Peace is Reached - 平和成る

After all the business in the conference room had been concluded, we were invited to a daintily prepared lunch in another apartment. Here the greatest good fellowship prevailed. Toasts were drunk to Russia, Japan, the members of the embassies, to Portsmouth and to a great number of other persons and places. — Portsmouth Mayor William Marvin

「すべての交渉が締め括られた後、我々は全員別の部屋に移って、上品に調理された昼食に招かれた。そこでやっと打ち解けた雰囲気となった。ロシアに、日本に、使節団員に、ポーツマスに、そして関係したたくさんの人々や場所に対して、次々に杯が掲げられた。」 ポーツマス市長ウィリアム・マービン

SEPTEMBER 5, TUESDAY: THE TREATY IS SIGNED 条約の調印



Witte signs treaty as Komura looks on. The Portsmouth Peace Conference by Ikunosuke Shirataki. Courtesy of the Memorial Picture Gallery of the Meiji Jingu Shrine.



Courtesy of Portsmouth Athenaeum.

THE SIGNING - 条約調印

The local hosts and the Navy were the only witnesses to the treaty signing. They were Assistant Secretary Peirce, Governor McLane, Portsmouth Mayor Marvin, Rear Admiral Mead, Commandant Winslow of the Mayflower, and Lieutenant Commander Gibbons of the Dolphin. The signing was completed at 3:47 p.m. according to the Herald.

Everyone was silent during the signing, but when Witte finished he tossed his pen aside and stood, reaching across the table to shake hands with Komura. The rest of the delegates followed his lead, and then Rosen made a short speech of gratitude to the Japanese, hoping for maintained friendly ties between the countries. Komura responded in a like manner, pledging to do everything that he could to insure "a treaty of peace and amity."

THE ANNOUNCEMENT - 調印の知らせ

With the local populace, to say nothing of the rest of the world, eagerly waiting the outcome of the signing, the Herald reported the excitement of the moment:

"One of the secretaries of the Russian mission by a prearranged signal gave the information to a corporal of marines, who was standing just outside the door of the conference room. On the dead run across the hall and down the stairway he rushed to the big doorway of the stores building and thus called to Captain Jefferson Rowe, a one-armed officer who had been anxiously waiting. With his one arm, Cap waved a red signal flag and BOOM, BOOM, BOOM went the guns, the first notice to thousands in the immediate vicinity that the treaty had been signed."

Church bells rang in Kittery Point, Portsmouth, and New Castle.

RECEPTION AND TOASTS - レセプションと乾杯の言葉

Meanwhile, the men adjourned to the dining room for a brief reception. The only woman known to be present was Sarah Farmer of Green Acre, so honored for her devotion to world peace. Mayor Marvin shared his observations with the Herald's readers: "Toasts were drunk to Russia, Japan, the members of the embassies, to Portsmouth and to a great number of other persons and places. M. Witte passed up and down both sides of the table touching his glass to those of every person present. Baron Rosen proposed to me a toast something like this: May Portsmouth continue to prosper and always be as beautiful and as hospitable as she has been during the peace conference. Baron Komura was somewhat less effusive but he also spoke very kindly of Portsmouth."