

WAR IS IN SIGHT NOW

Japan and Russia Break Off Diplomatic Negotiations.

FOREIGN LEGATIONS ARE CALLED

Japan Would Not Wait for Russia's Long Delayed Note.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT SENDS MESSAGES

Telegraphs Ministers an Official Notice of Japan's Decision.

CZAR RECALLS ENTIRE FOREIGN STAFF

Action of Japan is Practically a Declaration of War and the Firing May Commence at Any Hour.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 7.—Count Lamsdorff, the Russian foreign minister, has formally informed the Russian representatives abroad that Japan has decided to break off all negotiations with Russia and to withdraw the minister and whole Japanese legation staff from St. Petersburg.

Acting under instructions from his government the Japanese minister at the imperial court has presented a note which informs the imperial court that the Japanese government has decided to break off all negotiations and recall her minister and the entire staff at the Japanese legation.

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TOKYO, Feb. 7.—The severance of diplomatic relations between Japan and Russia appears to be only a step toward war, although when the ministers of Russia and Japan withdrew from their respective posts quick and decisive action is expected.

During the final negotiations Japan's repeated requests for answers were treated in a most unsatisfactory manner. Japan waited until convinced that it was useless to wait longer and has now ended the discussion.

BERLIN, Feb. 7.—The Russian embassy here has been informed by Count Lamsdorff, the Russian foreign minister, that the Russian government does not know whether the breaking off of diplomatic negotiations is preliminary to war or not.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 7.—Although the fear was general here yesterday that the Russian government would follow by an act on the part of the Japanese government which would plunge the two countries into war, the startling action of Japan in severing diplomatic relations with Russia before the actual delivery of the Russian note, came like a bolt from a clear sky.

It was believed that the receipt of the note might have unmasked an ultimatum, but that Japan should sever diplomatic relations, a step little short of a declaration of war, was almost like a blow in the face under the present circumstances, and it is resented here accordingly.

Another version of the situation at the time M. Kurino notified Count Lamsdorff of the course his government had elected to pursue, is that the Russian reply was not in the possession of Baron de Rosen, but in the office here awaiting transmission and was withdrawn before being dispatched.

Upon the disclosure of Japan's position, the Russian authorities met the situation with great promptness. Instructions recalling Baron de Rosen were forthwith telegraphed, and he was directed to leave Tokyo immediately.

MINISTRY IN A BAD PLIGHT

Illness of Premier Balfour Particularly Unfortunate at This Juncture.

(Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, Feb. 7.—(New York World Telegram—Special Telegram.)—The British Parliament opened under inauspicious conditions for the government.

Prime Minister Balfour's illness, which is said to be due largely to worry, was most unfortunate, as it removed from the treasury bench in the House of Commons its one distinguished occupant, leaving only a few ministerial members in his stead.

The whole proceedings in Parliament now are unreal. The only topic of discussion now is when dissolution will come. It is expected that the government will resign in the next few days.

PROVING RICH MAN INSANE Title to Large Estate Depends on Ability to Substantiate Charges.

(Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, Feb. 7.—(New York World Telegram—Special Telegram.)—That Francis E. Ruben Bryan, an American millionaire, who committed suicide in 1902 in Paris, where he was in mortal dread of being poisoned, was insane has been brought out by the suit of relatives who are interested in his will.

He lived here many years and on dying left \$100,000 to a historical society of Pennsylvania and the residue of his great estate to the South Kensington museum in London, together with a large collection of valuable curios and works of art.

HEADSMAN HAVING HARD TIME No Quarter of Paris Willing to Permit the Erection of His gruesome Machine.

(Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, Feb. 7.—(New York World Telegram—Special Telegram.)—Deliberate Paris headsmen, is passing sleepless nights trying to arrange for the coming "Promenade de la Veuve (Widow)," as the Parisians facetiously speak of putting the guillotine in operation.

MEMORIAL CHURCH AT MAGENTA Structure Costing Half of a Million on Site of Struggle for Liberty.

(Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) ROME, Feb. 7.—(New York World Telegram—Special Telegram.)—On the battlefield of Magenta, in northern Italy, where one of the earlier struggles for Italian independence was fought in 1859 between Italian and French allies against the Austrians, a beautiful memorial church has just been completed at the cost of \$500,000.

ROME SECURES CHEAP PAVING Argentine to Cover Square of Pantheon with Wood from that Country.

(Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) ROME, Feb. 7.—(New York World Telegram—Special Telegram.)—The city of Buenos Ayres has offered to the city of Rome to give it as many of the square of the Pantheon with blocks of Argentine wood and the Roman authorities have accepted the offer with thanks.

LOOKS BLACK FOR BARKER

Strong Case of Circumstantial Evidence Against the Accused Man.

LOVE AFFAIR AT THE BOTTOM OF CRIME

Killed Brother and His Wife to Enable Him to Secure Funds to Wed the Girl with Whom He Was Enamored.

HASTINGS, Neb., Feb. 7.—(Special Telegram.)—The preliminary hearing of Frank Barker, who is being held at Red Cloud for the murder of his brother Dan and wife, came to a close at 12 o'clock last night and the defendant was bound over to the April term of district court.

Andrew Arnold, who is the owner of the farm which the deceased was renting, testified that he had met deceased on the road Sunday afternoon and their conversation was about the farm and its crops, and Barker did not say anything about contemplating going to Denver or any other place.

SPACES AWAIT EXHIBITORS Palaces of the Louisiana Exposition Are Now All Practically Completed and Ready for Occupancy.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 7.—The following pointed suggestions are put in the shape of a letter by Mr. F. J. V. Skiff, director of the division of exhibits, to the exhibitors of the Louisiana Purchase exposition.

CONVICT IS AN IMPOSTOR Poses as George W. Murphy, a Grand Army Veteran, Until Fraud is Discovered.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 7.—A remarkable imposture has been revealed by the recent disclosure at Floyd, Ia., of George W. Murphy of Company E, Eighth Wisconsin volunteers.

LOVE AFFAIR AT BOTTOM OF IT. The true cause which prompted Frank Barker to deliberately plan and execute the murder of his own brother and wife has come to light.

PRISONER WANTED IN OMAHA Dakota Authorities Have Man Indicted for Land Fraud in Nebraska.

SIoux FALLS, S. D., Feb. 7.—(Special.)—Jerry Carlton of this city, chief deputy United States marshal at South Dakota, has returned from an official trip to the Black Hills, where he arrested a Nebraska man, named E. A. Reha, whom he brought with him to Sioux Falls.

JAMES B. COLEGATE DEAD Founder of Hamilton University Had Been Ill at His Home for Several Months.

YONKERS, N. Y., Feb. 7.—James B. Colgate died at his home here today of an illness of several months. Mr. Colgate was born in New York in 1818. Mr. Colgate was the first to organize during the civil war for many years the president of Colgate university at Hamilton, N. Y.

GUARDS FIRE UPON MINERS

Tragedy in Tennessee Results in Four Deaths and the Wounding of Three Persons.

MONROE BLACK, a miner, aged 24, married; leaves a widow.

W. W. TAYLOR, a miner, aged 31; leaves a widow and four children. JACOB SHARP, a section hand, a bystander, aged 35; leaves a widow and six children.

ROBERT S. HARMON, deputy sheriff, killed by Carl Burton, a guard at the Bristol mine. The wounded: Mote Cox, miner, shot through left arm; Jeff Hoskins, engineer on the Southern railway, slightly wounded; Jud Reeder, a former lieutenant of police, and twelve guards came from the mines to meet a few nonunion men who were to arrive on the morning train.

PERKINS TALKS OF HARMONY Says President Desires Personal Differences to Be Shelved.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—(Special Telegram.)—Speaking of the coming convention to select delegates to the national republican convention, Editor Perkins urges harmony. He says: "I have made it my business since I have been in Washington to examine with such care as I could and with such intelligence as I could command the general situation as related to the Iowa view and desire."

NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST Fair and Cool; Cold Monday and Tuesday. Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

TRAINS BATTLE WITH DRIFTS Terrible Blizzard Still Raging in the Northwest—Fatal Collision Caused by Storm.

GRAND FORKS, N. D., Feb. 7.—Yesterday's storm has played havoc with the trains and today they have come struggling in with engines covered with snow and ice, as a result of their battle with the drifts.

NEW RICHMOND, Wis., Feb. 7.—Snow and sleet storms have greatly interfered with the operation of telephone and telegraph lines in this vicinity.

NEW FIGHTING WEIGHTS National Boxing Association Adopts New Classifications for Fist and Glove Fights.

FALSE PRETENSES CHARGED Kansas City Man Under Arrest for Money Alleged to Be Wrongfully Obtained.

GUN PLAY IN TENNESSEE. KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 7.—In a fight at the Coal Creek, Tenn., depot today three miners were killed and three bystanders were wounded by two guards employed by the Coal Creek Coal company.

FLAMES SWEEP THE CITY OF BALTIMORE

City Fire Department Absolutely Powerless to Check Progress of Flames.

HELP SENT FROM SURROUNDING CITIES

Combined Departments No More Effective Than Local Fire Fighters.

DYNAMITE BEING USED AS LAST RESORT

At Last Reports Even This Remedy Fails to Produce Results.

FIERCE GALE SCATTERS FIREBRANDS

Apparently No Hope Until Fire Has Taken Everything in Its Path.

ESTIMATED LOSS TWO HUNDRED MILLION

From This Figure, which is Greater Than the Chicago Fire, the Estimates Range Down to Forty Million.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 7.—A fire which broke out at a few minutes before 11 o'clock this morning in the wholesale dry goods house of John E. Hurst & Co. has raged with unrestrained fury continuously ever since, and at midnight it is still unchecked but is steadily eating its way outward on Baltimore street, after having destroyed almost all of the large stores and warehouses in the wholesale district around Hopkins Place and all the buildings on both sides of Baltimore street from Howard to Holliday street, from Charles and Baltimore to Charles and Lexington and on Fayette street from Charles to Holliday, including a total of about twenty blocks of the most modern and substantial buildings in Baltimore, involving a loss which cannot now be estimated, but which has certainly already reached \$200,000,000.

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ASHLAND, Wis., Feb. 7.—One death has been reported as a result of the terrific blizzard now raging here and there is little doubt that others have occurred.

COLLISION IN THE STORM. GRAND FORKS, N. D., Feb. 7.—M. S. Mongoven, a conductor on the Northern Pacific, was killed and H. J. Mongoven, his brother, and a brakeman on his train were severely injured during a collision in a storm near Grafton.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 7.—A heavy gale swept over St. Louis before dawn and did considerable damage to property.

ST. PAUL, Feb. 7.—The weather observer predicts that a cold wave will follow in the wake of the blizzard which has been raging throughout the northwest for the past two days.

FAMOUS BRIDGE DESTROYED. LEXINGTON, Ky., Feb. 7.—Last night's storm did much damage in the blue grass district. Interurban traffic between here and Paris was interrupted by the loss of the famous old bridge over Elkhorn creek near J. B. Haggins' Elmendorf farm.

REMOVE HOSPITAL PATIENTS. Pleasant city is removing to other hospitals as rapidly as possible the twenty-four patients in that institution.

DEMOLISH OLD CAMPANILE Structure Over Thousand Years Old Now a Menace to Life and Property.