

PORTSMOUTH HOSTS THE CONFERENCE

ポーツマス、講和会議を開催する

On the morning of August 8, 1905, Rear Admiral William Mead left the Portsmouth Shipyard on his launch to greet the Russians, and then the Japanese whose ships were waiting beside Whale Back Light. The first day of the conference had finally arrived. The peace negotiations were to last for nearly a month, but for the people of the Maine and New Hampshire seacoast, the excitement on arrival day would be unmatched. The conference would attract the largest number of summer visitors ever known to Portsmouth. The arrival of hundreds of visitors, including many famous journalists from all over the world, foretold the importance of the event. The Wentworth, Merrick, Rockingham and Kearsarge hotels were full, the latter three primarily with newsmen. The whole world was watching.

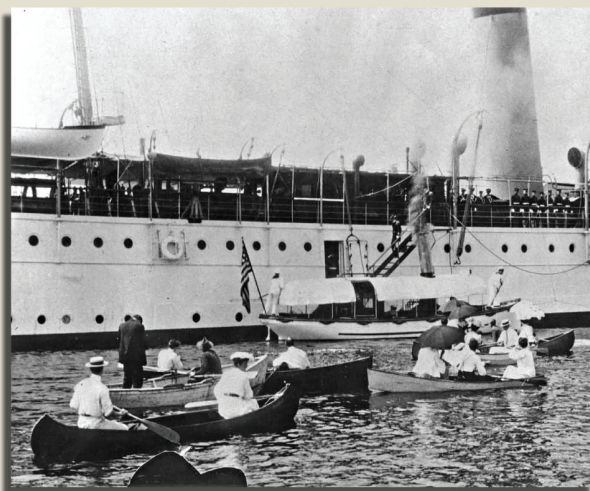
8月8日の朝、ミード准将は彼のボートで海軍工廠を離れ、ホエール・バック灯台の傍で待機していたロシア政府代表团そして日本政府代表団のボートを訪ねて歓迎の挨拶を述べた。いよいよ交渉初日である。この講和会議はおよそ一ヶ月間続くのだが、ポーツマス周辺に住む人々が、この両代表团の到着の日ほど興奮したことはなかった。この会議のおかげでこれまでにないほどの数の避暑客がポーツマスにやってきた。大勢の来訪者の中に著名なジャーナリストが多数含まれていたことは、このイベントがいかに重要なものであるかを告げていた。ウェントワースをはじめホテルはすべて満員で、メック、ロックンガム、そしてキルサーージュの各ホテルの宿泊者は主に新聞記者であった。世界中がポーツマスに注目していた。

PORTSMOUTH PREPARES FOR ARRIVAL - 代表团到着の準備

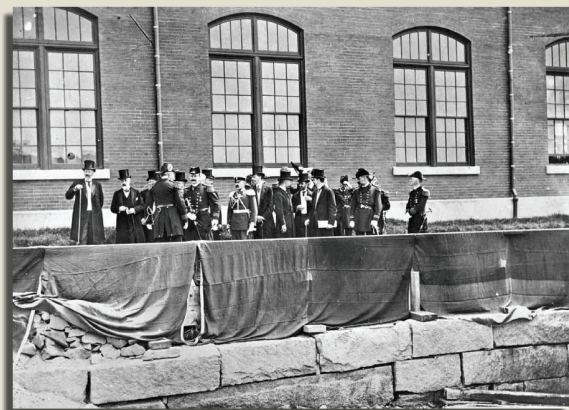
Decorations covered the downtown buildings, and although the Stars and Stripes was hanging everywhere, people were asked not to display the flags of Japan and Russia lest some slight be taken by either delegation. The county courthouse was festooned with bunting and flags and featured life-size portraits of Washington and Grant.



Courtesy of Portsmouth Athenaeum.



Local people rowed out to the Mayflower to watch the Russians board their cutter for the ride to the shipyard dock. Courtesy of Portsmouth Athenaeum.



The Russian delegation was met at the dock by Admiral Mead and Secretary Peirce. Courtesy of Portsmouth Athenaeum.

THE RUSSIAN AND JAPANESE DELEGATIONS ARRIVE AT THE SHIPYARD

ロシアそして日本政府代表团、海軍工廠に到着

On the first day of the conference, Admiral Mead fired a nineteen-gun salute for each delegation as they arrived. Upon reaching shore, the Russians and the Japanese were greeted by Admiral Mead and Assistant Secretary Peirce and then escorted to the peace building for a luncheon after first meeting Mrs. Mead and New Hampshire officials. The New York Times reported that "the Russians and the Japanese got on famously at luncheon," and following a short period of conversation, the civilians left the building and the yard.