

## NEWS NARRATIVE

Week ending Thursday, Sept. 7.

## Russian-Japanese treaty of peace.

The treaty of peace between Japan and Russia (p. 341) was signed at Portsmouth on the 5th. It comprises 15 principal and numbered articles, and two supplementary ones, the latter being distinguished respectively as A and B.

These articles stipulate as follows:

Article 1.—Peace and friendship.

Article 2.—Recognition by Russia of Japan's preponderant interests—political military and economical—in Korea; but Russian subjects and enterprises in Korea to have equal rights with those of other countries.

Article 3.—Simultaneous evacuation of Manchuria, the rights therein acquired by private persons and companies to remain intact.

Article 4.—Russia's rights at Port Arthur and Dalny, and the adjacent lands and waters, to pass in their entirety to Japan; but the properties and rights of Russian subjects there to be safeguarded and respected.

Article 5.—Chinese measures for development of the commerce and industry of Manchuria to be unobstructed by either party to the treaty.

Article 6.—The Manchurian railway to be operated by Russia and Japan at Kouangtchengtse, under certain rights respectively as to ownership of the two branch lines, which are to be employed only for commercial and industrial purposes.

Article 7.—Engagements as to junction of the branch lines at Kouangtchengtse.

Article 8.—Engagements as to harmonious operation of the two lines.

Article 9.—Russia cedes Sakhalin and its dependent islands' as far north as the 50th degree of north latitude, subject to free navigation in the bays of Le Perouse and Tartare.

Article 10.—Russian subjects in the territory ceded by article 9 to be respected by Japan, but Russian convicts may be forced to withdraw.

Article 11.—Russia, to give to Japanese subjects the right to fish in the Russian waters of the Sea of Japan, the Sea of Okhotsk and Bering Sea.

Article 12.—Renewal of the antebellum commercial treaty in all its vigor, with slight modification of some details.

Article 13.—Prisoners of war to be exchanged on payment by each nation to the other of the actual cost incurred in their detention.

Article 14.—Treaty is in French for the Russians, and in English for the

Japanese, the French version to control in case of disputed interpretation.

Article 15.—Ratification to be within 50 days after signing by plenipotentiaries, the French and American embassies to be intermediaries for announcing the ratification by telegraph.

Article A.—Prescribes method of evacuation of Manchuria, which is to be completed within 18 months from the signing of the treaties.

Article B.—The boundary line across Sakhalin is to be definitely marked off on the spot by a special commission.

## President Roosevelt and the treaty.

President Roosevelt's part in bringing this treaty to a head was acknowledged on the 31st by the Czar of Russia in the following cablegram:

Peterhof, Alexandria, Aug. 31.—President Roosevelt: Accept my congratulations and warmest thanks for having brought the peace negotiations to a successful conclusion owing to your personal energetic efforts. My country will gratefully recognize the great part you have played in the Portsmouth peace conference. Nicholas.

A like acknowledgment was cabled as follows on the 3d by the Emperor of Japan:

Tokio, Sept. 3.—The President: I have received with gratification your message of congratulations, conveyed through our plenipotentiaries, and thank you warmly for it. To your disinterested and unremitting efforts in the interest of peace and humanity I attach the high value which is their due, and assure you of my grateful appreciation of the distinguished part you have taken in the establishment of peace, based upon principles essential to the permanent welfare and tranquility of the Far East. Mutsuhito.

The exact nature of President Roosevelt's contributions to the happy result, thus graciously acknowledged (other than his having invited the belligerents to meet for conference in the United States), has not been disclosed. It is a reasonable guess, however, that Walter Wellman, who as a journalist is very close to President Roosevelt, would be likely to give a correct version if he gave any; and on the 30th, in his special from Portsmouth to the Chicago Record-Herald of the 31st, he credited the following explanation to unnamed informants:

Among the plenipotentiaries and other eminent men here there is no disposition to question the ground upon which President Roosevelt is now receiving the praise of the whole world. . . . "Would there have been

a treaty of peace but for the work of President Roosevelt?" I asked a high-placed man here to-day. "No," was the reply. "Your President not only brought us hither to negotiate, but when we fell into a disagreement so serious as to make it practically certain that within a day or two we should be forced to confess our failure and go home, he came to the front with an effort which kept the breath of life in the conference a little longer. This was a week ago last Saturday. Then he endeavored to arrange a compromise between us, and came within a hair's breadth of success. I am not revealing a secret, I think, when I tell you that we should have reached a compromise broadly on the proposal, which immediately followed the President's efforts had it not been for the cleverness of M. Witte. When that fell into unpromisingness on account of the sudden change of attitude on Russia's part, the President renewed his efforts, now addressing himself directly to Tokio through Baron Kaneko. [Kaneko is a Japanese in the United States on a commercial mission, as is understood; he is sometimes described as Japan's financial agent.—Ed. Public.] You all know the result. There would have been no peace but for the work of Mr. Roosevelt." A diplomatist of important rank was asked if President Roosevelt had suggested to the Japanese government the wisdom of receding entirely from its demand for indemnity. "I answer both 'yes' and 'no,'" was the reply. "As I understand it, the President did not directly or formally suggest abandonment of indemnity. He could not well go as far as that in his official capacity. But in conversation with Baron Kaneko he did express his opinion that Japan could do no wiser or greater act than to announce to the world her refusal to continue war for the sake of money, to win the approval of all mankind by one great act of magnanimity and moral heroism. On this score I am told the President spoke with his usual vigor and eloquence. All that he said in this unofficial way, as an expression of personal opinion, was promptly cabled to the Marquis Ito by Baron Kaneko. Baron Kaneko is the representative in this country of Marquis Ito, and Ito is probably the strongest man politically in Japan. He was the organizer, the creator, of the Friendly League Political Party, which now has a majority in Parliament, and upon which the government depends for parliamentary support. Ito himself has retired from active life, and is now an elder statesman. But his voice is potent in counsel. His party is still responsive to his wishes. He laid President Roosevelt's opinions before the privy council and the elder statesmen, and they took it to the Mikado. When the crisis came, when Japan

had to decide between a war of indefinite duration, and a peace through sacrifice, I have no doubt whatever that President Roosevelt's words of encouragement to the peace party furnished the determining factor."

#### Appointment of Robert Bacon.

On the 4th President Roosevelt announced the appointment of Robert Bacon to succeed Francis B. Loomis as assistant secretary of State. As this announcement was made within a week after the agreement upon terms of peace between Russia and Japan and on the day before the treaty was signed, as the office to be filled by Mr. Bacon is intimately concerned with matters to which the treaty relates, as Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan had called upon President Roosevelt during the deadlock between the plenipotentiaries, and as Mr. Bacon's personal and business connections with Mr. Morgan are close, this appointment may come to be of considerable historical importance. We therefore append from the New York Herald's special of the 4th (as reproduced in the Chicago Record-Herald of the 5th), a report of the circumstances of its announcement:

After the steam yacht Alice, belonging to F. D. Underwood, president of the Erie Railway, had quietly landed Robert Bacon under Sagamore Hill, the appointment of the latter as assistant secretary of State was given out at the Executive office in the village. In the next breath, before any questions could be asked, the President's secretary said: "This appointment was decided upon before J. P. Morgan visited the President." Mr. Bacon was until recently a junior partner in the banking-house of J. P. Morgan & Co., and had long been a personal friend of the President. . . . It is literally true that the appointment of Mr. Bacon was decided on before Mr. Morgan began his recent visit to Sagamore Hill. It was determined on at a conference between the President and Secretary of State Elihu Root before the latter started for Labrador. Nevertheless, the appointment is significant of the big role which American, especially J. P. Morgan's interests are to play in the new conditions the State Department must face in the Far East as presaged by the Hankow Railway concession development. The President knows by experience in the coal strike that Mr. Bacon has the confidence of Wall street, as well as an intimate knowledge of its plans in the transformation of China. There can be little doubt that in the Japanese development of Chinese rail-

ways, American capital as well as American products will play a leading part. American diplomacy in the Far East will therefore be closely connected with Wall street interests. Mr. Bacon may be regarded as an expert in his new field. It is not unlikely that his appointment as Mr. Root's assistant had some influence on Mr. Morgan's decision to give up the Hankow concession. There is a greater game ahead. Mr. Morgan must feel sure that his interests will be safeguarded with a former business associate as assistant secretary of state.

According to a Washington special published in the Chicago Record-Herald of the 5th—

the appointment of Mr. Bacon upsets a plan made several months ago for the transfer of Lloyd G. Griscom, now minister to Japan, to the office of assistant secretary of state. This was practically decided upon before Secretary Hay's death.

#### Observance of Labor Day.

Labor Day was generally observed in the cities of the United States on the 4th. At Seattle a \$50,000 Labor Temple was dedicated. There were large demonstrations in Toledo, Detroit and Indianapolis. At Boston the parade was reviewed by Gov. Douglas and Mayor Collins, and at Baltimore Mayor Timanus rode at the head of a procession 6,000 strong. Samuel Gompers spoke at Pittsburg, where 15,000 men paraded; Eugene V. Debs spoke at Knoxville, Herbert S. Bigelow spoke at Dayton, and William J. Bryan spoke at Omaha. There were large parades at Mobile, Atlanta, Charleston, Nashville and New Orleans; and at Norfolk. Congressman Swanson, the Democratic candidate for governor of Virginia, was the principal speaker. At Birmingham there were two demonstrations. Clarence S. Darrow spoke at Galesburg, Ill. In Chicago the number of paraders is estimated variously by the local press at from 17,725 to 25,000. Many of these were Negroes. Mayor Dunne reviewed the parade from the balcony of the Auditorium, and subsequently delivered the principal address. In Cleveland the parade is reported to have been the largest Labor Day parade in the history of the city, some 15,000 having appeared in the procession. The procession was reviewed by Mayor Johnson.

#### Progress of the Chicago printers' strike.

Representatives of the printers' union report the Chicago printers' strike (p. 345) as in a condition satisfactory to them. They say that 18 out of the 37 establishments belonging to the Typothetae (employing printers' union) have made arrangements with the Typographical Union to refrain from joining in the movement for an "open shop." The other 19 establishments are now in the strike; but they are said by the strikers, though this is denied by the Typothetae secretary, to be short-handed. Both sides are watching the proceedings of the United Typothetae (to the employing printers what the International Typographical Union is to workmen), which is now in session at Niagara Falls. All the employing printers at Springfield (Ill.) have granted what the International Typographical Union demands and the Chicago printers are striking for—the 8-hour day. The agreement was perfected on the 4th.

#### NEWS NOTES

—The Afro-American Council was in session last week at Detroit.

—The annual meeting of the Grand Army of the Republic began at Denver on the 4th.

—The National Association of Letter Carriers is in session at Portland, Ore.

—Mr. Taft, the American secretary of war, sailed with his party (p. 310) from Manila on board the transport Logan on the 31st, bound for Japan.

—The national convention of postal clerks met at Cedar Rapids, Ia., on the 5th. Arthur Donoghue, of Chicago, was elected president on the 6th.

—Lizardo Garcia, who was elected president of Ecuador January 11 last, was inaugurated on the 1st. He was the Liberal candidate and defeated the Radical candidate.

—The first meeting of the Norway-Sweden joint commission (p. 343) was held at Karlstad, Sweden, on the 31st. The meetings of the conference are being held in secret.

—Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin, a distinguished Chicago woman whose husband is Belgian consul at Chicago, has received from the King of Belgium the order of the Knighthood of Leopold. Mrs. Henrotin has been a president of the National Federation of Women's Clubs.

—By a vote of 19 to 2 on the 1st the