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### JAP FLAGSHIP SINKS

ACCIDENT DESTROYS THE MIK. ging in the debris in the hope of find-ASA IN SASEBO HARBOR.

Fire at Midnight Reaches Magazine and Frightful Explosion Follows, the Famous Vessel Going to the Bottom-Togo Not on the Ship.

Tokio, Sept. 13.-The disaster to the battleship Mikasa has cast a gloom everywhere. The Mikasa was Togo's flagship and was endeared to the hearts of the people. The ship was at anchor in Sasebo harbor when the fire started at the base of the main mast, at midnight. It spread with great rapidity, exploding the after magazine an hour after the fire had been discovered. The Mikasa sank in shallow water and it is believed the ship can be repaired. Rescuing parties were sent from the various warships in the harbor and there were heavy casualties among them. Five hundred and ninety-nine lives were lost.

Various conjectures are current as the cause of the fire. Some attribute it to an overcharge of electricity. Great relief was felt throughout Japan when it was learned that Admiral Togo was not on board the ship at the time of the fire.

In the battle of the Sea of Japan the Mikasa was the heaviest loser of all the Japanese ships, having sixtythree killed and wounded. It approached nearer to the Russians than any other battleship.

#### TARTARS BEGIN HOLY WAR.

Awful Story of Murder and Rapine

Comes From Russia. St. Petersburg, Sept. 13 .- A holy war has been proclaimed in the Caucasian districts of Zangezur and Jebrail, where Tartars are massacring the Armenians without distinction of sex or age. The country is swarming with bands of Tartars, under the leadership of their chiefs. Many thousands of the Tartar horsemen have crossed the Perso-Russian frontier and joined the insurgents in destroying Armenian villages.

At the village of Minkend 300 Armenians were slaughtered. Dispatches say that mutilated children were thrown to the dogs and that the few survivors were forced to embrace Islamism in order to save their lives.

Russian Envoys Salt for Home. New York, Sept. 13 .- The Russian commissioners who successfully con-

cluded a treaty of peace with the envoys of Japan at Portsmouth, N. H., started on the return to St. Petersburg. The party, headed by Sergius Witte, sailed on the steamer Kaiser Wilhelm II. Before leaving the city M. Witte and Baron Rosen made a farewell call upon the Japanese diplomats, who expect to leave for home later in the week. Baron Komura was unable to see the Russians because of his illness, but through Minister Takahira he sent them a cordial message of farewell. Mr. Takahira and other members of the Japanese party entertained the Russians for half an hour.

Arranging for Armistice.

Godzyadini, Manchuria, Sept. 11 .-At 1 o'clock Saturday afternoon a Japanese messenger, bearing a white flag and escorted by five soldiers, arrived at a post near the railway and handed to the Russian officers who went to meet him a letter from Field Marshal Oyama to General Linevitch, congratulating him on the conclusion of peace and begging him to appoint Russian plenipotentiaries to arrange an armistice. Field Marshal Oyama appointed General Fukushima as plenipotentiary for his side, the letter announced, and he suggested Chakhedza as the meeting place.

Earthquake Claims 400 Victims.

Rome, Sept. 9 .- All Italy is suffering from terrible depression because of the news from the south, where one of the worst earthquakes ever experienced occurred. Although the earthquake was felt all over Calabria leged kidnaper, Mr. Metcalfe said: and to a certain extent in Sicily, the worst news comes from Pizzo and Monteleone and from eighteen villages, which are said to have been completely destroyed. According to the latest news received 400 persons have been killed and a great number injured. It is as yet impossible to even estimate the property losses.

Firing Continues at Baku.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 13.—The latest advices from Baku say that firing continues in the outskirts of the "Black Town" quarter and that the rioters are committing acts of incendiarism and plunder at Palakhan. Many factories in the Volga provinces have already been closed owing to lack of fuel. The workmen here are very much excited and disorders are anticipated.

#### POWDER MILL IS BLOWN UP. Explosion in Rand Plant Near Con-

nellaville Kills Nineteen. Connellsville, Pa., Sept. 11.-The scene of complete devastation in the vicinity of the site of the Rand powder works, which were destroyed by are at work ploughing over and diging more bodies, but only an arm, shoulder, foot or portions of charred bone could be found now and then, and it is likely that the bodies of the six missing will never be identified. The dead bodies now recognized number twelve, while there are six unidentified, and adding the little child of Isaac Matthews, who was killed by a wagon, the death list numbers

nineteen A revised list of the identified dead shows the following: Clyde Wood, Lewellen, stenograph r: George Charles Bartlett, Albert Woods, Fred the Democratic nominee for president Waterstraw, Jr., Harry Underwood. Homer Humphrey, George Martin, Elmer Mugles, William McIntyre, James Breakiron, Gilbert Mitchell.

The missing are: Frank Ryeland, William Lewellen, Charles Ellifritz, Fred Waterstraw, Sr., Isaac Mederaft, Homer Swaney.

One of the night employes, who was at his home on the side of the mountain and could look down on the mill, says the fire started in the southeast corner of the plant, in the finishing mill, and he thinks it was caused by friction of machinery. There were seven explosions in all, the ten buildings being blown to atoms. Five towns felt the terrific shock, houses being overturned for miles.

#### MIKADO STANDS BY SETTLEMENT Emperor of Japan Advises Cabinet

Ministers to Remain at Their Posts.

Tokio, Sept. 12.—A mass meeting at Osaka passed the following resolution without hindrance on the part of the police: "The peace that has just been concluded between Russia and Japan forfeits the fruits of victory and sows seeds of future complications and danand unconstitutional measure has resulted in unexpected disturbance to the peace of the city in which the mikado resides. The empire's honor has been soiled and the spirit of the constitution lost. Never has our country been brought to face greater danger. We hope that the humiliating peace agreement will be broken and the government will resign."

The cabinet ministers have presented an official statement to the mikado explaining the necessity of instituting martial law at the capital and at the same time asking the imperial judgment as to whether they should remain in office or ratire. The emperor's reply advises them to retain their re- ant, who finds peace to his home .spective posts.

Nebraska Crop Report.

Lincoln, Sept. 13 .- The heavy rains and cloudy, moist weather the first part of the week delayed having and threshing. Some hay was damaged and in a few places grain in stack was injured by rain. Haying is near ly finished, with an excellent crop secured. The soil is in excellent condition for seeding and a little wheat has been sown. Corn has advanced nicely toward maturity, but not as rapidly as during the preceding week. Considerable corn is now beyond danger of injury by frost, and immunity for two weeks of good weather will ripen all but the very late corn. There is every prospect for a heavy crop.

#### PAT CROWE IN LINCOLN.

Alleged Kidnaper Makes Fraternal Call Upon Editor of the Commoner.

Lincoln, Sept. 13.—Pat Crowe was in Lincoln again and cluded Detective James Malone by the skin of his teeth. Malone had a hunch that Crowe was in Lincoln, and while he went to the office of Frank Gallagher, associate editor of the Independent, expecting Crowe to call there, the elusive Pat was locked in the private office of R. L. Metcalfe, editor of the Commoner.

Crowe called at the Commoner office about 3:30 o'clock, walked to the window leading to the business office and asked for a private conference with Mr. Metcalfe. Metcalfe readily consented to the conference, not knowing who his caller was. When asked concerning the visit of the al-

"Pat Crowe called upon me and stayed an hour. When they came in and told me some one wanted to see me, of course I had no idea who it was, nor did I recognize my visitor when I saw him, he had changed so much in appearance. He did not look a great deal older, but had gained so much in weight. But he proved to me before he left that he was none other than Pat Crowe, When I entered the room, without taking any thought of the matter, I left the door open. Crowe immediately got up and locked the door, thus securing himself and me in the room. What he wanted I do not know, except that he asked for a square meal and I gave it to him. I knew Crowe when I was a police reporter and I knew his brothers well. There could be no mistake about my caller being Pat Crowe. While he was in my office several people came to the door, but Crowe didn't show any signs of uneasiness. I am satisfied Crowe left the city."

#### BRYAN NOT NOW A CANDIDATE Nebraskan Makes Announcement at Jefferson Club Banquet.

Chicago, Sept. 13.-"I want to make an explosion, beggars description. Men my position perfectly clear. I want to say to you that not only am 1 not announcing a candidacy, but I am not permitting a candidacy."

> In these words William Jennings Bryan administered a check to the enthusiasm which, at the Jefferson club banquet, given last night in Mr. Bryan's honor, greeted the speeches advocating his nomination for the third time for president.

> There had been warm words of praise for Mr. Bryan, particularly from former Congressman Ollie M. James of Kentucky and Judge James B. Tarvin of Covington, Ky., who had declared unqualifiedly for Mr. Bryan as in 1908 and from Alexander Throup of New Haven, Conn., who declared that Bryan was the natural and legitimate leader of the Democratic party in the coming campaign. When Mr. Bryan, who came last on the program, rose to respond to the toast, "Democracy vs. Centralization," he deferred for a few moments entering upon his formal address until he had returned thanks for the words of praise showered upon him by the speakers who preceded him and until he had set himself right on the question of his possible candidacy for the presidency.

"I am not now," said Mr. Bryan, "a candidate for any office. I have never said that I would never again be a candidate for office, but I want to say now that talk of candidacy for office does not affect me as it once did. I believe that my place in history will be determined not by what the people are able to do for me, but by what I am able to do for the people. I think it is now too soon to choose a candldate for president to make the race three years from now; it is too early to pledge ourselves to any one man, I trust that before the time comes to ger. The government's high handed name a man for the next presidential race light may be thrown upon our for the party more than I have yet date. The only paper published especbeen able to do."

Miss Roosevelt at Peking.

Peking, Sept. 13.-Major General Corbin, Rear Admiral Train, Miss Alice Roosevelt and the other members of their party arrived here. They were met by American Minister Rockhill and his wife, wu Ting Fang and other notables. Miss Roosevelt is the guest of Minister Rockhill and family.

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