DECISION IS IRREVOCABLE

Russia Will Not Pay One Penny as Indemnity.

The Standard's correspondent at St. Petersburg says that United States Ambassador Meyer still maintains an absolute silence regarding his brief interview of fifteen minutes with the Czar on Thursday. Reports from the palace say that the Czar did not display any desire to discuss President Roosevelt's message, the contents of which are still unknown. The correspondent adds that the accredited spokesman of the Foreign Office on Thursday afternoon said:—'I can state positively that the Government's decision not to pay one penny as indemnity or reimbursement, or whatever Japan may term it, in any form, is irrevocable."

The same authority declared that the Japanese had presented no new propositions, formally at least, and that the entire question of peace or war depends, according to the Foreign Office, on the disposal of the demand for an indemnity. The correspondent proceeds to give the following statement from a most competent official quarter:

"The free balance at the treasury is now £12,500,000. About £14,000,000 or £15,000,000 will be paid by the banks for the September loan, thus creating a free balance of about £27,500,000. The new year will find Russia with a free balance, without further loans, of from £10,000,000 to £20,000,000. Under the law the State Bank possesses the right to issue about £30,000,000 more paper against the present gold reserve, now amounting to £80,400,000, besides £20,900,000 abroad. Additional war expenses, besides the regular military appropriations, are about £80,008,000 yearly. It is admitted that the famine is certain to reduce the receipts in 1905 and 1906, but the authorities profess to be hopeful, and it must be admitted that in spite of the great famine area the total harvest is not far below the average."

The correspondent adds that the present internal conditions could hardly be worse. From 30 to 40 wounded persons are taken to the hospitals in Riga daily. The citizens have taken matters into their own hands. All carry arms, and a militia has been organized by means of which a state of complete anarchy is still averted. Every State throughout the Baltic district has a guard of armed rifles. Nevertheless, it must be remembered that the last mobilization was attended by far fewer disturbances than the former.

Gen. Linevitch's forces are now probably 100,000 stronger than Kouropatkin's were.

STILL HAS HOPES.

The correspondent of the Times at St. Petersburg says:—"Thursday has brought the conviction that the highest influences are at work here as well as in Portsmouth to bring about peace. This, added to the optimistic telegrams, keeps alive the hopes of settlement. The Bourse has responded to this sanguine tendency.

"The principal factor is recognized to be the personal negotiations of President Roosevelt and the Czar. It is regarded as significant that the Czar has not closed the avenue to further negotiations. It is whispered that President Roosevelt has a determined ally among the Czar's kinsmen who is striving hard to counteract warlike counsels."

LAST EFFORT HAS FAILED.

The correspondent of the London Times at St. Petersburg says:—"From the best information there is little doubt that President Roosevelt's efforts for peace have failed. An important meeting of the Board of Foreign Affairs was held on Friday afternoon, at which Count Lamsdorff conferred with the members with regard to the latest developments. After the conference count Lamsdorff's representative said:—

"'We are in constant communication with M. de Witte, who has telegraphed many suggestions, but I assure you that the situation has undergone no change. We still refuse to consider indemnity in any shape or manner or form.'

"The Bourse opened buoyant on Saturday because of optimistic telegrams, but the buoyancy gave place to profound depression when the brokers became convinced that Peterhof would not give way."

The correspondent of the London Standard at St. Petersburg quotes Privy Councilor Kokovtseff, the Minister of Finance, as follows:

"If Japan persists in reimbursement the outlook for peace is extremely discouraging. In my opinion Russia will not pay any indemnity. I understand that the plenipotentiaries agree to transfer a portion of the railway to China, from whom Russia is entitled to receive its value. In the present conditions I would approve the handing over of that money to Japan to purchase Saghalien, which is equivalent to an indemnity, which is a mere playing with words."

INSISTS ON INDEMNITY.

A despatch from Tokio says: Count Katsura, the Prime Minister, is receiving hundreds of telegrams, letters and memorials urging the Government to insist on the peace terms as originally proposed. It is understood that the Government adheres to the demand for an indemnity.

WOUNDED MEN STARVE.

Russia Indifferent to Fate of Returned Soldiers.

A despatch to the London Daily Mail from St. Petersburg says that there is growing indignation in St. Petersburg over the unpardonable indifference of the Government towards soldiers who have returned from the Far East. On nearly every street one sees soldiers with an arm or leg, or both limbs missing, stretching forth their hands in a pitiable appeal for aims. Some wear on their breast the Cross of St. George, which is only given in case of great personal bravery. All have a right to be fed by the State and receive a small pension, and if you ask why they beg, the answer invariably is the old story of wholesale peculations by officials.

"There have been horrifying instances related to me," says the correspondent, "direct by soldiers wounded in battle. They lay for months in hospitals and then suffered incredible privations on the long journey home, the money appropriated for their food having been stolen by officials. For weeks they starved on a diet of water and a little bread given by charitable people at stations on the Siberian Railway. When they arrived at their native villages they reported themselves to the local authorities and claimed the pensions promised to them, but after the first instalments no more was forthcoming, and being wounded and unable to work, they have dragged themselves to St. Petersburg.

"The spectacle of these Russian heroes begging in the streets is one of shame to anyone less case-hardened than Gopernment officials, but now, with a bad crop in view and taxes that cannot be paid, the pensions of the soldiers are held back to make up the deficit."

HEAVIEST CROP IN 20 YEARS.

Lack of Help is Handicapping Western Farmers.

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—So rapidly has the wheat ripened in the Canadian West during the past week that the harvest help has not been brought early enough, and the crop report issued by the C. P. R. on Thursday complains that in a number of places help is needed very badly. The wheat has attained the development where estimates of the yield can be considered accurate, and those offered are better than anticipated. Around Brandon it is claimed that the yield will run from 25 to 30 bushels to the acre; in the Moosejaw section from 30 to 35, and in southern Manitoba from 20 to 0.

The weather during the week has been perfect, and cutting is now being done just as rapidly as the farmers can accomplish it. There have been no reports of damage, though there has been slight frost on the Portal section. The crop is undoubtedly the heaviest for 20 years. Weather at present is perfect for harvesting operations, but farmers generally are handicapped by lack of labor, and thousands of acres have been knocked down by the binders with the sheaves still left on the field with no one to stook them.

YOUNG GIRL SHOT.

Serious Charge Against a Cape Breton Woman.

A despatch from Halifax says:—Katie, the twelve-year-old daughter of John McPherson, Cape Breton, is seriously ill as the result of a gunshot wound at the hands it is alleged, of a woman named Adams. The girl was picking blueberries when the woman raised a window and fired a shot, the bullet lodging in the girl's forearm. The woman, on being accused by the girl's father of firing the shot, raised her hands above her head as if to take down a rifle from above the door, but made no reply to the accusation. Mr. McPherson drew a revolver to check the design. It is possible that the woman merely intended to frighten the child and discharged the gun in the air.

FOOTWEAR WILL GO UP.

Wholesale Shoe Association Decides to Advance Prices.

A despatch from Quebec says:—At the first annual meeting of the Wholesale Shoe Association of Canada, held on Wednesday, a resolution was adopted, that, owing to the cost of raw material in the manufacture of boots and shoes, it is absolutely necessary to increase the price of goods.

LEADING MARKETS

TORONTO MARKETS.

Wheat—Ontario—New, No. 3 red and white, 75c to 76c; old, 77c to 78c, at outside points. Goose and spring nominal.

Wheat—Manitoba—No. 1 northern for October delivery was offered here on Wednesday at 90c, lake ports. Cash quotations are:—No. 1 northern, $105; No. 3 northern easier, 86c to 86½c, lake ports.

Flour—Dealers' best bid for 90 per cent. patents for export is $3.10, buyers' sacks, east or west. Manitoba prices are unchanged. First patents, $5.30 to $5.40; second patents, $5 to $5.10; bakers', $4.90 to $5.

Millfeed—Ontario—Bran, $11.50 to $12 per ton in car lots, at outside points, shorts, $17 to $19, according to quality. Manitoba bran $17, shorts $19, Toronto and equal freight points.

Oats—28½c to 29c for No. 2, new for export; old, 36c to 37c, at outside points.

Barley—New or old, 38c to 43c, at outside points, according to quality.

Rye—Dull, 57c to 58c at outside points.

Corn—Canadian—Nominal, 53c to 54c, Chatham freights. American firm at 62c to 62½c for No. 3 yellow, lake and rail freights.

Peas—65c to 66c, at outside points.

Rolled Oats—Car lots in barrels are quoted at $4.75 on track here, in bags at $4.50; 25c more for broken lots here and 40c outside.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Quotations unchanged.

Creamery, prints	22c to	23c
do solids	21c	21½c
Dairy lb. rolls, good to choice	18c	20c
do medium	17c	18c
do tubs, good to choice	17c	18c
do inferior	15c	16c

Cheese—Quotations are unchanged at 11½c to 11¾c.

Eggs—Continue firm at 18c to 18½c

Potatoes—Quotations are unchanged at 60c per bushel.

Baled Hay—No. 1 timothy is quoted at $7 to $7.50 per ton for car lots on track here, and No. 2 at $6.

Baled Straw—Quiet and unchanged at $5.50 to $6 per ton for car lots on track here.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Grain — Flour— Manitoba spring wheat patents, $5.30 to $5.40; strong bakers', $5 to $5.10; winter wheat patents, $5.10 to $5.25, and straight rollers, $4.75 to $4.90 in wood, in bags $2.25 to $2.35; rolled oats, $2.40 to $2.42½ per bag; pearl hominy, $1.85 to $1.90 in bags of 98 pounds; cornmeal, $1.45 to $1.50 per bag.

Millfeed—Ontario bran in bulk at $14.50 to $15; shorts, $19 to $20; Manitoba bran in bags, $17 to $18; shorts, $20 to $21.

Hay—No. 1, $8.50 to $9 per ton on the track; No. 2, $7.50 to $8; clover, $6 to $6.25; clover mixed, $6.50 to $7.

Oats—No. 2, 42c to 43c per bushel, No. 3, 41c old crop.

Beans—Choice primes, $1.65 to $1.70 per bushel.

Peas—Boiling, none; No. 2 in car lots, 84c to 85c.

Potatoes—New potatoes in bags of 80 pounds, 50c to 55c.

Honey—White clover in comb, 12c to 13c per section in one pound sections; extract in 10-pound tins, 8c to 9c; in 60-pound tins, 7c to 8c.

Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, $20 to $21; light short cut, $18 to $19; American cut clear fat back, $19.50 to $20.75; compound lard, 5¾c to 6½c; Canadian pure lard, 10¾c to 11c; kettle rendered, 11c according to quality hams, 12c to 13c to 14c, according to size; bacon, 13c to 14c fresh killed abattoir hogs, $10; alive, $7.25 to $7.40 for mixed lots.

Eggs—Straight stock, $17½c to 18c; No. 1 candled, 19c to 20c.

Butter—Choice creamery, 22½c to 23¾c; undergrades, 21¾c to 22½c; dairy, 18c to 20c.

Oats—Prices show little change.

Rolled Oats—Are in only a nominal demand and the feeling on the market is easier.

Cornmeal—Pearl hominy is in moderate request.

Hay—A fairly brisk demand gives a firm undertone to the market for baled hay.

BUFFALO GRAIN MARKET.

Flour—Quiet and steady. Wheat, winter firm; No. 2 red, 84c; No. 2 white, 83c. Corn firm; No. 2 yellow, 60½c; No 2 corn, 59½c. Oats strong No. 2 white, 29c; No. 2 mixed, 27¾c. Barley, Ohio, sold at 45c. Rye unsettled; No. 2, 62c asked. Canal freights steady.

CATTLE MARKET.

The run of cattle offering at the Toronto Market on Tuesday was again light and, with some demand for all kinds, prices were well maintained.

Export cattle, choice	$4.50	$4.75
do good to medium	4.20	4.40
do others	4.00	4.30
Bulls	3.50	4.00
Cows	3.00	3.75
Butchers' picked	4.10	4.40
good to choice	3.90	4.10
fair to good	3.40	3.80
do common	2.50	3.25
do cows	2.50	3.50
Bulls	2.50	3.50
Feeders	3.60	4.00
do medium	3.30	3.60
do bulls	2.50	3.50
Stockers, good	3.50	3.80
do rough to com.	2.50	3.00
Bulls	1.75	2.50
Milch cows, each	30.00	50.00
Export ewes, per cwt.	4.00	4.15
do bucks, per cwt	3.00	3.40
do culls, each	3.00	4.00
Spring lambs, each	5.50	6.10
Calves, per lb	3½	5½
do each	2.00	10.00
Hogs, selects, per cwt	7.10	0.00
do lights	6.85	0.00
do fats	6.85	0.00

JAPS WERE DRIVEN BACK

Gen. Linevitch Reports Three Alleged Victories.

JAPS ARE CONCENTRATING.

A despatch to St. Petersburg from Guntzuling, the headquarters of the Russian army in Manchuria, says that the Japanese are concentrating at Litzatai, in the Valley of the Rivers Tzin, Khoun, and Gounian, whence 10,000 of them are advancing in a northerly direction.

The Emperor has received the following from Gen. Linevitch: "Advanced Russian detachments on Sunday, drove back the Japanese from their positions. One detachment in the Tzino Valley occupied the Village of Lagovtzeakzy; another operated in the direction of Schimiadzy, and a third dislodged the Japanese from their position on the southward of Mopeyschan. The three Russian columns drove the Japanese back to their position near Sendjan."

Gen. Linevitch also reports the repulse of a detachment of Japanese which was advancing on Kiaujoroujou, in Corea.

UNDER THEIR OWN STEAM.

A despatch from Tokio says: The battleship Peresviet, which was sunk in the harbor of Port Arthur, and afterwards raised by the Japanese, arrived at Sasebo on Wednesday under her own steam. The cruiser Bayan, which was also raised by the Japanese, reached Sasebo on Thursday.

PLANS OF LINEVITCH.

A despatch to the London Daily Telegraph from New Chwang says that Gen. Linevitch is still strengthening his extreme right. His plan appears to be to divide the Japanese into two or more bodies by compelling them to devote their attention to their left flank and thus prevent the cutting of the railway between Harbin and Vladivostock.

Numbers of Russians are continually surrendering as outcome of the revolutionary spirit which prevails throughout the army, even among the higher officers. This is why Gen. Linevitch will probably assume the offensive. There are skirmishes between rival scouts daily, the men getting to within fifty yards of each other. The most advanced lines on both sides are so irregular and make so many sharp angles that each side is able to menace the enemy's rear.

ROJESTVENSKY NEARLY WELL.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky, in a letter to his family, says he expects to have fully recovered from the wounds received in the Battle of the Sea of Japan by the middle of September, when he will start for Russia with the permission of the Japanese Government.

JAPAN ORDERS GUNS.

A despatch to the London Daily Mail from Hamburg says that the Krupps have received an order from Japan for sheet-iron and guns for the fleet of the value of $2,250,000.

VESSEL REFLOATED.

A despatch from Tokio says: The Russian torpedo-boat destroyer Silny, sunk in the harbor of Port Arthur during the siege, has been refloated.

TYPHOID IN MANCHURIA.

A despatch from Liadiapudze, Manchuria, says:—Reports telling of a large number of typhoid fever cases among the soldiers have been exaggerated. There are some cases, but the general state of health in the army is excellent. As typhoid generally arises through the soldiers drinking unboiled water, movable machines for the boiling of water are being rapidly established.

The Japanese advance along the railroad has ceased. They have withdrawn to Shahedzy.

OPERATIONS ON THE AMUR.

A despatch from Tokio says:—Rear-Admiral Kataoka has reported to the Imperial Navy Department that the naval division sent up the Amur River bombarded and destroyed two Russian guard stations at Zharef and Laziervo, on the south bank of the river. These stations had recently been reinforced.

MOB SLAYS FARMER'S SON

12-Year-old Lad Shot Dead and Sister Wounded.

A Norwood, Ont., despatch says: Thos. E. Hill, about 12 years old, son of Robert Hill, a farmer, was shot and instantly killed about 12 o'clock on Thursday night at his father's residence, north half of lot 14 in the 7th con. of Dummer, about 8 miles north of Norwood, and his sister Mabel Hill was shot in the arm by a mob supposed to be the neighbors of the Hill family.

Bad blood has been existing in the locality for some years. The county authorities have been communicated with and the affair will be investigated at once.

Enquiry at Peterboro, 20 miles from Norwood, shows that considerable bad blood has existed in the neighborhood for some time, there having been numerous cases of cattle poisoning and barn burning.

Mr. Hill himself is said to have declared that he knew who did the shooting, and that the shot was fired through the house from the outside. On the other hand, several neighbors say that Hill has been very unpopular and that if a shot was fired by any of the other farmers they say it was only done to frighten Hill.

A CONFESSION.

A startling climax occurred on Saturday morning in the Hill tragedy in Dummer township, when a young man named Charles Gow voluntarily surrendered himself to High Constable Cochrane at Warsaw, confessing that he was the perpetrator of the crime, which, he states, was motiveless, and intended merely as a youthful prank.

Gow is a young man who bears an exemplary past record, and comes of a highly esteemed family. He is a South African veteran, and an expert rifle shot, having intended to leave in the course of a few days for Ottawa to take part in the Dominion Rifle Association matches.

He is a son of Mr. John Gow, a former resident of Ashburnham, now living about four miles east of Warsaw, and one of the most highly respected families of the township.

Gow states that on the night of the tragedy he was in company with William, James and Edward Dewart, George Galligher and Stewart, and James Murphy, the mob who it was alleged attacked the Hill residence. He fired the shots responsible for the fatality merely as a prank.

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and did not condemn Gow for the shooting.

Mrs. Hill, mother of the dead boy, was furious when she heard the verdict, and, pointing her finger at Stewart Murphy, cried: "You grinned at me. You laughed at me and my dead boy lying in the house." Murphy denied to those about him that he had mocked the woman.

BANNER YEAR FOR FARMERS.

Minister of Agriculture Speaks Highly of Prospects.

A despatch from Toronto says:—Hon. Nelson Monteith, Minister of Agriculture, expressed his belief on Thursday that the present would prove to be a banner year for the farmer, crops being good and prices high. Wheat is better than last year; fruit is good; apples fairly plentiful in some districts, though poor in others.

The great problem, he thought, was getting the crop moved. The United States railways afford greater facilities than the Canadian. They really try to move the crop. Though they charge lower rates, they get a much large freightage and are thus recompensed.

DESERTIONS AT QUEBEC.

Sixty Men Said to Have Left the British Naval Squadron.

A despatch from Quebec says:—A large desertion from the warships composing the second cruiser squadron is causing the naval authorities much anxiety. It is said that no less than sixty seamen have left their vessels and made their way out of reach of their officers. Out of this number no less than twenty men are said to have deserted from the flagship.

JUDGE ELLIOTT'S DEATH.

Had Served Nearly Fifty Years on the Bench.

A despatch from London, Ont., says:—Judge William Elliott, for years senior Judge of the county of Middlesex, passed away at his residence in the city on Thursday night, after a long illness. The distinguished gentleman retired but two years ago from active duties of nearly 50 years on the Bench, having completed perhaps the longest term of any Judge in Canadian history.