

OUR POSITION REGARDING CHINA TO BE STATED

State Department Will Today Ease the Minds of Foreigners.

MANY QUERIES AT HAND

All the Leading Powers Eager to Ascertain Just Where Uncle Sam Stands and Their Curiosity Is to Be Satisfied—Southern Viceroy for Peace—Urge United States to Open Negotiations at Once—Li Hung Chang Thanks Washington—Empress Willing to Return to Peking if Protection Is Guaranteed—Our Reply to Germany Ready.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Sept. 20.—The status of the Chinese situation at the close of the day, according to a high authority, is as follows: There are now before the department of state a number of notes awaiting answers. These include the German note concerning the surrender of Chinese ringleaders; the original Russian proposition for the withdrawal of troops from Peking, which has not yet been acted upon as a formality; a memorandum from the Russian government asking as to the purpose of this government and a request by Prince Ching that instructions be sent to Minister Conger to proceed with peace negotiations at once. In addition there is a verbal inquiry from the French government as to the programme of the United States.

These various communications have accumulated slowly and an understanding has now been reached by the administration that there shall be a general clearance of the entire subject. This may be expected either late tomorrow or early the following day. It will clearly enunciate the programme of the United States on the various questions presented. There will be separate replies according to the character of the communications addressed to this government; that is, the recent German note will be answered by a note, and the memorandum of inquiry from Russia will be answered by a memorandum, while the French verbal inquiry will receive a verbal response.

As to the contents of these several communications the authorities are not willing to give any positive intimation, though, as far as the German note is concerned, the belief is almost general here that the response of our government will amount to a declaration to make the surrender of the offending Chinese ringleaders a condition to negotiations of any kind. Concerning the Russian proposition for withdrawal, it is stated officially that it stands today the same as first presented, there having been no modifications whatsoever on the part of Russia up to the present time.

An Appeal for Peace.

The Chinese minister here has received a despatch from the viceroys of the southern provinces of China, making an appeal for the opening of peace negotiations without further delay. They represent that a prolongation of the present unsettled condition is a serious disadvantage to China and all parties concerned.

The minister strongly seconded the appeal of the viceroys. He says that China is at times accused of being slow, but in this case a month has passed since the viceroys have opened negotiations, and yet there is no move to open negotiations, although China is ready and anxious to do so. He points out that all the various conditions and general qualifications which have been made to the appeals for the opening of negotiations have the effect of delay. He feels that the United States occupies the enviable position of being able to take the lead in solving the difficulties and delay. It is universally recognized, he adds, that this country is absolutely free from any ulterior motives against China, and that whatever the American government proposes is disinterested, calculated to benefit all concerned, and solve the problem. For that reason Mr. Wu is using his influence to have the United States government take the initiative in opening peace negotiations.

Li Hung Chang's Thanks.

Admiral Crowninshield, chief of the navigation bureau and acting secretary of the navy, has received the following cable message from Admiral Li: I have called upon Li Hung Chang officially. Arrived September 18 in a merchant vessel. He will proceed at once to Peking. He desires that I tender his sincere thanks for the consideration he has received from the United States government. Romey.

A draft of the answer of this government to the German proposition demanding the surrender of the chief instigators of the Boxer movement prior to the opening of peace negotiations, has been prepared, but as there is no occasion for precipitate action, it will not be forwarded until after the cabinet meeting tomorrow.

DARK HORSE WINS.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Scranton, Pa., Sept. 20.—An adjourned meeting of the Democratic senatorial conferees for the Twenty-second district was held here today and Francis E. Brown, of Union county, a dark horse in the race for the honor, received the nomination on the fifth ballot.

MARTIAL LAW TO CEASE TODAY

Galveston to Be Turned Over to Civil Authorities—All Distinctions Are Temporarily Leveled—Appalling News from Hitchcock, Tex.

Galveston, Sept. 20.—This evening Mayor Jones proclaimed that martial law would cease at noon tomorrow and the civil authorities would assume direction of municipal matters. This was done at the suggestion of General Scurry, who represented the belief that conditions had reached such a stage that the civil authorities were able to cope with the situation. This, however, does not mean the immediate withdrawal of the militia. They are to co-operate with the city officials in the enforcement of order and will continue on duty as part of the government. Since martial law has prevailed in Galveston good order has resulted.

The shooting of negroes by militiamen for looting has had a most salutary effect and has in a measure terrorized the offenders. Labor in Galveston is at a premium. There is not an idle man in the city. Regardless of station or position, a man must work. The merchant and his clerks are working side by side along with the man who has known nothing but hard work since the time of his childhood. It is a cosmopolitan force now at work on the city avenues; white men and black working in such gangs under one head is a daily sight. Today orders were issued to impress every able-bodied man for street-cleaning service. Over 500 men were secured under this order and today there are fully 2,000 men engaged in the work. Still this force is not sufficient, and more men must be secured. The prevailing method of disposition is cremation and as each corpse is taken out it is thoroughly saturated with coal oil and thrown into a blazing fire. This plan of incineration has been entirely successful and the bodies are quickly destroyed.

Hitchcock, Texas, Sept. 20.—The distress in this vicinity on the Gulf coast is still appalling. Everything is wiped out. Buildings were not only blown down but have been washed away. The mainland dead in this section will number 500.

Philadelphia, Sept. 20.—A total of \$67,647 in cash has been subscribed in this city for the relief of the Galveston storm sufferers in addition to numerous contributions of clothing and other necessities. A monetary theatrical benefit tonight at the largest theater in the city, under the auspices of the Inquirer, netted the sum of \$6,388.

PAOLI DAY OBSERVED.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. West Chester, Pa., Sept. 20.—Paoli Day, or the one hundred and twenty-third anniversary of the massacre of Mad Anthony Wayne's men to the number of fifty-three by the British under General Grey, was observed in Chester county today with appropriate ceremonies. The orator of the day was Francis Newton Thorpe, of New Jersey.

DAY'S DOINGS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN POLITICS

Senator Hanna on the Value of Club Organizations.

URGES THEIR FORMATION

Guifey, Martin and Flinn Have a Long Conference in Philadelphia for the Purpose of Effecting a Fusion of Democrats and Insurgents on Legislative Tickets—Dark Horse Named to Run Against Benj. Focht. Bryan to Take a Rest Before Beginning His Last Merry Go Round. Other Political News.

FUSION IN PHILADELPHIA.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Philadelphia, Sept. 20.—A political conference took place at the Hotel Stratford today, the conferees being closed five hours. The participants were Democratic National Committeeman James M. Guifey, of Pittsburg; Charles P. Donnelly, chairman of the Democratic city committee; State Senator David Martin, State Senator William Flinn, former Attorney General McCormick, State Chairman Rilling, Charles P. Kindred and F. A. Pettibone.

Every phase of the fusion question in Philadelphia, in every senatorial and legislative district, was considered and candidates, both Republican and Democratic, were discussed. The conferees had made up their minds that fusion should be entered upon if at all possible, and when their deliberations ended for the time being, plans in this direction have been finally adopted. The Democratic county and judicial conventions met today and nominated Frank A. Hartranft for city treasurer, and Edward P. Ternan for register of wills. Hon. Thomas K. Finletter, nominee of the Republican party for reelection to common pleas court, was endorsed. Fusion was endorsed.

UNEVENTFUL DESCRIBES THE SITUATION

At the Storm Center of the Strike There Is a Day of Calm.

THE MARKLE MEN AT WORK

Efforts to Induce Them to Join the Strike Have Not Proved Successful—Father Phillips Goes to Philadelphia for a Conference with Archbishop Ryan—Reports That the Strike Is Assuming Larger Proportions—Detailed Statement from Every Colliery in the Lehigh and Schuylkill Region Shows Only 27 Per Cent. of the Men Idle.

INSURGENTS SCORE PARTIAL VICTORY

Details of the Philippine Battle Briefly Reported in Yesterday's Tribune—Fought Waist-Deep in Water.

SUICIDE BY HANGING.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Reading, Sept. 20.—Mrs. Catherine Moore, aged 60 years, was found by a daughter hanging in the pantry of her residence today. She had become dependent upon the loss of some money.

THIS REGION EXEMPT FROM ANY TROUBLE

Not the Semblance of Disorder Attendant Upon the Strike.

SITUATION IS UNCHANGED

Effect of the Shortage of Coal Makes Itself Felt First in This City. Street Car Service Impaired by Reason of Lack of Fuel—Local Operator Signs the Union Wage Scale and Another Agrees to Do the Same—Activity of the Operators Causes Much Conjecture—Interview with Superintendent Loomis. Diller Goes to Hazleton—Railroad Brotherhood to Discuss Strike.

MARKLE'S MEN AT WORK.

The efforts put forth by the union leaders to bring out the men at Markle & Co. and Cranberry collieries have proved unavailing. President Mitchell and the other officers of the United Mine Workers were deeply disappointed but have not given up hope of bringing the men out, despite the inducements offered by the companies. If the tendencies of the men were with the strike movement yesterday the meeting and debate between President Mitchell, Rev. Father Phillips and George B. Markle last evening, has brought about a great change of feeling. Mr. Markle's statement that on Saturday next the men would receive their regular pay, together with a fair increase in wages and an answer to their bill of grievances if such shall be submitted by the men seems to satisfy them.

In the absence of President Mitchell from headquarters today, Benjamin James, who is next in charge of the strike in this region, issued the daily bulletin from the United Mine Workers' headquarters. It is as follows: Hazleton, Pa., Sept. 20, 5:45 p. m.—The reports received at headquarters today have not been gratifying. Harwood, Coleraine and Star washers at Hazleton shut down this morning, and the men at these places decided last evening to strike with their fellow men. This is a gain for the mine workers. At Hazleton, where John Markle tried to induce the men to go to work, they remained firm, evidently realizing the shallowness of the offers made by their employers. Eight men are on strike in this district today than on any previous day during the strike. The suspension in the Wyoming and Lackawanna valleys is the next in order of importance. Reports from District No. 9 (the lower section) show that there has been large accession to the strike ranks, great crowds having been made on the Philadelphia and Reading employees. The situation over the entire anthracite coal field is such that we have every reason to believe that in a few days the total men will be general throughout the three districts. (Signed) Benjamin James, Member National Executive Board, United Mine Workers of America.

HE COULD NOT ORGANIZE MEN

District Organizer Dougherty Met with Failure at Tower City and Williamstown—Quiet Reigns.

STILL TRYING TO END STRIKE

Father Phillips Is in Philadelphia to Confer with Archbishop Ryan About the Situation.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today, RAIN.

FUEL FAMINE IN SCRANTON

Strange as it may sound, Scranton, the very heart of the anthracite coal region, is the first city in the union to experience an actual hardship as a consequence of a shortage of fuel. The trolley company has had its supply...

BIRDSEYE SUMMARY OF THE SITUATION IN THE LEHIGH AND SCHUYLKILL REGIONS

Hazleton, Sept. 20.—The following is a list of the collieries in the lower coal fields, the total number of men employed by them in normal times, the number who worked yesterday and the number who did not work. It presents in concise form the whole story of the strike:

Table with 4 columns: Name of Colliery and Operator, No. of men employed when colliery working full, No. of men at work, No. of men absent. Lists various collieries like West Brookside, Lincoln, etc.

WEATHER FORECAST

Washington, Sept. 20.—Eastern Passerly + snow this Friday; Saturday, generally + fair; fresh south to southwest winds.