

Baron de Rio-Branco, is described as being of a magnificence unparalleled in Brazil. At the close of his speech at this dinner Mr. Root drank to the memory of James Monroe. At a special session of the Conference on the 31st, Mr. Root delivered a carefully prepared address on the value of popular self-government, and the relation of the United States to the other American republics, which seems to have made a most profound and satisfactory impression, and which is reported as having evoked tremendous enthusiasm. On the second point Mr. Root declared for the United States that—

We wish no victories but those of peace, no territory except our own, and no sovereignty except sovereignty over ourselves, which we deem independence. The smallest and weakest member of the family of nations is entitled to the respect of the greatest empire, and we deem the observance of that respect the chief guarantee of the weak against the oppression of the strong. We neither claim nor desire rights, privileges, nor powers we do not freely concede to every American republic. We wish to increase our prosperity, expand our trade, and grow in wealth and wisdom; but our conception of the true way to accomplish this is not to pull down others and profit by their ruin, but to help all our friends to common prosperity and to growth, that we may all become greater and stronger together.

Continuing, he closed with an exhortation to a common maintenance of the Monroe doctrine, as follows:

Within a few months for the first time the recognized possessors of every foot of soil on the American continent can be, and I hope will be, represented with acknowledged rights as equal sovereign states at the world's congress at The Hague. This will be the formal and final acceptance of the declaration that no part of the American continent is to be deemed subject to colonization. Let us pledge ourselves to aid each other in the full performance of the duty to humanity that this accepted declaration implies, so in time the weakest and most unfortunate of our republics may come to march with equal step with the stronger and more fortunate. Let us help each other to show that for all races of men the liberty for which we fought and labored is the twin sister of justice and peace. Let us unite in creating, maintaining, and making effective all American public opinion, whose power and influence may prevent international wrong and forever preserve our country from the burden of such armaments as are massed behind the frontiers of Europe.

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The Interparliamentary Union.

The conference of the Interparliamentary Union in London closed its session on the 25th after adopting at the conclusion of long debate the following resolution:

The Interparliamentary Union, now assembled in London, expresses the view that the second Hague conference should:

1. By treaty define contraband of war as being restricted to arms, munitions of war and explosives.
2. Reassert and confirm the principle that neither a ship carrying contraband of war nor other goods aboard such ship not being contraband of war may be destroyed.
3. Affirm that even between belligerents private property should be as immune at sea as it is on land.

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In the Parliament of Great Britain.

The much debated Education Bill (p. 30) which

has been so far the most important measure of the present Parliament, passed to its third reading in the House of Commons on the 30th, by a majority vote of 192. The Chicago Record-Herald thus sums up the main features of the bill:

From Jan. 1, 1908, all schools maintained by the local education authority must be "provided" schools. The local authority is given power to purchase or take on hire the existing schools. Teachers shall be appointed by the local authorities without any tests. All schools receiving rates (taxes) will give the same religious education. Religious instruction may be taught two mornings a week by arrangement with the local authority. Attendance will not be compulsory during religious instruction, and religious education will not be given by the ordinary staff. There will be a further grant of \$5,000,000 from the exchequer for the educational purpose of the bill.

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Another important subject under consideration in Parliament is the re-establishment of self-government in the Transvaal. In the peace agreement between the South African Republic (the Transvaal) and Great Britain, signed May 31, 1902, it was provided that civil government should be established in the colonies by the British as early as possible, and representative institutions leading to self-government should be introduced as soon as circumstances would permit (vol. v, 137). To finally fulfil these provisions the present Liberal ministry has proposed to grant a Constitution to the Transvaal, giving full manhood suffrage to English and Boers alike, with secret ballot; either the British or Dutch language to be used in the transaction of public business. The proposal has been received with great indignation by the Opposition, led by the late prime minister, Mr. Balfour, who declared in a speech on the 31st that the present time is too near the war for it to be expected that the Dutch could forget what they suffered. Lord Milner, the first British Governor of the Transvaal after the war (vol. v, 184), declared that he saw a tragedy behind the precipitancy of the government. And Mr. Rudyard Kipling has written a violent poem deploring the martyrdom of the British in the Transvaal.

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Russia Restive under Autocracy.

At the despotic dissolution of her parliament (p. 393) Russia seemed stunned. On the one hand, Count Heyden, Prince Lvoff and H. Stakovich, the three members of parliament who refused to sign the address to the country issued by the fugitive parliament at Viborg just before its final dispersal, sent out a separate address, appealing to the people to submit to the dissolution, and to prepare for the election of members to the new parliament called for next March. On the other hand, the perpetual executive committee elected by the Douma before it separated, "to carry on the work of liberation" (p. 393), is reported as holding secret sessions. The members of the Douma who signed the Viborg manifesto have been proceeded against by the public prosecutor for "attempts to overthrow the existing government." These prosecutions are believed to be intended to prevent the re-election of these members to the new Douma, rather than to procure actual convictions for high treason. Reports come from Yaroslav and even from St. Petersburg, of the setting

up and printing of thousands of copies of the Viborg manifesto (p. 394) under the coercion of bands of armed men. From Kharkov comes report of the seizure by the authorities of 400 pounds' weight of the manifesto, which had been shipped into the town. At Moscow dozens of persons were arrested while attempting to placard the walls of the city with it. And it is said that in spite of the greatest efforts on the part of the administration, it already has obtained an enormous circulation in the provinces. Other addresses, mostly of a revolutionary character, from the many labor, social and political organizations, are being scattered far and wide.

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In the meantime, in spite of optimistic statements from the government, probably traceable to consternation over the fall of Russian securities, sporadic acts of violence multiplied—burning of estates, robbing of trains, mutinies among the soldiers, and many other forms of terrorism—until the 31st, when, perhaps prematurely, a mutiny became revolution. It is believed that a gigantic conspiracy has been developing for the simultaneous capture by revolutionists of the three great sea fortresses of Russia—Kronstadt, defending St. Petersburg; Sevastapol, on the Black Sea; and Sveaborg, defending Helsingfors, the capital of Finland. After terrific fighting for a night and a day, between mutineers and loyal troops, Sveaborg was reported at midnight of the 31st to be in the hands of the revolutionists. On the 1st all telegraph and telephone wires between Kronstadt and St. Petersburg were reported severed, and a naval mutiny at Kronstadt was rumored. A general strike was declared at Helsingfors, and the greatest excitement is reported as prevailing in St. Petersburg.

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William J. Bryan Abroad.

What is reported by the cable dispatches as a remarkable demonstration was given to William J. Bryan in London on the 28th by the Irish Club. Many leaders of the Irish movement participated in the demonstration, which was extended to Mrs. Bryan also. The address of welcome was delivered by T. P. O'Connor, and John Redmond responded to Mr. Bryan's reply. Mr. Bryan had already called upon King Edward at the latter's request, made through the American ambassador, Mr. Reid, who accompanied Mr. Bryan to the interview. In the evening after the Irish reception, Mr. Bryan and his family, accompanied by Mr. Millard F. Dunlap of Illinois and his family, left London for a trip through Holland, Switzerland, Italy and Spain. At Gibraltar they are to be joined by Mr. and Mrs. Edgar L. Masters of Chicago, and from there the whole party is to sail for New York on August 20.

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Mr. Bryan's Reception at New York.

Subscriptions for the reception of Mr. Bryan at New York upon his arrival from Europe are being solicited in amounts of from \$1 to \$50. This regulation was made at the request of Mr. Bryan. The railroads have agreed to give a half fare rate, plus \$2, for round trip tickets to New York from all over the country on the occasion of the Bryan

reception. According to present expectations Mr. Bryan will arrive in New York Bay on the 29th.

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Plans for the reception were completed on the 30th of July, and the program announced. Mr. Bryan is to be met at the Battery in the afternoon of August 30th by the members of the reception committee, of which Governor Folk of Missouri is chairman, and be personally accompanied by Governor Folk and Mayor Johnson of Cleveland from the Battery to the Victoria Hotel, the headquarters of the committee, where he is to meet and dine with Democratic leaders from various States. In the evening he will be escorted to Madison Square Garden, where Governor Folk will call the meeting to order and introduce Mayor Johnson, who will preside. Augustus Thomas has been chosen to deliver the address of welcome on behalf of the Commercial Travellers' Anti-Trust League, under whose auspices the reception has been arranged. The address of the evening will then be delivered by Mr. Bryan. It is understood that he will outline his idea of the issue upon which the next national Democratic campaign should be formed.

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Bryan and National Politics.

Mr. Bryan has proved that he was right when he said if anybody supposes he has changed his principles and become a conservative in the undemocratic sense, "a surprise awaits them." Finding that Roger Sullivan of Chicago, head of the Chicago gas ring and a notorious manipulator of Democratic politics, who became national committeeman from Illinois two years ago through fraudulent manipulation of the Democratic State convention (vol. vii, pp. 170, 177, 230, 253), was "getting into the Bryan band wagon," as the phrase goes, Mr. Bryan wrote from Scotland the following letter to his friend Judge Owen P. Thompson, a leading democratic Democrat of Illinois:

My Dear Judge: I am going to intrust you with a message to Roger Sullivan. If I were at home I would see him myself, but as I do not arrive until after your State convention and as I think action ought to be taken at once, I will send the message by you. Please say to Mr. Sullivan that he has expressed a desire for harmony and that I assume that he means to help the party to the extent of his ability, but there is only one way in which he can promote harmony and that is by resigning as national committeeman. We are approaching a national campaign and our party's chances depend upon its ability to convince the public of its good intentions. Mr. Sullivan's presence on the committee contradicts all that we can say in the party's behalf. His corporate connections would harm the party far beyond his power to aid the organization, but this could be left for some future convention to deal with if he were actually the choice of the Democrats of Illinois. The fact, however, that he holds his office by a fraud and against the express wishes of a majority of the delegates to the State convention makes it impossible for honest Democrats to associate with him as a member of the committee. If we do not maintain the right of the majority to control party policy and select the party's representatives, for what can we contend? The fact that Mr. Sullivan has spoken kindly of me enables me to discuss the matter without risk of having my actions attributed to per-