louis. On the 10th resolutions were adopted by this body declaring that the President of the United States should be empowered to call a conference of the representatives of all the civilized Powers every four years to consider questions of general interest, the common welfare, and those looking to more pacific relations and the prevention of war. An earnest request was also made that every European representative present at the conference of the Interparliamentary Peace Union, then about to convene (the subsequent proceedings of which are described above), take back to Europe demands for a truce that will stop the present war between Japan and Russia and convene the arbitration court pursuant to the second section of article 3 of The Hague treaty.

In American politics the Maine election may be regarded as the most important event of the week, owing to its traditional significance with reference to the approaching Presidential election. It took place on the 12th. Full returns show a 6 per cent. gain to the Republicans and a 29 per cent. gain to the Democrats over the vote at the corresponding election in 1900. The Republican plurality is 27,130. The Republicans had claimed from 15,000 to 25,000, while the Democrats had declared that a Republican plurality of less than 34,132 would be a Democratic victory. Following is a tabulation of the vote at the corresponding elections in the Presidential years since 1892:

	Rep.	Dem.	Rep. plu.
1892	67,699	55,078	12,531
1896	82,764	24,387	48,377
1900	73,955	29,823	24,132
1904	78,460	51,330	27,130

The Democrats of Utah nominated James H. Moyle for governor on the 8th. On the same day the Democrats of Wyoming nominated John E. Osborne for governor of that State; and the Republicans of Montana nominated William Lindsay for governor of Montana. The Republicans of Connecticut nominated Henry