

# KEEPING TAB ON THE WORLD

**Japan's Peace Envoys Greet the President, While Her Armies Conquer More Territory—Swedish Parliament Conciliatory, Cabinet Out—Balfour Holds On. Extra Session Nov. 11. Douglas Rejects Proffered Party Crown—Cotton Witnesses Flee—Yellow Jack Affrights the South.**

## EXECUTIVE

**Rigid Bennington Investigation.**  
In a statement issued by Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte a promise was made to the public that in the investigation of the Bennington gunboat disaster nobody should be whitewashed and to the service he promised that nobody should be made a scapegoat. He said that the department was not yet ready to make any statement as to the possible or probable cause.

**Paul Jones' Body at Annapolis.**  
On the arrival of Admiral Sigbee's fleet at Annapolis the body of John Paul Jones was transferred to a temporary receiving vault in the Naval Academy grounds with full honors due to an admiral. The lead coffin in which the body rested for more than a century in a French cemetery had been re-encased in an oak coffin, and this was covered with American flags. In about a year the remains are to be interred permanently in the crypt of the new abbey now under construction at the Naval Academy, there to become the center of a group of immortals in American history.

**The June Immigrant Record.**  
The department of commerce reports that 112,315 immigrants entered the ports of the United States during the month of June, an increase of nearly 37,000 compared with June of last year. It is notable that 200 Chinese were admitted, thus showing the effect of the more lenient policy.

**Carter to Remain Governor.**  
After a conference with the president at Oyster Bay, Governor Carter of Hawaii said that the president would not accept his resignation and had persuaded him to remain at his post. He has still three years to serve.

## FOREIGN

**Komura at New York.**  
Baron Komura, foreign minister and chief plenipotentiary of Japan, on reaching New York with his suit was met by the resident Japanese officials and a group of Japanese merchants. Speaking for the baron, Mr. Sato said that the war had already cost 570,000 men, of whom 370,000 were Russians. The Japanese expenditure of money was estimated at \$700,000,000, and it was the intention of Japan to ask an indemnity to cover all losses rather than the assurance of withdrawal from the disputed territory.

Baron Komura is regarded as one of Japan's greatest statesmen, all the more because he is not one of the four feudal clans and has forced his way upward on merit. In his youth he was sent to Harvard university by his government for five years. On his way here the baron resolutely declined to discuss the war, but said that Japan was full of hope and that the world would gain by her conduct with Russia. He said that victory could never have been won by his people except for three things—namely, a just quarrel, a pure public service and a simple life. The so-called yellow peril was wholly the creation of the imagination on the part of some interested people of Europe. The baron, accompanied by Minister Takahira, the other peace envoy, went promptly to meet the president at Oyster Bay. During the visit President Roosevelt urged that the envoys ask their country to grant an armistice or at least stop hostilities pending the outcome of the peace conference.

**Swedish Ministry Resigns.**  
After the committee appointed by the riksdag to deal with the separation crisis had reported against the bill proposed by the government the cabinet relinquished office. The committee was willing to negotiate with Norway for a separation if the newly elected storting should request a repeal of the act of union or if such request were made after a plebiscite in favor of it. Certain terms of separation were proposed by the committee, including the establishment of a zone

on each side of the frontier free from fortifications, the right of pasturing reindeer in Norway by Swedish Laplanders, unobstructed transit through both countries and an arbitration convention. The report of the committee was accepted by the riksdag.

**Meeting of the Czar and Kaiser.**  
With all Europe on tiptoe of curiosity and expectancy at the critical moment preceding the peace conference and following the zemstvo congress' appeal to the people of Russia, Emperor William of Germany, on board the Hohenzollern, and Czar Nicholas, on the Polar Star, held a secret conference in the gulf of Finland. Numerous guesses have been made about this interview, most of which said that the kaiser had advised peace and reforms.

**Balfour Refuses to Quit.**  
Premier Balfour's answer to the majority vote raised by the opposition was that the government refused to resign on the ground that the vote was inconclusive. For holding on to office he was bitterly criticised by the Liberal and Irish leaders, although it was apparent to all that the government could still command a majority with due opportunity for assembling its forces in the house.

**Japan Welcomes Taft.**  
The people of Japan have accorded a tremendous and unprecedented welcome to Secretary of War Taft and his party, including the president's daughter, upon their arrival at Tokyo. Signs of cordiality were displayed everywhere, and every possible mark of honor and affection was shown, even to the opening of the private gardens of the mikado.

## POLITICAL

**Douglas Shy of Presidency.**  
In explaining to a committee of Democrats why he could not change his resolution against a second candidacy, Governor Douglas of Massachusetts said that if he ran he would be re-elected and that there was already talk of booming him for president of the United States in case of his re-election as governor of Massachusetts. The possibility of his being nominated and elected to the chief magistracy of the nation was distasteful to him and to his family; hence he must do all that was possible to discourage it.

**Another Stay For Patrick.**  
Judge O'Brien of the New York court of appeals has granted a motion for a stay of execution for a re-arrest of the case against Albert T. Patrick, condemned to death for the murder of William Rice. This is the third delay in the execution of Patrick's death sentence while he has been confined in the death house at Sing Sing for the past three years.

**Murderer Hoch Repleved.**  
Just as the march to the gallows in the Chicago jail was about to begin for Johann Hoch, convicted of murdering one of his numerous wives, Mrs. May Wilson offered to supply the money necessary for an appeal to the higher court. The hanging was then delayed two hours for communication with Governor Deneen, who later granted a reprieve of thirty days.

**Extra Session Nov. 11.**  
It was announced at Oyster Bay that the president had decided to call an extraordinary session of congress, beginning Nov. 11. This will be after the president's southern trip. The message is expected to lay stress upon the necessity of railway legislation, attention to the Panama canal needs and the Chinese boycott.

**La Follette on Rockefeller.**  
In an address at the Galesburg (Wis.) Chautauqua Governor La Follette of Wisconsin said that the representative character of our government was in greater peril than at any time before in its history. He insisted that the Illinois law of freight rates was not being enforced and said he would like the job of hanging Stuyvesant Fish, president of the Illinois Central, for obliging the people to submit to such inferior accommodations. Of John D. Rockefeller he had this to say: "Rockefeller gives lots of money, but he is in all kinds of business, strangling and throttling one after another, and if he could live a million years he could not expiate for the crimes committed by robbing his competitors."

**Porto Rico Seeks Home Rule.**  
Delegates representing sixty-five municipalities in Porto Rico, selected from both political parties, have assembled in convention at San Juan and drawn up a memorial to congress. It complains that the power of the executive council appointed by the president is still preponderant. It proposes that a senate be organized with two members from each of seven districts and that the heads of departments be named by the president with the consent of this senate. Municipal autonomy is also desired. The movement was initiated by Mayor Todd of San Juan with a view to stemming the tide of anti-American feeling. One result was the organization of the Porto Rico Municipal league, headed by Mayor Todd.

**Senator Mitchell Sentenced.**  
At Portland, Ore., United States Senator John H. Mitchell was sentenced to pay a fine of \$1,000 and to serve six months imprisonment for having used his office to further the law practice of the firm of Mitchell & Tanner. The execution of the sentence was de-

ferred pending a review of the case by the supreme court, and Mr. Mitchell is free under \$2,000 bail. In pronouncing the sentence Judge D. Haven said that he had given consideration to the age of the defendant in mitigation of punishment, also to the fact that he is forever disqualified from holding office. The maximum penalty is two years and \$10,000 fine.

## LEGAL-CRIMINAL

**Cotton Leak Witnesses Flee.**  
Just as the grand jury investigation of the agricultural department's fraud cases had got under way it became known that John Hyde, former statistician of the department, had got away from two agents of the secret service and had sailed for Europe, while the former associate statistician, Holmes, was believed to have fled to Canada. One disclosure made by the investigation was that the woman mentioned as having extraordinary power in the department was found to have borrowed money extensively from Hyde on notes indorsed by Holmes. At the same time the resignation of Mrs. Bertha Burch, who was stenographer to Mr. Hyde, was accepted by Secretary Wilson. She is said to have been the woman with the power behind the throne during Hyde's administration.

Frederick A. Peckham and Moses Haas, New York cotton brokers, refused to answer questions put by District Attorney Beach and were required to show cause why they should not be punished for contempt. They refused even to admit that they were acquainted with Holmes.

**Investigating Town Topics.**  
The examination of the books of the Town Topics company by the New York law authorities not only disclosed a long list of prominent men and women who had paid large sums for a subscription to the unpublished society book known as "Fads and Fancies," but also implicated Justice Deuel inferentially by showing that he had been receiving a salary of \$1,200 from the company, presumably for legal advice. Colonel W. D. Mann, the proprietor of the alleged blackmailing sheet, got home from Europe and asserted that all of these various transactions were strictly legal. Incidentally he remarked that both President Roosevelt and ex-President Cleveland had sent their photographs and life sketches to be included in the book. This was contrary to the denial issued for the president at Oyster Bay. The books of the Smart Set company, owned by the Town Topics people, were also inspected by the district attorney. It was estimated that the eighty persons who had subscribed to "Fads and Fancies" had given up \$140,000.

**Mutual Reserve Now Under Fire.**  
The report of General Examiner Vanderpool of the New York department of insurance on the status of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance association discloses startling irregularities. The commission of \$227,998.67 paid for securing a membership of the Northwestern company is shown to have gone to third parties and not to the Northwestern itself, and the persons thus reinsured have not received any benefit from the premium paid by them.

**Shaping Up the Equitable.**  
With the formal election of Paul Morton as president of the Equitable Life Assurance society that great financial institution entered on the final stage of its house cleaning. Mr. Morton himself is to receive a salary of \$80,000 a year, instead of the \$100,000 drawn by his predecessor, thus submitting to the 20 per cent cut which has been applied to the salaries of other officials. At the same time, the resignation of James W. Alexander as chairman of the board, which position was abolished. It was generally agreed that hereafter it would be improper for the directors to engage in syndicate or other transactions involving the society's funds. A radical cut in pensions was made.

**J. Wilcox Brown, a Maryland policy holder, has brought suit against the society asking the appointment of a receiver for the Equitable's assets and a winding up of the society's affairs. It is reported that Thomas F. Ryan is illegally conducting the business of the society by reason of his purchase of the Hyde stock.**

## RELIGIOUS

**Adler's Idea of God.**  
Expressing dissatisfaction with the existing "mush of religious sentiment" and with the "vague, blurred outlines of thought on the greatest of all subjects," Professor Felix Adler in his latest book, "The Religion of Duty," affirms three beliefs which he cannot give up while retaining a courageous attitude toward life. They are, "The idea of righteousness, the idea that justice will gain the ascendant, and that there is a sublime purpose in things." He believes that there is a higher being, "an ultimate divine reality in things," but this being "is not a man, is not he or she or it, did not make the world as a carpenter makes a table or as an architect builds a house." On moral grounds only he assumes the existence of such a being, for there is a power back of the effort toward righteousness which gives effect to it beyond our finite power. The form of them he cannot use, but accepts the content. As to creeds, Dr. Adler contends that as opposed to the scientific certainty of agnosticism there is a moral certainty based on truth necessarily inferred from moral experience, and in affirming the existence of a higher power he takes a step beyond the agnostic.

**Hindoo Here With a Mission.**  
P. Ramanathan, a wealthy and exalted Hindoo missionary, has arrived at New York to attend the religious conference at Greenacre, Me., and to begin a series of lectures in American cities. This Hindoo lawyer is a leader of the Tamil race in Ceylon, has been educated in England and is looked up to by his people as a knower of God, or Brahma Jnain. His lectures will be upon the unity of faith. He aims to show the harmonization of the Christian and Indian religions. For thirteen years he has been solicitor general for the British throne at Ceylon.

**Nordau Heads Zion Congress.**  
Max Nordau, the famous French criminologist, has been elected president of the seventh congress of Zionists at Basle, Switzerland. Over a thousand delegates were present from twenty-two countries.

## COMMERCIAL

**Passenger Rates Still Lower.**  
To keep pace with the rates promulgated by the Pennsylvania and other eastern roads the Michigan Central came down to the basis of \$16 from Chicago to New York and Boston. Promptly the Grand Trunk, Erie, Wabash and Nickle Plate roads put in new rates on a basis of \$14 to New York and \$13 to Boston in order to maintain a differential of \$2 to New York and \$3 to Boston. Thus the queer effect was a cheaper rate between Chicago and Boston than between New York and Chicago. The Michigan Central was expected to make a still lower drop.

**Linseed Oil Trust Supreme.**  
The three independent manufacturers of linseed oil at Buffalo—Spencer Kellogg, Mann Bros. and Hauenstein & Co.—have closed their factories owing to the monopolistic methods of the American Linseed Oil company, controlled by Rockefeller interests. The independents say that the trust has so much flaxseed on hand that they are afraid to buy. About 1,000 men will be thrown out of work by this shutdown.

**Large Steel Earnings.**  
The quarterly report of the United States Steel corporation showed net earnings of \$30,305,116 as compared with \$23,125,896 for the preceding quarter. The regular dividend of 1 1/4 per cent was declared.

**Erie Second Preferred Pays.**  
The directors of the Erie railroad have declared a 4 per cent dividend on the second preferred stock of the company, the first ever paid. This was in addition to the usual 4 per cent on first preferred. President Underwood announced that all the legislation had been obtained necessary to enable the company to proceed with extensive improvements, including the building of new terminals at New York and Jersey City.

**Railway Sugar War Spreads.**  
The announcement of a big cut in sugar tariffs by the Southern Pacific company and the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe—namely, from 50 to 25 cents a hundred from San Francisco to the Mississippi—suddenly extended the area of the railroad sugar war which has been developing for some time. This means that the Spreckels interests are up in arms against the combination of eastern and southern roads with the American Sugar Refining company, or the trust. Cuts in the wholesale price of sugar have already been announced. In this war the eastern independent refiners are in league with Mr. Spreckels.

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## INDUSTRIAL

**Wabash to the Sea Sept. 1.**  
The Wabash railroad officials at Pittsburg have announced definitely that they would open a direct line to the seacoast by way of Burlington to Baltimore on Sept. 1 for freight purposes and that by Jan. 1 the line would be open for passenger.

**Crops in Fine Condition.**  
The government weekly summary shows that the crop situation is generally favorable, the warm weather having caused a rapid growth of corn and enabled the harvesting of wheat in good shape except in Virginia, Maryland, Missouri and Texas. Improvement in cotton is neither general nor marked. Insects are causing considerable damage in Texas, where picking has begun. With the exception of Oklahoma, Arkansas and Wisconsin, adverse reports are received respecting apples from all quarters. The hay and oat crops are generally good.

**New Cotton Acreage Report.**  
The revised report of the cotton acreage under the supervision of Assistant Secretary Hays and approved by Secretary Wilson shows that the figures in Mr. Hyde's hands, prompted by Holmes, were lower than the facts warranted. The report shows that the acreage planted in cotton this year should have been estimated at 85.1 of that planted last year, equivalent to

reduction of 14.9 per cent, or 1,731,000. The total acreage this year is figured at 26,000,000.

**Operators Storing Coal.**  
In expectation of a struggle with the miners' union next year, the great coal carrying railroads of the anthracite regions are steadily increasing their vast stores of surplus output. This fact is taken advantage of by the union leaders, who stimulate the activity on the part of the miners.

**Forty Ton Blast at Portsmouth.**  
Henderson's point, which has been a menace to navigation in the harbor at Portsmouth, N. H., was removed by the discharge of forty tons of dynamite in the presence of more than 15,000 spectators. A huge mass of rocks and timbers was hurled into the air for a distance of 100 to 150 feet. The work of removing this ledge has been in progress for three years and is to cost \$740,000. It will enable battleships of the largest size to approach the navy yard.

**Midvale Armor Beats Trust.**  
The successful test of the Midvale armor plate at the Indian Head proving grounds demonstrates that a successful competitor has entered the field against the armor plate trust of the Carnegie and Bethlehem companies. The government has ordered from the Midvale company 450 tons with which to plate the battleships Mississippi and Idaho.

## SOCIOLOGICAL

**Medicine Advertisements Attacked.**  
Norman Haggood has begun in Collier's Weekly a series of articles on what he regards as the criminal alliance between newspapers and patent medicine manufacturers. In connection therewith he is publishing in facsimile what he regards as objectionable advertisements in newspapers of high repute. He insists that the newspapers are responsible for much of the patent medicine swindling and that they hide behind the separation of editorial and business offices. He wants

(Continued on page 3.)

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