

WAR HAS BEEN AVERTED

Investigation Will Be Made By England and Russia.

RUSSIAN FLEET HELD AT VIGO.

Mr. Balfour Ridiculed the Official Explanation of North Sea Affair by Russian Admiral.

Details of the agreement between Russia and Great Britain upon a mode of settlement of the questions arising out of the firing upon British trawlers in the North sea by the Russian second Pacific squadron were supplied by Premier Balfour in a speech delivered before the National Union of Conservative Clubs at Southampton last night.

The ascertainment of the facts for submission to a commission formed under the rules of The Hague peace conference will be through the coroner's inquest at Hull, an investigation by the British board of trade and the examination of officers of the Russian ships which fired upon the fishermen.

In his speech Mr. Balfour ridiculed the official explanation of Admiral Rojestvensky, but praised the spirit in which the Russian Emperor and government had met the crisis. In both Russia and Great Britain the prevailing feeling is of relief that there no longer seems to be danger of war between the nations.

Orders have been telegraphed to Vice Admiral Rojestvensky to detain at Vigo all warships which took part in the North sea incident, pending an inquiry of the attack on the English fishing fleet.

BLAMES FISHERMEN.

Rojestvensky's Report Reflects Upon Conduct of British Craft.

The Russian naval general staff publishes the following two dispatches from Vice Admiral Rojestvensky:

First Dispatch.

"The North sea incident was caused by two torpedo boats advancing to attack without lights under cover of darkness, against the vessel leading the detachment. When the detachment turned on its searchlights and opened fire, the presence of several small steamboats, resembling steam fishing boats, was discovered. The detachment endeavored to spare these, and ceased firing as soon as the torpedo boats were out of sight.

"The English press is indignant because a torpedo boat, left by the detachment on the spot until morning, did not aid the victims. Now there was not a single torpedo boat near the detachment, and none was left behind; consequently the vessel remaining near the small steamboats was the torpedo boat which was not sunk, but only damaged. The detachment did not aid the little steamboats because we suspected them of complicity on account of their obstinately cutting into the order of the positions of our vessels. Several of them showed no lights and others only very late."

Second Dispatch.

"Having met several hundred fishing boats, the squadron showed them every consideration except when they were in company with foreign torpedo boats of which one disappeared while the other, according to the fishermen's own evidence, remained among them until morning. They supposed it was a Russian and were indignant because it did not aid the victims, but it was foreign and remained until morning, seeking the other torpedo boat, its consort, either to repair damage or through fear of betraying itself to those who were not its accomplices.

"If there were also on the spot fishermen imprudently dragged into the enterprise, I beg in the name of the whole squadron to express my sincere regret to the unfortunate victims of circumstances under which no warship, even in time of deep peace, could have acted otherwise."

JAPS FAIL TO HOLD HILL.

Desperate Hand to Hand Fighting in the Trenches.

The attack by the Japanese on the Buddhist temple hill on October 27 led to sharp fighting. The Japanese artillery played on the position from early in the morning, rendering the trenches untenable, shells and shrapnel sweeping everything and demolishing all the shelters. Two machine guns with the battalion defending the hill were smashed and disabled, but the defenders carried off the remains of the guns when they were forced to retire. There was desperate hand-to-hand fighting in the trenches, followed by a counter attack with the bayonet. The Japanese finally gained the hill, but were unable to hold it in the face of the deadly Russian artillery fire.

THREE PERSONS KILLED.

Pennsylvania Woman Among the Dead in Missouri Wreck.

Three persons were killed and 12 injured in a rear-end collision between two sections of a Missouri Pacific world's fair special at Tipton, Mo.

The dead are: Mrs. D. Brightmiller, Lewisburg, Pa.; J. W. Bagby, Mrs. Margaret Burke, Kansas City.

Among the injured were W. J. Black, general passenger agent of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad, who had a collar bone broken, and Mrs. W. J. Black, who had an ankle broken and her head badly bruised.

Secretary Metcalf, of the department of commerce and labor, has completed arrangements for a thorough investigation of the steamboat inspection service.

FIRED ON OTHER SHIPS.

One Bombaraded for Two Hours but Not Hit.

A dispatch to the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger, dated Geestemunde, October 27, says: "The fishing vessel Sonntag, which arrived here to-day, reported that it had been fired upon for two and a half hours off Dogger bank, but was not hit.

The following is the story of Capt. Haehner of the Sonntag: "On October 21 we were on the Horn's reef fishing grounds, on the west coast of Jutland. In the forenoon five large Russian ships passed and in the evening nine more. North of us was a large freight steamer. At 8:30 o'clock p. m. we were lighted by a reflector, and immediately afterwards, there fell the first shells in our neighborhood.

"The Russian vessels fired up to 80 shots a minute in all directions. Towards 9:30 the freighter approached us, drawing the fire upon itself. In the light of the reflector we observed shells striking close to this steamer. We then observed another reflector southward, and shells bursting near the ship which was firing on us. We remained unhurt. After 11 o'clock there were no further shells."

The skipper of the Swedish steamer Aldebaran, from Hull, England, which arrived at Gefle, Sweden, says his vessel was chased in the Skagerrack during the evening of Friday, October 21, by a foreign cruiser, apparently Russian, which threw its searchlight on her. The cruiser, increasing her speed, passed the Aldebaran and fired a shot which had no effect.

The Aldebaran thereupon hoisted her flag. The cruiser again threw her searchlight on the steamer and a few minutes later hailed shot all around the Aldebaran without, however, hitting her. The Aldebaran's skipper then ordered the steamer to be stopped, and with his crew sought refuge below.

The foreign warship thereupon disappeared in the darkness. The master of the Norwegian steamship Skaatol reports from London that he was fired on by a Russian ship on Sunday in the English channel. The firing ceased when the Skaatol hoisted her flag. Soon afterwards 18 Russian men-of-war passed the Skaatol.

EX-GOVERNOR NASH DIES.

Is Found in Bathroom of His Step-Daughter's Home.

Ex-Governor George K. Nash died in Columbus, O., suddenly, of heart failure. He was found dead in the bath room at the home of his step-daughter, Mrs. Worthington E. Babcock, who had heard him fall. The governor had been in ill health for several months.

George Kibourn Nash was born in York, Medina county, O., on August 14, 1842, and while living on his father's farm managed to get such education as he could from the district schools. He left school before graduating, taught school for a time and then studied law. He was editor of the "Ohio State Journal," which position he kept for 13 months. Entering Oberlin college, he proceeded with his studies but a short time, when he responded to the call for troops during the Civil war. On his return he went to Columbus for the practice of his profession, and during 1879-81 was attorney-general for the State of Ohio. Four years later he received the appointment as a member of the supreme court commission. In 1880-83 he was chairman of the Republican State executive committee, and managed the canvass for the election of President Garfield. He supported President McKinley for the nomination at the Minneapolis Republican convention in 1892. He was elected governor of Ohio for the terms of 1900-02 and 1902-4.

MANY CUSTOMERS MOURN.

New York Stock Broker Disappears Big Sums Lost.

Joseph Walter Labaree, head of the stock brokerage house of J. Walter Labaree & Co., of No. 42 Broadway, New York and with 79 branch offices, is missing and upward of \$300,000 customers from Toronto to New Orleans are minus sums which are said to aggregate between \$400,000 and \$450,000.

Labaree has been missing since Tuesday of last week, but the fact did not become known generally until today, when the manager of the business, L. A. Prince, also failed to appear at the offices.

PRESIDENT WANTS PEACE.

Roosevelt Proposes a Second Conference at the Hague.

In a circular note Secretary Hay has carried out the President's instructions relative to proposing a second Hague conference.

The note not only contemplates the reassembling of The Hague conference for the consideration of questions specifically mentioned by the original conference, as demanding further attention, such as the rights and duties of neutrals, the inviolability of private property in naval warfare and the bombardment of ports by naval force, but goes further by practically endorsing the project of a general system of arbitration treaties and the establishment of an international congress, to meet periodically in the interests of peace. The issue of the call while the present war is in progress is justified by the fact that the first Hague conference was called before our treaty of peace with Spain was concluded.

Advance Billet Prices.

The Steel Billet association has advanced the price of forging billets \$2 a ton. There is nothing significant in the advance, as the change is simply in harmony with the action of the billet association at its recent meeting in New York.

The Russians and Japanese both report taking positions south of Mukden, after severe fighting. Desperate attacks on Port Arthur are reported and two forts are said to have been captured.

MANY PERISHED IN MINE

Rumble Like an Earthquake Preceded Eruption.

GAS OVERPOWERED RESCUERS.

Timbers Are Thrown Into the Air and Broken to Pieces at Top of Shaft.

From 30 to 60 men lost their lives in an explosion at mine No. 3 of the Rocky Mountain Fuel and Iron company, at Terico, 40 miles west of Trinidad, Col. The number of dead may never be known, as the mine is burning and the bodies will probably be consumed.

F. J. Foreman, a government stock inspector, was at Terico when the explosion occurred. He returned, and gave the following account of the affair:

"I was standing about 300 yards from the mouth of the tunnel when the explosion occurred. It was preceded by a rumbling sound, resembling an earthquake, which startled the whole camp. I looked toward the mine and out of the mouth of the tunnel and two air shafts came a great volume of smoke and dust, which continued for nearly a minute. "Out of the two air shafts, each of which is seven feet in diameter, timbers two to three feet in diameter were shot into the air and broken into splinters. Rocks were thrown over the camp for a distance of a quarter of a mile. It rained rocks broken timbers and all kinds of debris for a minute and many people were injured by being struck with these missiles."

The mine in which the accident occurred employs 80 men, and it is believed that at least 60 were in the mine at the time. News of the explosion brought assistance from the adjacent camps and hundreds of men were trying to enter the mine. Deadliness fumes overcame the rescuers frequently, but their places were immediately taken by others ready to risk their lives. It was not thought possible that anyone in the mine could escape death.

STEEL TRUST PLANS.

Will Concentrate Plants of American Steel Hoop Company.

Plans are now under consideration by officials of the United States Steel Company for the removal to Monessen next summer of the scattered plants of the American Steel Hoop Company. This move was virtually decided upon over a year ago, but the definite postponement of the scheme. Improvement of business and the necessity for further economies in operation have brought the plan up again. Concentration of the steel hoop plants at Monessen will enable the Carnegie Steel Company to supply its entire trade in that specialty from the Monongahela town.

The plan is to dismantle the plants formerly operated by Lindsay & McCutcheon, the William Clark's Son Company and the Painters. These mills are old and poorly located while the plant at Monessen is equipped with the most modern devices and in addition has sufficient ground immediately about it to enable it to enlarge ten times its present size if necessary. Concentration of the steel hoop industry there would mean the employment of 1,200 more workmen.

WIDOWS WANT DAMAGES.

Suits Entered by Eighteen Against Harwick Mine Owners.

Eighteen women, deprived of the care and support of their husbands by the terrible explosion which cost the lives of more than 180 men at the Harwick mine of the Allegheny Coal Company in January of this year have appealed to the courts for restitution in sufficient amount to repay them in measure for that which they lost.

The suits were filed yesterday against the company and each plaintiff asks \$10,000, making a total of \$180,000.

The suits are based on the allegation that the company was guilty of negligence in that it failed to provide proper entrances to the mine. It is also alleged that for a period one shaft was clogged or choked with ice, preventing proper circulation of air in the workings and dust was permitted to accumulate. They say the proper lamp station was not maintained and open lamps were permitted in the mine, while the tamping of blasts with paper, instead of mud, was permitted. It is alleged that irregularities about the bratticing existed and the company employed for a long time previous to the explosion one Joseph Gordon, "who was a reckless, incompetent man."

"Corpse" Came to Life.

George Conners, of Thomas, W. Va., was struck by a Baltimore and Ohio freight train near Savage, and it was thought he was killed. Conners was removed to an undertaking establishment at Piedmont and it was the intention to prepare his body for burial next morning. About day-break the "corpse" came to life. Conners picked up his hat and walked to the station, where he bought a ticket for home.

Eleven Wedding Guests Cremated.

At a fire following a wedding in the poorer part of St. Petersburg, eleven of the guests were burned to death. Five others are missing, and it is feared that they also have perished.

It is reported that the Japanese have occupied two forts to the north-east of Port Arthur, that a Russian battleship in the harbor has been sunk, and that the Japanese attack on the fortress is becoming more furious.

CHARGED WITH EMBEZZLEMENT

Story of How Robbers Entered Office and Took Funds is Doubted.

After investigating for a month, a grand jury indicted County Treasurer Thomas J. Chase, charging the embezzlement of \$14,500 from the Meigs county, (O.) treasurer on September 9, when he said the treasury was looted in daylight by two masked robbers, who locked him in a vault. He was unable to furnish \$10,000 bail and was sent to jail.

The arrest of Chase caused no surprise in Meigs county, but there is much excitement over the indictments that are expected against other persons.

Chase was found locked up on September 9, by his daughter, who rushed to a bank and thence to the fair grounds for some one who could open the vault. It was shown to the grand jury that at least half a dozen men were sitting in front of the county treasurer's office within two minutes of the alleged robbery occurred.

Packard came to Pomeroy that morning to draw \$500 of school funds for Olive township. After sitting in an adjoining office, that of the county auditor, he went to a telephone, seeing and speaking to Chase as he passed. At that time, Janitor Minich was sitting at the door.

Packard says he returned to the treasurer's office within two minutes after seeing Chase standing by the door and found the door locked. He shook the door and finally kicked it. Getting no response, he asked Janitor Minich, who still sat at the door, where Chase had gone. Janitor Minich said he thought Chase had gone to the county fair.

Fred Radford, assistant cashier of the Middleport bank, and A. P. Miller, editor of the Pomeroy "Tribune-Telegraph," both of whom had been appointed by the probate court to make the semi-annual examination of the books, testified that they were proceeding with this examination when the alleged robbery occurred.

On the day before the alleged robbery, Chase repeatedly asked the examiners whether they were going to the fair. They replied that they would go the next day. The investigation indicated that Editor Miller was the last man in the treasurer's office before it closed on the morning of the alleged robbery.

JAPS GOT THE BEEF.

Russia Sends Second Order to Replace the Cargo Seized.

Intended for the use of the Russian soldiers fighting in the trenches of Manchuria, a ship load of 2,000,000 pounds of beef, one-fourth of which was shipped from the Sioux City plant of a packing company, was captured by the Japanese off the coast of Japan. The order was received from the Russian government late in the summer. The value of the cargo was \$200,000.

The Russian government has placed a second order for 2,500,000 pounds of beef, which must be on its way within the next 40 days. The order has been divided among three plants at Omaha, Kansas City and Sioux City.

EXPLOSION AT A MINE.

Two Hundred Kegs of Powder and a Box of Dynamite Let Go.

An explosion at the Sunshie mine, South Fork, Pa., killed Horatio Noble, wrecked the tippie, weigh office, blacksmith shop, carpenter shop and oil house and caused a loss of \$10,000.

Stored in the oil house on the tippie were 200 small kegs of powder and a box of dynamite. It is said the man whose business it is to watch the oil house dropped a lantern and the oily floor caught fire. Without trying to extinguish the flames, it is alleged, the man fled, and within a minute or two the explosion followed. Noble was standing on a pile of coal under the tippie. His body was blown 200 feet.

ROBBED AT SUPPER TABLE.

Fourteen Workmen Held Up During Meal in Boarding House.

Fourteen men, two of whom carried weapons, were held up and robbed by three masked highwaymen at 8445 Mackinaw avenue, Chicago. All the men are in the employ of the Illinois steel works and were paid off. They dined with Mrs. John Sackel at the foregoing number and were seated at the supper table.

"Throw up your hands," commanded the leader of the robber trio. The command was backed up by a display of revolvers and was obeyed. One of the highwaymen robbed each victim, while the other two stood guard.

Kuropatkin Has Full Charge.

A Harbin dispatch states that Viceroy Alexieff has published an imperial decree appointing Gen. Kuropatkin commander-in-chief of all the land forces in the east, and retaining Alexieff in the post of viceroy. The emperor also congratulates Viceroy Alexieff on the efficiency he has displayed in the formation, concentration and supreme direction of troops.

Bank Cashier Indicted.

Capt. Aaron Wagner, cashier of the defunct Akron Savings Bank, and president of the board of Ohio penitentiary managers, was indicted on four counts in connection with the bank failure. Two counts are for perjury and two are for making false entries. The report of the grand jury exonerated William Buchtel, president of the bank. It is stated that his age prevented him from giving close attention to the affairs of the bank.

RUSSIA WILL MAKE AMENDS

England Assured That Reparation Will Be Made.

PUNISHMENT FOR SOME ONE.

Czar Expressed Determination to Bring the Guilty Officers to Judgment.

Without waiting the Russian version of the affair, Emperor Nicholas, through Ambassador Hardinge, has sent to King Edward and the British government a message conveying an expression of the profoundest regret for the unfortunate affair in the North sea, coupled with assurances that the families of the victims shall receive fullest reparation.

The British government also shows moderation in the note which Sir Charles Hardinge presented to Foreign Minister Lamsdorff. While it awaits explanation for an act which it characterizes as "unjustifiable, deliberate and inhuman," it makes no threats, fixes no time limit for response and contains no demands, specifically stating that Great Britain's demands are reserved pending receipt of an explanation.

From the diplomatic standpoint the very fact that Great Britain has not shown her hand strengthens her position. Whoever the author of the offense may be, it is regarded as certain that Great Britain will demand, among other things, his punishment. It is also considered certain that failure to promptly comply with the demands will be immediately followed by Ambassador Hardinge's recall.

To a member of the court, the Associated Press learns, the emperor has already expressed a determination to punish whoever is responsible for the error.

An unofficial statement made at the Russian admiralty, is that the government, before the Baltic squadron sailed, was informed that 20 Japanese had recently reached Hull from a German port and were believed to have boarded the trawler fleet.

A dispatch from Hull to the London Times says that the correspondent, as the result of his investigation, is of the opinion that the attack on the British trawler by the Russian second Pacific squadron was a deliberate act, perpetrated with knowledge of its character.

BANKERS' SPECIAL WRECKED.

Train Bearing Speyer's Party Ditched Near Laredo.

The special which left over the National Mexican railroad bearing James Speyer of the banking firm of Speyer & Co., of New York, while going at a high rate of speed, was derailed between Sanchez and La Jarita, about 25 miles south of Laredo, Tex. Mr. Speyer was uninjured. J. F. Davis of New York received painful cuts about the face, but is otherwise uninjured, and Conductor Sharkey was badly hurt.

The wreck, it is said, was the result of the condition of the roadbed and the high speed (75 miles an hour) at which the train was going at the time, it having been the intention of the railroad officials to endeavor to establish a new record between here and Mexico City.

INVITED TO PEACE CONFERENCE

President's Note Dispatched—Republic to the South Also Asked.

Acting Secretary of State Adee has dispatched an invitation from the president to the signatory powers of the original Hague treaty to come together again to broaden and strengthen the original convention, especially to consider means to further mitigate the horrors of modern warfare and to conserve and extend the rights of neutral commerce on the high seas. In addition to the signatory powers, the invitation goes forward to four of the South and Central American republics.

While the president has in his invitation suggested The Hague as a proper meeting place, a majority must determine that, as well as the date of the meeting.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Slight Falling Off Compared With Former Years.

The report of the commissioner of education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904, made public by the secretary of the interior, shows that 10,069,361 pupils, or 20 per cent. of the entire population of the country, attended the public schools during that year. As compared with the previous six years, this percentage shows a slight decrease in the number of pupils as compared with total population. The total cost of the public school system is given as \$251,457,625. This is an increase of \$16,000,000 over the previous year. It amounts to \$3.15 per capita of total population, and \$22.75 per capita a pupil.

Since 1870, the proportion of male teachers has decreased 39 per cent of the entire number the past year. The average compensation for male teachers last year was \$49.98 and \$40.51 for females. This is a slight increase over the previous year.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

John Severius, a barber at Lewisville, Ill., died after drinking a quart of bay rum.

F. S. Colton & Co., of Boston, brokers, members of the New York Consolidated exchange, announced their suspension.

The directors of the Pressed Steel Car company passed the dividend on the common stock, but declared a regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2 per cent. on the preferred stock, payable November 23.

STEEL TRUST REPORT.

Earnings for Quarter Ending September 30 of \$18,773,932.

Directors of the United States Steel corporation declared the regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2 per cent. on the preferred stock, payable November 30. The financial statement for the quarter ended September 30 last, shows net earnings, after the usual deductions for repairs, renewals, maintenance, fixed charges and interest on bonds, of \$18,773,932, which is below conservative estimates. Comparison with the same quarter for three years past follows: 1903, \$32,422,954; 1902, \$36,954,488; 1901, \$28,663,843.

Net earnings for the nine months of this year aggregate \$51,709,889. In 1903, for the same period they were \$94,123,970, and in 1902, \$101,323,004.

A striking feature of the statement is the item showing a surplus over charges and dividends of only \$1,312,888, a decrease of \$1,464,656, compared with the previous quarter, and of \$10,998,707, compared with the corresponding quarter of 1903. Unfilled orders on hand September 30 last, amounted to 3,027,436 tons, a decrease of 701,306 tons over the same period last year. As an offset to this, however, Chairman Gary stated that the corporation had booked an average of 26,000 tons of new orders per day during the current month, an increase of 30% per cent. over the business of last October.

DAN PATCH BREAKS RECORD.

Paced Mile on Memphis Track in 1:56 Flat.

With a pace-maker carrying a wind shield in front, and accompanied by a runner at his side, Dan Patch, driven by Hersey, paced the fastest mile at the Memphis trotting park ever made by a horse in harness, circling the track in one minute and fifty-six seconds flat. The former record, 1:56 1/2, was made by Dan Patch, in 1902. The wind shield used was the same as that employed when Lou Dillon trotted a mile in 1:58 1/2. It consisted of a strip of canvas about four feet square, attached to the sulky of the running pace-maker.

Another sensational performance was that of Major Delmar, E. E. Smathers' trotting champion, when he trotted a mile to a high wheel sulky in 2:07 1/2. It was announced by the judges before the trial that the sulky was a non-ball-bearing and weighed 54 1/2 pounds. It was also explained the vehicle was the same pattern as that used by Maud S. in her memorable flight against time in 1884, when she trotted a mile in 2:05 3/4.

BIG ORDER FOR CARS.

Worn Out Rolling Stock will Be Replaced on P. R. R.

The Pennsylvania Railroad company has placed an order for 6,200 cars, 6,000 of which are to replace damaged and worn out cars on the lines east and west of Pittsburg, and which are not looked upon as an addition to the equipment. The orders for the cars, which include steel coal cars, wooden-sided gondolas, coke and box cars, have been about equally distributed among the American Car and Foundry company, the Pressed Steel Car company, the Standard Steel Car company and the Cambria Steel company. The other 200 ordered are steel coke cars, and, with 600 ordered several weeks ago, are additions to the equipment. They will be built by the Cambria Steel company.

The value of the 6,200 cars ordered is \$5,580,000.

The Philadelphia and Reading railway will also place a large order for cars in a few days.

Americans Murdered in Mexico.

Louis Kaiser, American Consul at Mazatlan, arrived at San Francisco en route to Washington with a report of the murder of two Americans, Clarence Way and Edward Latimer, at Aguas Calientes de Baca, July 10, 1904. Consul Kaiser will demand reparation from the Mexican Government.

CHURCH UNION OPPOSED.

Southern Presbyterians, Favor Closer Fraternal Relations.

Virginia synod of the Southern Presbyterian church adjourned met in Martinsburg, W. Va. The question of closer relations and organic union with the Northern Presbyterian church, which was expected to stir up a lively discussion created no bitterness. The Rev. Dr. Ernest Donaldson, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Huntington, W. Va., talked in favor of organic union. Vigorous speeches were made against it by Dr. Fleming of Lynchburg, Va., Dr. Daniel Lewisburg, the Rev. Harris Kirk of Baltimore and others. The synod was overwhelmingly against organic union, but favored closer fraternal relations.

Russia Floats New Loan.

A new Russian loan of \$270,000,000, according to the Brussels correspondent of the London Standard has virtually been concluded. Half the loan has been reserved to Germany, and the remainder to France, Belgium and Holland.

Great Demand for Wire.

Wire nail manufacturers declare the production of wire nails at present is greater than ever before in the history of the country. The mills are producing at the rate of 10,000,000 kegs or 1,600,000,000 pounds a year. The demand for wire products is also large. Exports of wire products continue on the increase.

Fire did \$30,000 damage to several buildings at the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, Richmond, Va. Insurance \$11,000.