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Stockholm cablegrams say that Norway is massing troops on the frontier and that "it is feared that Norway is determined to precipitate a rupture by declining to accept the clause of the Swedish ultimatum demanding the dismantling of the frontier forts."

Startling developments have been made before New York's legislative committee charged with the investigation of the insurance companies. A dispatch to the Denver News under date of New York, September 13, says: "A fair idea of the amount of money that the policy holders of the various insurance companies are robbed of every year was furnished before the Armstrong legislative committee today by Treasurer Frederick Cromwell of the Mutual Life Insurance Co. Mr. Cromwell, in compliance with a request made several days ago by Inquisitor Hughes, submitted to the committee a statement showing the syndicates of which he had been a member in the last five years and from which the Mutual purchased bonds. This statement shows that during that period Mr. Cromwell made a profit of \$25,371.52, or more than \$5,000 a year. It is fair to assume that all the officers, trustees and directors of the company have profited by these transactions. It has been admitted that most of them have been members of the syndicates referred to. Practically the same situation exists in the other insurance companies. In the Equitable the J. H. Hyde and associates corporation furnished a striking instance. Mr. Hughes has already shown that the New York Life is no better than the others. It is no exaggeration to say that millions have found their way into the pockets of the cliques which control the insurance companies. This has been so strikingly demonstrated to the investigating committee that it has already been decided to recommend a remedy in the shape of drastic legislation at the coming session."

Baron Komura, Japan's peace envoy, was taken seriously ill at the Waldorf Astoria hotel in New York. He is said to be suffering from typhoid fever.

Vienna cablegrams say that a plot has been discovered which has for its purpose the assassination of King Peter of Serbia, and Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria. Those engaged in the plot have been arrested.

William F. Powell, United States minister to Hayti, has announced his intention of resigning. He says he has grown weary of revolutions, riots and fever.

Advices from the coal regions predict another coal strike unless the mine owners make concessions.

Washington dispatches say that a war ship has been sent to assist the United States minister at Costa Rica and Nicaragua in securing satisfaction from the Nicaraguan government, which now holds William S. Albers, an American citizen, together with his brother, on charges believed by the American state department to be unfounded.

A Washington dispatch to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, under date of September 13, follows: "As soon as the boycott of American goods in

China becomes extinguished to the satisfaction of the administration, steps will be taken for the negotiation of a new treaty to cover the provisions of the exclusion act passed by congress a year or so ago. The initiative in the matter will doubtless be taken by the Chinese minister at the capital. Mr. Rockhill, the American minister at Peking, has reported that, while considerable feeling against Americans has recently been exhibited in China, the commercial boycott is on the wane and that no further trouble in this respect need be feared by American exporters. Present indications looking to a new treaty between the United States and China will be resumed this fall."

A printers' strike, so far confined to job printing offices, has broken out in various states. It is claimed that the strike may become general so far as job printing establishments are concerned.

Charges have been filed against William R. Lieb, assistant United States treasurer at Philadelphia, by the civil reform association. Mr. Lieb is accused of being too active in politics.

Walter Wellman, Washington correspondent for the Chicago Record-Herald, declares that the board of consulting engineers is strongly in favor of a lock canal for Panama, and that its attitude dooms the plan for a sea level ditch.

The treasurer of the Mutual Life Insurance company, testifying before the New York legislative committee, admitted that the company furnishes the money required for syndicate deals, but gives half the profits to banks.

Bishop White, of the Episcopal diocese of Michigan City, Ind., has called upon Methodists to join in a war against divorce.

At a meeting held in Yokohama to protest against peace, an attack was made on the police, and troops were required to preserve order.

A dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald, under date of Louisville, Ky., September 13, follows: "William McPherson, former general superintendent of the Louisville and Nashville railroad, and for more than thirty years in its employ, died at the city almshouse and was buried here today. For a number of years he was regarded as one of the most prominent railroad men in the country. Drink caused his downfall. He was 67 years old."

A Tokio cablegram, under date of September 12, says that the Japanese battleship Mikasa, which was Togo's flag ship during the battle of the Sea of Japan, was destroyed by fire, five men being killed while many others were wounded.

A dispatch to the New York World under date of Cambridge, Mass., says: "Age has so decayed the tree under which Washington took command of the American army July 3, 1775, that the life of the historic elm is believed by the Cambridge Park commission to be nearly ended. The Washington elm, long venerated as the site of Indian councils as well as of Washington's assumption of command, has

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