

## EQUITABLE LOAN PAID BACK

**CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW DETERMINED TO STOP SCANDAL.**

Letter from Senator to Paul Morton Claiming He Has Been Maligned and the Correspondence Made Public.

NEW YORK.—Announcement has been made by the officers of the Equitable Life Assurance society that the indebtedness to the society of the Depew Improvement company has been paid. The principal and interest of \$232,850.82. The correspondence incident to the transaction was also, at the suggestion of President Morton made public, to the end, Mr. Morton said, that an impression unjust to Senator Chauncey M. Depew might be removed.

The correspondence consists of three letters of even date, the first addressed to Mr. Morton by Henry B. Anderson, of the law firm of Anderson & Anderson, attorneys for the Depew Improvement company, announcing that the reorganization committee of the Depew Improvement company, having perfected the title to the property not covered by the Equitable mortgage, was prepared to take over the property which secured the loan, paying in cash to the Equitable the face of the loan and interest.

Had Nothing to Do With It  
Among other things, Senator Depew says:

"I had nothing to do with the organization of the Depew Improvement company, not even authorizing the use of my name, nor was I in any way connected with it until five years after its incorporation. I purchased for \$100,000 in cash a one-fiftieth interest in the stock of the company. The company at that time had a tract of land consisting of about 27,700 sub-divided lots and 265 acres not sub-divided.

"The Equitable Life loaned \$250,000 up to 1,575 of the company's lots. These lots were selected as constituting the most valuable tracts there. At the time the mortgage was made these lots were selling—the lowest at \$300 and the highest at \$600 each. The valuation placed upon the plot by the Equitable appraisers at that time was \$393,750, and upon the balance of the land owned by the company \$540,000 a total valuation of the property of \$933,750. An appraisal was at the same time made and submitted to the Equitable by William B. Cutter, one of the leading real estate men of Buffalo, in which he appraised the value of the lots loaned on at \$768,000.

### Dental of Each Charge.

Mr. Depew then recites the charges that have been made against him, denying each. Of the charges which related to transactions resulting from the default of the company and the foreclosure of the loan by the Equitable, he says that as a result of the company's embarrassment a reorganization was determined upon, and though there were unavoidable delays the plan was progressing as rapidly as possible.

### JAPANESE ARE UNMOVED.

Feeling, However, That Peace Terms Will Prove Unpopular.

TOKIO.—The public continues to be without information regarding the agreement of the peace envoys at Portsmouth. The division of the island of Sakhalin and the waiving of indemnity are not yet publicly known.

Despite the lack of information, many people are convinced that the Japanese government has made substantial concessions and already are criticizing and objecting. Unless the terms prove to be better than were anticipated, it is certain that the compact will prove unpopular and be bitterly assailed by the press and by the diet, which is expected to meet in special session shortly. The radical elements are asserting that cabinet changes are inevitable. The mass of the public is not moved. There unquestionably is a feeling of great relief that hostilities have ended and that the men of the great army will return home, be disbanded and reenter the walks of peace. This feeling, however, is without public manifestation. There have been no processions, no display of flags nor other marks of popular jubilation.

## DEATH HIGH IN AIR

**AERONAUT BALDWIN BLOWN TO ATOMS IN BALLOON.**

**WAS CARRYING DYNAMITE**

**SUPPOSED TO HAVE IGNITED THE ENTIRE MASS.**

Speck in Sky When Accident Occurred and Only Fragments of Body Found—Many Ball Flyers Injured.

GREENVILLE, O.—In sight of 2,500 persons Prof. John Baldwin was blown to atoms here by the explosion of six sticks of dynamite when 1,500 feet in the air. His wife and three children were among the spectators who witnessed the tragedy. Baldwin has been giving daily exhibitions at the county fair here. He would ascend several thousand feet in the air and explode dynamite at intervals. This time he mounted 1,500 feet in the air. Every eye among the thousands of spectators below watched him until he became a mere speck.

Suddenly a cloud of smoke appeared. It hid the airship from view, the spectators supposed, as the balloon had vanished completely from sight. In another moment the sound of the explosion reached the straining ears of the watchers, but the airship did not again appear. For a moment the crowd waited expectantly thinking that a view of the aeronaut would be obtained. Then a groan of horror arose from the multitude. The airship had vanished. Searchers immediately began looking for fragments of the wrecked airship. A half mile away they found pieces of silk cloth from which the balloon was made and splinters of the basket-like framework on which the aeronaut had been perched. Scattered about a twenty acre field were found fragments of Baldwin's body.

The distance at which the remnants of airship fell was so great that the crowds had not seen the fragments fall. No one can tell how the accident occurred. The six sticks of dynamite which Baldwin carried with him exploded simultaneously, as only one report was heard. It is supposed that in igniting the fuse connecting with the dynamite he fired the gas in the balloon and that it exploded causing the dynamite to explode. Baldwin's business was aerial warfare demonstrations.

For nearly twenty years he had been giving balloon and airship exhibitions about the country. He was thirty-seven years old and his home was at Los Antville, Ind. It was with great difficulty that Mrs. Baldwin was revived from the faint that followed the tragedy and her condition is critical. It was Baldwin's two hundred and first ascension, and the third here.

### JAPAN HOLDS BACK.

Not Ready to Enter Into Formal Armistice.

PORTSMOUTH.—Japan has refused to consent to the cessation of hostilities, until the treaty of peace has been signed. The Russian plenipotentiaries, accompanied by the secretaries called on Baron Komura and Mr. Takahira and were in conference with them for half an hour. Japan having just indicated through Baron Komura her willingness for an armistice, Mr. Witte supposed that he would find them ready to sign. Baron Komura explained that while his government was ready to consent to an armistice, his instructions were that this should not take effect until after the signing of the treaty.

The discussion lasted for half an hour, the Russian position being that Japan's contention was without precedent, and that if the armistice was not to take effect until the signing of the treaty it was practically unnecessary. However, the Japanese were insistent and an agreement was accordingly entered into providing for an armistice which shall take effect the moment the treaty is signed.

"It is necessary, I think only the commanders in the field but all the commanders of ships shall be notified, and this necessarily requires a little time. Japan did not desire to have the armistice go into effect until the commanders on sea and land had been notified, thus insuring the maintenance of the agreement."

## THE WAR IS OVER

**PEACE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WARRING NATIONS.**

Concessions Granted so Suddenly as to Make Scene Dramatic—People of Portsmouth Display Jubilation.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H.—The long and bloody war between Japan and Russia is ended. The terms of peace were settled by Mr. Witte and Baron Komura at the session of the conference and preliminary arrangements for an armistice were concluded and the actual work of framing the "treaty of Portsmouth" was by mutual agreement turned over to Mr. De Martens, Russia's great international lawyer, and Mr. Denison who for twenty-five years has acted as the legal advisor of the Japanese foreign office. The treaty is expected to be completed soon.

This happy conclusion of the conference which a week ago would have been shipwrecked had it not been for the heroic intercession of President Roosevelt, was sudden and dramatic. For the sake of peace, Japan, with the magnanimity of a victor, at the last moment yielded everything in issue. Russia refused to budge from the ultimatum Emperor Nicholas had given to President Roosevelt through Ambassador Meyer.

No indemnity under any guise, but an agreement to divide Sakhalin and reimburse Japan for the maintenance of the Russian prisoners were his last words. They had been repeatedly reiterated in Mr. Witte's instructions and in the form of a written reply to the Japanese compromise proposal of they were delivered to Baron Komura.

### Turns Down the Compromise.

Mr. Witte went to the conference declaring he was powerless to change the dot of an "i" or the cross of a "t" in instructions. Emperor Nicholas' word had been given not only to him, but to President Roosevelt, the head of a foreign state.

When Baron Komura, therefore, first offered the new basis of compromise outlined in the Associated Press dispatches, the complete renunciation of indemnity coupled with a proposition for the redemption of Sakhalin a price to be fixed by a mixed tribunal consisting of representatives of the neutral powers in fact if not in words the solution offered by the president Mr. Witte again returned a non-possessive. It was what Mr. Witte termed in his interview with the Associated Press the "psychological moment." Mr. Witte did not flinch. He expected a rupture and as he expressed it afterward he was stunned by what happened. Baron Komura gave way on all the disputed points.

### Only Way for Peace.

With the presence that has enabled the Japanese to gauge the monumental processes of their adversaries on the field of battle and upon the sea they had realized in advance that peace could be obtained in no other way. They had warned their government. The Mikado at the session of the cabinet and the statesman had sanctioned the final concession. Article ten and eleven (Intended warships and the flotta of Russia's sea power in the far east) were withdrawn. Japan agreed that only that portion of the Chinese Eastern railroad south of Chaofu, the position occupied by Oyama should be ceded to Japan. Both sides once the deadlock was broken wanted a "just and lasting" peace, and in that spirit it was decided to practically neutralize Sakhalin, each country binding itself not to fortify its half of the island, and Japan assuming an obligation not to fortify the La Perouse strait between Sakhalin and Hokkaido, which would bar Russia's commercial route to the Pacific.

### A Period of Jubilation.

Then began the jubilation. Mr. Witte and Baron de Rosen returned to the hotel for luncheon. The Japanese had remained at the conference hall to lunch with Mr. Pearce. The news that peace had been concluded had preceded the Russian plenipotentiaries and such scenes of wild rejoicing have never before been witnessed in the state of New Hampshire as greeted them upon their arrival at the hotel.

## FRAMING A TREATY

**PEACEMAKERS AT PORTSMOUTH BEGIN THEIR TASK.**

**WITTE NOT HERO AT HOME**

**COURT CIRCLES SORRY HE EFFECTED AN ARMISTICE.**

Went Over as Chief Plenipotentiary for Purpose of Saving Him—Little Doubt of Final Ratifications.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H.—Actual work of drafting the "treaty of Portsmouth" has begun. It was done by Mr. De Martens and Mr. Denison, acting as legal advisors for the respective sides. While the "bases" of peace have been accepted by the plenipotentiaries, considerable detail remains to be worked out in the elaboration of the articles of the treaty. This is especially true in regard to the articles dealing with the Chinese Eastern railroad and the surrender of the leases of the Liao Tung peninsula and Port Arthur and Taitienwan (Dalny).

Mr. Pokockloff, the Russian minister to Peking, who was formerly manager of the Russo-Chinese bank at Peking, and who has intimate knowledge of all the details relating to these matters, is assisting Mr. De Martens.

A very anomalous situation exists as to the impression created by the conclusion of peace. While the outside world applauds Japan, there is a widely great disappointment in the terms, and in Russia, where it would seem that there should be universal rejoicing over the great diplomatic victory Mr. Witte has won, the government seems to have received it coldly. With the people it will make Mr. Witte the great and popular figure and add to his laurels, but at court evidently the very victory that Mr. Witte has achieved makes it all the more bitterly resented.

It is an open secret that when the emperor appointed Mr. Witte chief plenipotentiary the "military party" expected him to fail. They did not want peace and it was freely predicted in St. Petersburg when Mr. Witte left that he had been given an impossible mission. They expected him to fail in the negotiations or to make "a bad peace," and either would have spelled political ruin. Instead, upon the very terms upon which the emperor told Mr. Meyer he would make peace and upon which the military party did not believe it possible for peace to be negotiated, Mr. Witte succeeded in securing a treaty honorable and under circumstances favorable to Russia.

When the signatures are a check the exchange of ratifications by the emperors of Russia and Japan alone will remain. Emperor Nicholas in the credentials given to Mr. Witte formally pledged his word to approve any treaty his plenipotentiary would sign. While the credentials of Baron Komura, under regular Japanese procedure, reserved to the Mikado the right to sanction the treaty, that is regarded as a mere formality.

The Russians continue to regard the agreement reached as a wonderful diplomatic victory. The highest Russian authority, speaking of what would have happened if peace had not been made said:

"Consider the military situation from the Russian standpoint in the most favorable light. Assume that the Russian arms would have been successful. Linevitch victorious might have forced Oyama back to Liao Yang, possibly to Haificheng. But with the Russian fleet destroyed he could never venture into the Liao Tung peninsula. We could not have crossed the Yula into Korea. We could never have retaken Sakhalin. Practically we obtain in this treaty what we would have had to buy with victories. Had defeats come—who knows what else we should in the end have been obliged to yield."

All senseless gossip about Emperor William throwing his influence against peace is now completely exploded. The Russian envoys have received information direct from Petrof showing that Emperor William was urging peace upon the czar with as much earnestness as the president.

## NEBRASKA NOTES

Miss Sarah Abbott, a popular young woman of Wood River, has accepted a position as principal of the public schools at Chadron, Nebr.

The work of laying steel rails between Lincoln and Beatrice on the Union Pacific, which has long been delayed, has been resumed. About 100 men are employed on the job.

Burglars entered the saloon of Henry Krumwiede at Dakota City by sawing out a hole in the front door large enough for a man to enter. A slot machine was relieved of \$4 and several bottles of liquor were taken.

A son of B. Knoble, 14 years old, of Papillon has had his foot cut off by a mowing machine. His older brother was driving the machine and did not see the boy until too late to avoid the accident.

Youthful robbers are working in Beatrice, and a number of houses have been entered. The officers have not yet succeeded in locating the guilty parties.

Mrs. Frank Miller, colored, of South Sioux City, has placed her 16-year-old son, Oscar, in charge of Sheriff H. C. Hansen, who has him in jail, and he will be sent to the reform school on complaint of his mother. Mrs. Miller claims she has lost all control over him and that he is incorrigible.

While working in the hay field at Wood River Joe Stone received a severe injury by a hay fork falling and striking him on the nose causing a fracture of the bone. John Hirst, who was standing beside him, saw the fork falling, and in an attempt to prevent it hitting Stone was hurt badly on the hand.

Oscar Johnson of Saronville was hurt while moving a threshing machine from one farm to another. He fell under the wheels of the separator, but on account of the ground being soft no bones were broken. He was badly bruised however.

A number of Cass county farmers are losing cattle, which seem to be dying from some kind of poison. The contents of the stomachs of two cows have been sent to a chemist for examination.

B. N. Smith of Beatrice, traveling representative for Marshall Field & Co., of Chicago, has received a telegram from Silverton, Colo., to the effect that ore valued at \$1,700 per ton was being taken out of the mine in which he was interested. Naturally Mr. Smith is feeling pretty good over this piece of news.

Nightwatchman Chutbuck has killed two mad dogs in Tecumseh and the council has ordered all dogs within the corporate limits to be muzzled.

While in the bottling room Marlin Gehling, superintendent of the Gehling brewery in Falls City got his hand cut on a broken bottle. He did not pay much attention to the injury until the blood poisoning set in. He is having a hard time with the hand, but no serious results are anticipated.

M. P. Clopper, was bitten on the hand by a rattlesnake at his home near Beatrice. The snake had crawled into the house, and as Mr. Clopper entered the kitchen about dusk he noticed something on the floor. In attempting to pick it up the snake struck him.

Orto Zacek, manager of the Baumann Drug company at West Point, has purchased the Frank Drahos residence at West Point for the sum of \$1,800. Residence property in West Point is advancing in price very rapidly.

David Helphand and A. Spigle, of Peeder who are charged with setting fire to a car of furnishing goods have had their preliminary hearing and were bound over to the district court in the sum of \$2,000 each.

Linn Swan of Tecumseh, who is now holding the position of brakeman on a freight train between Lincoln and Table Rock, had a gold watch stolen from him while on duty. He left the watch in a small compartment of the caboose and someone managed to get it, unnoticed. A passenger who alighted from the train at Tecumseh is under surveillance although it is not certain that he purloined the watch.

After shooting two loads from a shotgun at his wife and believing her to be murdered, Gustav Schraeder, aged 50, of Norfolk committed suicide. The wife had secured divorce. She escaped both loads and is alive.