

RUSSIANS MEET REPULSE

Preliminaries for the Next Big Battle on Land.

GENERAL ADVANCE OF THE JAPANESE.

Russians Attack Oyama's Three Advancing Columns, but are Driven Back—Their Losses are Heaviest North of Fokamen, Where the Japs' Shell Fire Mows Them Down.

Tokio (By Cable).—Advices from Manchuria plainly show that the preliminaries are in progress for another mighty struggle between the two great armies.

The Russians occupy a line 42 miles long, from Yehoching to Haidosen, by way of Sipingchen, where they have good defensive positions, and are strongly entrenched. The Japanese are advancing in three columns from Kaiyuan, Changtufu and Fokamen.

In the Eastern field the Russians who retreated from Tchungia and Hsingking rallied at Wanghaoh, 40 miles north of Tchungia, but subsequently withdrew to the north, their advanced position being now at Linhochen, 15 miles north of Wanghaoh.

Their main position is at Hallungching, where General Patoriloff commands. An official report issued by the War Department shows that the Russian reconnaissance on the morning of Thursday included counter-attacks upon all three of the Japanese columns advancing from Fokamen, Changtufu and Kaiyuan. The most determined attack was made at Nanchingtu, 10 miles north of Kaiyuan.

All the attacks were repulsed. The Russian losses were heaviest north of Kakeren, where the Japanese shell fire severely punished the attacking force. The Japanese casualties were scattering and slight.

LINEVITCH READY TO ACCEPT BATTLE.

Gumshu Pass (165 miles north of Tie Pass), Manchuria (By Cable).—A general engagement is imminent. Field Marshal Oyama is deploying heavy forces against General Linevitch's left, and is contracting his troops along the center, but his base is opposite the Russian right.

It is not yet clear which wing is making a demonstration and which will deliver the main blow. It is evident from Linevitch's preparations that he intends to accept a decisive battle.

St. Petersburg (By Cable).—The War Office confirms the report from Gumshu Pass that Field Marshal Oyama is on the eve of taking the general offensive, and no doubt is entertained here that General Linevitch will accept battle in his present position.

The general staff believes Oyama's advance was precipitated by the doubt regarding the issue of the coming naval battle between Admirals Rojdestvensky and Togo. With an unbroken army in front of him, Oyama's position might be critical if his communications with Japan were interrupted, even temporarily.

RUSSIA AND CONTRABAND.

St. Petersburg (By Cable).—The Superior Admiralty Court has decided the appeal in the case of the British steamer Calchas, captured by the Vladivostok squadron, overruling Admiral Jessen's protest against the decision of the Vladivostok court ordering her release. Admiral Jessen contended that the steamer was subject to confiscation on the ground that she carried Japanese dispatches.

At the same time the Superior Court decided that the detention of the Calchas was legal, thus barring any claim for damages on the ground of illegal detention. Following the precedent set in the case of the German steamer Arabia, consensated by the Vladivostok prize court, which recognized the American doctrine that foodstuffs are conditional contraband, the court ordered the release of 350,000 pounds of flour, in which Americans, principally residing on the Pacific Coast, are interested, and sustained the confiscation of 46 bales of cotton and 97 bales of lumber, the latter decision being a rejection of Secretary Hay's conditional contraband so as to include all articles of dual use. The Vladivostok prize court has not yet passed on the machinery on board the Calchas.

ROBBED BANK TO SAVE SON.

Patetic Confession of Employee of a Des Moines Bank. Des Moines Iowa (Special).—Carl M. Spencer, a former trusted employee of the Des Moines National Bank, was indicted by the Federal grand jury on a charge of embezzlement and for alleged fraudulent entries in the bank's books. The amount of Spencer's alleged shortage will not exceed \$5,000.

There is a pathetic story in connection with Spencer's confession, which he made prior to the indictment. For many years annually he had been taking an invalid son East for medical treatment. He had been unable to get the expenses incurred by the medical attention, and to save the boy's life he took money from his employer.

Another clerk suspected of the theft and subsequently dismissed from the bank is completely exonerated by Spencer's confession.

Eight Killed in a Collision.

Louisville, Ky. (Special).—Eight men were killed and four injured in a freight collision near Echols, Ky.

Robbers Missed \$50,000.

San Francisco (Special).—An attempt to rob the stamp safe at the San Francisco Postoffice was frustrated by Watchman William O'Connell, who saw one of the burglars drilling the safe. The burglars took alarm and escaped with only \$1,000 worth of stamps found outside the safe. The safe contained \$17,000 in stamps and much money, while in the cashier's room, adjoining the stamp department, was a large safe which contained nearly \$50,000.

Offered to Fight a Duel?

Chattanooga, Tenn. (Special).—Charged with sending a challenge to fight a duel, M. D. Blanton, a well-known sporting man, was indicted by the grand jury and arrested. He gave a bond of \$2,000 for his appearance in court. It is alleged that young Blanton recently sent a letter to Dr. C. A. Coleigh, in which he challenged him to fight a duel. The case was put into the hands of the grand jury and the indictment and arrest followed.

NEWS IN SHORT ORDER.

The Latest Happenings Condensed for Rapid Reading.

Domestic.

Mmanuel Montoya, a rich stockman of Los Alamos, N. M., cut his wife's throat with a razor while in an insane rage, tore down part of his house, broke much furniture, and then severed his own jugular vein.

A New York policyholder of the Equitable Life Assurance Company has written to President Roosevelt asking him to order an investigation of the company's affairs.

Additional claims, aggregating \$17,000, were filed in the United States District Court in Philadelphia against the Haight & Freese Company, brokers.

The committee of the United Brethren Conference, in Topeka, Kan., refused to accept the report of the treasurer, Rev. Dr. McKee, of Dayton, O.

Mrs. Mary Shepard died at her home, in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., at the age of 104. She was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, December 25, 1800.

The president, vice president and cashier of the American National Bank of Abilene, Tex., were indicted by the federal grand jury.

The municipal ferryboat Richmond was launched at the shipyards of the Buzlee Shipbuilding Company, of Port Richmond, S. I.

Minister Barrett declared in New York that sanitation presented a more difficult problem on the isthmus than the engineering.

H. Clay Grubb, who was tried at Salisbury, N. C., on the charge of killing his brother-in-law, O. B. Davis, was acquitted.

F. J. McArdle, of Muncie, Ind., was elected president of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers.

Thieves killed William Strickland, watchman at the Standard Oil warehouses in Raleigh, N. C., and burned the place.

The various committees made reports at yesterday's session of the American Baptist Missionary Union in St. Louis.

The American Federation of Musicians, in session in Detroit, decided to hold a year's convention in Detroit.

The General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church decided to allow instrumental music in the church services.

Reports were made to the Convention of the Swachmen's Union in Indianapolis.

Andrew Carnegie has given \$125,000 to establish a library.

Dr. William Oster, recently professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, sailed from New York for Liverpool en route to Oxford to accept a professorship.

At Natchez, Miss., Peter Matheson, a book agent, killed two men and fatally wounded his mother-in-law. He also shot at a four-year-old girl, but without effect.

The women connected with the Toronto (Kan.) Baptist Church, which was demolished by a cyclone, have appealed to John D. Rockefeller for funds for a new edifice.

At Somerville, N. J., George H. Wood pleaded guilty to the murder of George Williams in the second degree and was sentenced to the penitentiary for 30 years.

The First National Bank of Cornwall, N. Y., has closed its doors. It was capitalized at \$25,000, and, according to a recent statement, owed its depositors \$185,000.

President Ripley, of the Santa Fe Railway, says that Paul Horton, secretary of the Navy, can return to the service of the Santa Fe if he so desires.

It is probable that an increase in rates will be discussed by the Royal Arcanum at its convention in Atlantic City.

At Pueblo, Col., Frank Covells killed his sweetheart and then himself.

Philadelphia's City Council voted to lease the city's gas works to the United Gas Improvement Company for 75 years for \$2,500,000. The announcement of the result was received with cries and cries of "victory" from the galleries.

Altenists testified in Somerville, N. J., in the case of George H. Wood, accused of killing George Williams, that epileptics might commit crime without knowing it while in a state of subconsciousness.

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Dr. D. K. Pearson, a philanthropist of Chicago, who has given many hundred thousand dollars to small colleges, has donated \$50,000 to Montpelier Seminary, of Montpelier, Vt.

Foreign.

There are prospects of a bountiful harvest in Russia this year. The grain blockade in the southern part of the country has been broken, about 60,000 cars having been moved in April.

King Victor Emmanuel of Italy received James Stokes, of New York, vice president of the Young Men's Christian Association, and spoke of the association's good work in that country.

The United Hungarian opposition has decided to appoint Count Andrássy as their representative to present to the King of Hungary on which they will support the cabinet.

The Austrian Minister of Marine has placed an order for 6 torpedo-boat destroyers and to torpedo boats with a shipbuilding firm at Fiume, Hungary.

The celebration in Berlin of the wedding of Crown Prince Frederick William and the Duchess Cecilia will last four days, beginning June 3.

The third anniversary of the inauguration of the Cuban Republic was appropriately celebrated at Havana and other Cuban cities.

The Russian commission will recommend the establishment of a representative assembly with limited legislative powers.

ANNALS ASPHALT GRANT

The Venezuelan Court Defies United States.

MAY NOW SELL THE PROPERTY.

This Government Now Expected to Take Prompt Action and Insist Upon Submission of the Controversy to Arbitration—Representatives of the Asphalt Company Say They Have Fulfilled Their Contract.

Washington, D. C. (Special).—The decision of the High Federal Court of Venezuela, the highest judicial tribunal in that country, made at Caracas, annulling the concession of the New York and Bermudez Asphalt Company, and ordering that company to pay the government damages sustained by the alleged complicity of the company in the Mates revolution, will probably bring quick results from the United States government, which has been waiting to take action only until the case has been finally disposed of in the Venezuelan courts. In response to the various demands of the State Department, whose officials held that there has been a denial of justice to the asphalt company, President Castro has always replied that he would not arbitrate anything until the case had passed through his courts in the proper manner.

Holding the position it does, it is not likely that this government will engage in controversy with President Castro much longer. It is openly asserted that the patience of President Roosevelt and other officials of the government has long been exhausted at the attitude of the Venezuelan executive, and there is every possibility of a renewal of demands upon him. It is unlikely, however, that any action will be taken until the present phase of Venezuelan affairs, the Bowen-Loomis case, has been settled.

The first step to be taken will be an investigation of the merits of the case just decided by the High Federal Court. It is found that there has been a denial of justice, and this is expected by government officials, who have no faith in Venezuelan courts and who think that Castro runs them to suit himself, representations will be at once made to President Castro. These, it is said, will consist in a renewal of the demand for arbitration by a tribunal.

The last communication in the Venezuelan case was a demand for arbitration with threat of forcible action. The government here has done nothing to carry out the threat implied in this communication, which amounted to an ultimatum. Since then the State Department has merely been waiting for a decision of the federal court at Caracas, waiting to see what the outcome would be, and to then renew representations when President Castro would have no excuse for prolonging the negotiations.

The State Department had no confirmation or details of the decision of the high federal court, but it is expected that Mr. Hutchinson, charge d'affaires of the American Legation at Caracas, will make a report immediately.

FORT WORTH STRUCK BY TORNADO.

One Man Killed and Much Damage Done—Buildings Wrecked.

Fort Worth, Tex. (Special).—A heavy windstorm, blowing at the rate of 70 miles an hour, struck this city from the southwest at 6.30 o'clock P. M. Part of the west wall of the Texas and Pacific station was blown in and John Young, a train dispatcher, killed.

The storm was most severe west of the city, and all telephone and telegraph wires in that direction are down.

A passenger on a Texas and Pacific train from the West reports that the town of Mineral Wells was partly blown away.

One church belonging to the African Methodist Episcopal Church here was demolished. Many business buildings lost their roofs, including the First National Bank Building, a seven-story structure.

The Baptist and the Episcopal churches in North Fort Worth were partly wrecked, while the roof of the Grand Hotel, in East Weatherford street, and of the Johnson House, in West Bluff street, were torn away. Fifty dwellings in various parts of the city were damaged. The Second Ward School building was partly wrecked.

The storm extended as far east as Terrell, but did not particularly damage that point. Henry seven miles east of Fort Worth, suffered much property damage.

Shot and Killed His Father.

Bellport, R. I. (Special).—Joseph O'Connell, a boy, shot his father, Thomas O'Connell, through the heart. The boy claims that he shot his father in self-defense. He has not been arrested. Joseph and his father engaged in a fierce quarrel and the latter attacked Joseph with an axe. The son was severely gashed and is seriously injured. The father died almost instantly.

Moro Chief Killed.

Manila (By Cable).—News has been received that Pala, the outlaw Moro chief, who has been pursued the past two weeks on the island of Jolo by troops under the command of Gen. Leonard Wood, has been killed. His few survivors are being trailed by the troops. At the beginning of the uprising Pala was reported to have a following of 600 well-armed men, most of whom have been killed.

Women Accused as Colurers.

Philadelphia (Special).—Secret-service operatives arrested three women and a man who are charged with counterfeiting silver coins. Mrs. Rose Weinstein, Bessie, her daughter, and Charles Nabesky were captured in the Weinstein home and Kate Malenkoff was arrested in her own home, several blocks away. In both places were found many spurious half-dollars, quarters and dimes, besides the paraphernalia for manufacturing the money.

Wealthy Woman Inmate.

Mount Vernon (Special).—A sheriff's jury at White Plains declared Mrs. Sarah Ann Mead, a prominent resident of Bedford, insane and incompetent to manage her large estate. The woman's hallucinations are, it is said, that religious societies and colleges should have all her money. Mrs. Mead is 78 years old, and lately has been trying to turn all mortgages and notes that she owns into cash, so she could give it away for charitable and religious purposes.

CHINA TO RETALIATE.

Proposes to Boycott American Goods Hereafter.

JOHANN HOCH GUILTY

Chicago Jury Recommends the Death Penalty.

End of the Trial of the German Who is Accused of Having Married Forty Women, Many of Whom Died Under Suspicious Circumstances—His Crime Was Characterized as Artistic Assassination.

Chicago, (Special).—Johann Hoch, who by his own confession is a polygamist and who is charged by the police with having married at least 40 women in the last 15 years, was found guilty of murdering the next to his last wife, Marie Welcker-Hoch, and the death sentence was recommended by the jury in Judge Kersten's court.

Hoch had been married to Mrs. Welcker only a short time when she took suddenly sick and died. He then formed an alliance with the sister of the dead woman and, securing the sister's money, fled from Chicago. Mrs. Hoch told the police that Hoch had poisoned her sister and a search for Hoch was begun. He was found two weeks later in New York and brought back to Chicago and confronted by several alleged wives. During the trial expert testimony was offered by the State that Hoch had poisoned the woman by administering arsenic.

The verdict was reached in less than half an hour. Three ballots were taken. The first ballot was unanimous as to Hoch's guilt and then a ballot followed as to the punishment to be inflicted. This ballot showed in 11 votes in favor of the death penalty and two for life imprisonment. A third ballot resulted in the 12 jurors voting for the death penalty.

"Well, I guess it's all off with John," groaned Hoch as the verdict was read in court. He was greatly affected. He had sat in a stooping position, but when the word "death" was read he turned pale, stared hopelessly at the jurors and then sank limp in his chair.

Hoch's attorneys will ask for a new trial, although the condemned man declared he was ready to die and would be better satisfied if they did not make an effort to save him.

"I wish they would hang me tonight, now that I have been found guilty," declared Hoch. I am not afraid to die, and the sooner it is over the better."

Hoch expressed great surprise at the finding of the jury and declared that the jurors did not like time to consider the evidence.

"The evidence was all circumstantial," he said, "and my life was 'guessed' away by the jury, which did not give sufficient consideration to the testimony offered."

Hoch denied positively that he had murdered a number of wives, as has been alleged, and displayed some bitterness in speaking of the matter.

"Such talk is foolish," he said. "The reports have been spread that I am a modern 'Bluebeard'. This is untrue. All that can be said against me is that I have committed bigamy. As to the talk that I had nearly a dozen wives, it is nonsense, as are the stories that I made away with them. There was no evidence that I had another sweetheart and wanted to get rid of the woman I am accused of poisoning. I spent money to get her, but this part of the evidence was ignored by the jurors."

Hoch said he preferred the death penalty to life imprisonment. He then commenced to whistle a lively air as he returned to his cell.

MR. MORTON TO QUIT JULY 1.

Considering Four Offers to Go Into Private Business.

Washington, (Special).—Secretary of the Navy Morton desires to leave public life as soon as possible, and by July 1 he will have relinquished his present post to some other man and will in all probability have gone to Europe for a brief stay.

Mr. Morton is now weighing the respective advantages of at least four important positions in business life which have been offered to him. Not all of these are railroad positions.

Secretary Metcalf is expected to succeed him, and it is reported that if Mr. Metcalf does not get the Navy post he will in all probability retire from public life. He is not a wealthy man.

Secretary Morton replied to the communication received by him from the Humane Society of the City of Galveston, Texas, in which they call attention to the alleged inhumane treatment of the crew of the cruiser Galveston during the recent stay of that ship at Galveston.

Mr. Morton says that the facts related "constitute the most ample cause for any unlawful action which a commanding officer of a naval vessel might take to preserve order and discipline."

Pronounced a Real Durer.

Heidelberg, (By Cable).—A life-size bust picture by Albrecht Durer of the Saviour crowned with thorns has been found in the house of an obscure resident of Offenbrun. The artist bears Durer's monogram and the date 1524. Emperor William, during his recent visit to Karlsruhe, went with the Grand Duke of Baden to see the picture. Prof. Hans Thoma, the artist and director of the Hall of Art at Karlsruhe, is one of those who pronounce the picture to be a genuine Durer.

Captain Hayson Murdered.

Manila, (By Cable).—Capt. Hayson, of the constabulary, who was stationed at Seasi, has been shot and killed by his own Moro sentinel. The motive for the murder is not known.

Ambush Germans in Africa.

Berlin, (By Cable).—Captain von Rappard's company, while marching to attack Chief Frederick in German Southwest Africa, was ambushed on May 3 at the junction of the Knip and Kiuira rivers by Chief Frederick with 300 men. Six Germans were killed and six wounded, among them being Captain von Rappard, who was severely hurt. Capt. Baum Gaertel, acting on an official telegram, relieved Captain von Rappard by a forced march of 46 hours and drove off the natives.

Aeronaut's Narrow Escape.

Los Angeles, Cal. (Special).—William Morton, an aeronaut, was severely injured and had a narrow escape from death at Chutes Park by being dashed against a telegraph pole as his balloon arose from the ground. Morton was rendered unconscious, but, being strapped to the bar of the parachute, he did not fall. The balloon rose rapidly, carrying the unconscious man dangling from the bar, but gradually lost its lifting power from gas evaporation, and soon settled to the ground a short distance from the park. Morton was still unconscious.

RUSSIANS' LOSSES 89,000.

The Figures Cover Battle and Retreat from Mukden.

SCME PAPERS MISSING.

Mr. Bowen Sent Them With Charges Against Mr. Loomis.

BOTH OFFICIALS MAY BE DROPPED. Sufficient Progress Has Been Made in the Investigation of the Charges Against Mr. Loomis Forwarded From Caracas By Minister Bowen to Convince the Administration That Its Course is Quite Clear on Two Points.

Washington, D. C. (Special).—Herbert W. Bowen, American Minister to Venezuela, who transmitted to the State Department reports that affected the official integrity of Francis B. Loomis, Assistant Secretary of State, informed Secretary Taft that two important papers which he had sent to the State Department in connection with these charges were missing from the mass of reports, dispatches and documents returned to him for the purpose of rendering a comprehensive brief of his position. This caused a commotion in the State Department and in Secretary Taft's office.

Mr. Bowen explained that he had sent the charges, which were current in Caracas, to Mr. Hay, accompanied by various documents vital to the matter. He said that among these papers, which he received back from Secretary Taft, he failed to find a letter written by President Castro, of Venezuela, to Mr. Loomis, then Minister to Venezuela, or an assignment made to Mr. Loomis by a F. Jauret, then editor of the Venezuela Herald, since expelled from Venezuela by President Castro and whose behalf the State Department is now pressing a claim of \$25,000 against the South American Republic. What kind of an assignment Mr. Jauret made to Mr. Loomis cannot be learned.

Secretary Taft immediately sent to the State Department an inquiry about the matter. But the State Department officials could not find the papers. Mr. Taft learned from various sources that the communication from Mr. Bowen, presumably containing the documents now missing, had long been upon the desk of Secretary Hay. Early in March Mr. Loomis was about to make a trip to California. Secretary Hay handed to him the entire correspondence and, Secretary Taft is informed, directed Mr. Loomis to take therefrom such papers as belonged to him. Mr. Loomis did so.

Among the papers which he took, Secretary Taft is informed, was a certificate of stock which Mr. Bowen says and no relation to the present case. There were also other papers, presumably left at the American Legation in Caracas when Mr. Loomis left.

Mr. Loomis promptly told Mr. Taft that he was perfectly willing that Minister Bowen should replace the missing documents with duplicates if he had them. Mr. Bowen said that he had and he handed them to Secretary Taft.

Sufficient progress has been made in the investigation of the charges against Assistant Secretary Loomis forwarded from Caracas by Minister Bowen to convince the Administration that its course is quite clear on these two points:

That Mr. Bowen must be requested to leave the diplomatic service because of his indiscretion in bandying the charges about when he stated that, if made at all, should be made only to his official superiors.

That Mr. Loomis should not remain in the office of Assistant Secretary of State. It is the view of the Administration that he should be promoted to an Ambassadorship if further investigation of the charges proves them unfounded, or that he should be requested to resign from the service if they should be substantiated.

INSANITY CAUSE FOR DIVORCE.

Governor Pennypacker Signs a Quietly Passed Law.

Philadelphia, (Special).—One of the most important and far-reaching bills ever introduced into the Legislature of this State in regard to divorces just became a law through the signature of Governor Pennypacker. The bill establishes insanity as a cause for divorce. Under the new law a woman can readily obtain a divorce from an insane husband, or vice versa.

The bill was introduced in the House by Representative Stroup, of Dauphin, and previous to its introduction the proposed legislation had aroused a storm of comment. In the face of this it was passed quietly and quickly by the Legislature. It was at first common talk that the bill was in the interest of a prominent politician of the western part of the State, but Mr. Stroup denied this emphatically, saying that its purpose was for the good of humanity in general.

Rat's Bite Kills Child.

Columbus, Ohio, (Special).—The one-month-old child of Henry Yant, which was bitten by a rat about a week ago, is dead. The baby was left in the cradle by its mother, who went to another portion of her house on some household errand, and when she returned she saw a rat gnawing the face of the screaming baby. The rat had bitten its nose and face in many places.

Burglar Fatally Shot Officer.

Chillicothe, Ohio, (Special).—When two officers attempted to arrest a colored burglar he fatally shot one of them in the breast and escaped, although the other officer fired five shots without effect. A posse finally captured the man two miles below this city.

Morgan in the Scheme.

London, (By Cable).—The committee of the House of Commons has commenced the consideration of the bill providing for the installation in London of electric-light and pneumatic tube systems similar to those in use in America. J. Pierpont Morgan is among the promoters of the company, which has a capital of \$30,000,000. Ninety-five miles of double tubing and 172 stations are proposed.

Convicted of Conspiracy.

Toronto, Ont. (Special).—The first conviction ever secured of a Christian Scientist in Canada was recorded at the Assizes Court. Mrs. Sarah Goodfellow, mother of Wallace Goodfellow, a young man who died while under Christian Science treatment, Isabelle Gram, Elizabeth Lee and William Brundrett, were charged with unlawfully conspiring on January 4 to deprive Wallace Goodfellow of proper medical care and nursing, whereby his death was caused. The jury was out for three hours and returned a verdict of guilty.

FINANCIAL.

"We are making money," said an official of the Susquehanna Steel Company.

Wabash expects to get 1,000,000 tons of freight from the United States Steel plants in Allegheny County.

N. J. Miller and J. G. Marshall, both of New York, were elected members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange.

Minority bondholders of the Philadelphia & Lehigh Valley Traction Company have decided to accept a settlement on a basis of 45.

It was reported that Thomas W. Lawson would make a bid for the Philadelphia gas lease.

Opinions on the market were never more directly divergent than now. Bull, Hibernia, Morgan and other regular Wall Street "advisers" are still very bearish.

Randolph, Strong-Sturges and others are equally bullish.

"It is curious," observed a bank president, "to hear how many railroads are going to increase their dividends as soon as the market starts upward. These fabrications are now worn so thin that I do not think any one is fooled by them."

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