

CALLS A COUNCIL

CZAR'S ADVISERS WILL CONSIDER THE SITUATION.

UNREST IN THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE

Oppression Like the Shadow of Doom Hanging Over the Capital—Everyone Seems to Shrink From What May Next Happen.

ST. PETERSBURG—An extraordinary sitting of the council of the empire has been summoned to consider the situation resulting from the assassination of Grand Duke Sergius.

The emperor of Russia, by a ukase issued Saturday, restored to favor in the imperial family the Grand Duke Paul Alexandrovitch, who some years ago was degraded of rank and honors because, in opposition to the will of the emperor and the wishes of the imperial family, he contracted a morganatic marriage with Madame Olga Pistolkos. In accordance with the decree Grand Duke Paul is reinvested with his title and military standing, and as general aide-de-camp to his majesty, will attend the funeral of Grand Duke Sergius, his brother.

The body of the Grand Duke Sergius lies in the Choudoff monastery at Moscow, where an honorary guard keeps vigil and priests intone prayers for the repose of his soul.

That unrest is yet prevalent within the empire is evidenced by the fact that a district official at Igdyr was assassinated by Armenians for political reasons yesterday and that at Vagarshapad the mayor was shot and killed, while at Kichinef an attack was made by an unknown man on the prefect of police of that city.

Oppression like the shadow of doom seems to be hanging over the Russian capital. Bells are tolling and the people in the streets are awe-struck at yesterday's bloody crime. Everyone seems to shrink before the contemplation of what may happen next. The tragedy struck deep in the heart of the perplexed and tried emperor, and many who were unsparing in their criticism yesterday have only expressions of sympathy for his unhappy lot. The bitter cup which during the last year has been pressed again and again to his lips is once more filled to the brim, and in almost pathetic words this morning he implores his subjects to pray for the repose of the soul of his murdered uncle. Death is in the air and no one knows where the next blow may fall, although precautions have been doubled in every direction for the preservation of the lives of the members of the imperial family and the ministers, and secret police are seeking out and arresting those known to be associated with the fighting organizations. The authorities realize their impotency to ward off the swift acts of terrorism, murder in the streets being possible at any instant. The only safety seems to lie in seeking safety behind palace walls, and all the imperial family have been warned not to venture out.

METCALF ASKS FOR FUNDS.

Needs Money to Prosecute Standard Oil Inquiry.

WASHINGTON—Funds with which to prosecute the inquiry into the methods of the Standard Oil company in Kansas were asked of the house by Secretary Metcalf of the department of commerce and labor. In his communication the secretary says that this inquiry cannot be completed before July 1. His suggestion is that the unexpended balance of an item of \$46,000 and another of \$15,000 carried in the current legislative, executive and judicial appropriation act, be made available for this as well as all other work of the investigation which his department is prosecuting.

These items were appropriated to carry on the "beef trust" and other inquiries.

JAPS DEPLORE THE CRIME.

But Express Sympathy for the People of Russia.

TOKIO—Commenting on the assassination of Grand Duke Sergius at Moscow, the Jiji Shimpo expresses its sympathy at his cruel death, but declares the act is attributable to the high-handed manner of the Russian government in repressing the recent labor demonstrations. The paper says that oppressive measures against expression of national wishes invite such outrages from the oppressed.

"The war in the far east resulted from the aggressive action of the Russian government, with which the Russian people have little sympathy," the Jiji Shimpo adds. "In one sense Japan is waging a war against the Russian nation arising from oppression by the autocracy, but Japan is fighting the government, and not the people of Russia."

The paper predicts a better understanding with increased sympathy between the two peoples after the war has ended and, after again lamenting the crime which resulted in the death of Grand Duke Sergius, expresses the hope that it will be fruitful of good results.

Other newspapers comment in a similar strain on the assassination of the grand duke.

SHORTAGE IN CASH ACCOUNT

Army Officer to Be Investigated at His Own Request.

SAN FRANCISCO—Orders have been issued from the war department appointing a board to investigate and report on an alleged shortage of the accounts of Capt. Jacques de Lafitte, quartermaster of the transport Logan, now in this port. This board, it is stated by Captain Lafitte's friends, is appointed at his own request, as he is held responsible for the funds, and he asserts that there is a shortage in funds which were beyond his control. It is necessary that the quartermaster of each transport take \$5,000 or \$6,000 in his safe on each trip, as all payments of employes must be made in specie. On the return trip from Manila Captain Lafitte was ill and confined to his bed most of the way across. While he was ill the money was in the charge of subordinates, and the investigation demanded is to fix the responsibility, if possible, for the alleged shortage.

SIGN PARCELS POST TREATY

Agreement Entered Into With Great Britain.

WASHINGTON—A parcels post treaty between this government and Great Britain has been signed by President Roosevelt, Secretary Hay and Postmaster General Wynne. It has already been signed by the British officials and will take effect.

The final conclusion of the British treaty is a source of considerable gratification to officials here and a substantial increase in the volume of postal business is expected to follow. The movement for a parcels post arrangement between the two countries began many years ago. The treaty follows the general provisions of existing parcels post treaties with other governments. A parcels post treaty with France is expected to be concluded shortly.

Great Fire in Indianapolis.

INDIANAPOLIS—For four hours Sunday night the wholesale district, bounded by Georgia and Meridian streets and Jackson Place and the Union depot sheds, was menaced by a fire which started in the wholesale warehouses of the Rahnley & McCrea Millinery company. At 9:30 o'clock three general alarms brought into action every department in the city and suburbs. When the fire was brought under control the loss was estimated to be not less than \$1,500,000. One fireman was hurt by falling walls.

HEAD BLOWN OFF

UNCLE OF CZAR ASSASSINATED WHILE DRIVING.

BOMB BENEATH THE CARRIAGE

Vehicle is Blown to Pieces by Force of the Explosion.—The Assassin, a member of the Noted "Fighting Group," Under Arrest.

MOSCOW—Within the walls of the far-famed Kremlin palace and almost underneath the historic tower from which Ivan the Terrible watched the heads of his enemies falling beneath the axe on the Red square, and within a stone's throw of the great bell of Moscow, Grand Duke Sergius, uncle and brother-in-law of Emperor Nicholas and the chief of the reactionaries, met a terrible death shortly before 8 o'clock.

The deed was committed by a single terrorist, who threw beneath the carriage of the grand duke a bomb charged with the same high-power explosive which wrought Minister von Plehve's death. The missile was packed with nails and fragments of iron and its explosion tore the imperial victim's body to ghastly fragments which strewed the snow for yards around.

The assassin belongs to the noted "fighting group" of the socialist revolutionary party, which has removed other prominent officials and long since passed sentence of death upon Grand Duke Sergius.

The grand duke knew that he stood in the shadow of death. He was the recipient of numerous warnings and elaborate preparations were taken to insure his safety, but all the resources of the gendarmerie, secret police and soldiers proved unavailing against an attempt almost exactly duplicating the procedure that caused the death of Minister of the Interior von Plehve last July. It was the irony of fate that Sergius, after taking refuge in his country villa during the strike troubles of a month ago and later seeking even more secure shelter in the palace within the Kremlin walls, should be killed while proceeding to the governor general's palace beyond the walls, and which he had abandoned to enable the police to better protect him.

Grand Duchess Elizabeth, who was daily engaged in preparing comforts for the sick and wounded in Manchuria, was about to drive to the palace to join her husband. When she heard of what had befallen the grand duke she was driven in haste to the scene of the tragedy, and knelt, hatless and coatless, on the bloodstained snow and murmured prayers for the welfare of her slain consort.

The scene of the crime was the great open triangle within the Kremlin, bounded by the arsenal treasury and courts of justice, in one angle of which is the Nicholas, or little palace, where the grand duke dwelt. On the snow lay fragments of the body of Grand Duke Sergius, mingled with the wreck of the carriage. The grand duke's head had been torn from his body and reduced to a shapeless pulp and the trunk and limbs were frightfully mangled. A finger bearing a rich seal ring was found lying several yards away. The crimson tint and smell of blood were everywhere. Only a few fragments of cloth indicated that the body had been clothed. The coachman lay moaning with pain beside a deep hole in the pavement. The horses, dragging the front wheels of the carriage, had dashed off, maddened with pain, to sink dying before they reached the gate.

Prof. Goodspeed Dead.

CHICAGO—Dr. George Stephen Goodspeed, professor of history at the University of Chicago, died of pneumonia. He graduated from Brown university in 1880, and took his doctor's degree at Yale.

IS FOR THE ARMY.

A Circular Issued By the War Department.

WASHINGTON—A circular issued by the war department to the army gives the text of a letter received by the secretary of war from Representative Littlefield of Maine, relative to the anti-canteen act and the secretary's reply, together with instructions to officers with respect to their reports on the subject. In his letter Mr. Littlefield states that he is the author of the anti-canteen amendment and adds:

"I regret to say that an impression prevails that the officers of the army are not only adverse to this legislation, but are prejudiced against it. If this is true it has created an unfriendly atmosphere that not only will impair the efficiency of the recreation and amusement feature, but will of itself practically defeat the object of the legislation."

Secretary Taft, in reply, said:

"I think you are correct in assuming that a great majority of the officers in the army regard the anti-canteen amendment as ill-advised and likely to increase drunkenness in the ranks. Indeed, I must admit to you that as at present advised I share your opinion."

The secretary says it was the intention of those who favored the amendment to substitute for the canteen a commodious post exchange, and the question whether that system is to be maintained or the canteen with the privilege of drinking beer and light wines only, will be settled by congress after a careful investigation.

Secretary Taft said that while he recognized the danger of formed opinions coloring more or less judgment as to results, obedience to orders is with army officers the first soldierly virtue and if cautioned to report facts impartially they will obey the directions of constituted authority. He then informed Mr. Littlefield that he would transmit the correspondence, together with a caution, to all officers, adding:

"I have no doubt of the good faith and energy with which the officers of the army are carrying out the purpose of congress in providing the post exchange and I don't think any caution in this respect is needed."

In his circular to the army the secretary of war requests officers who in their annual reports are called to speak of the operations of the anti-canteen act, to present facts whether pro or con, uncolored by individual views. He says:

"With the good faith of the army in making these reports, unless on their face they are impartial statements of the facts which have come to the knowledge of the officers will, in the heat of controversy certainly be attacked, if there is the slightest internal evidence of a bias on the part of the witnesses and the army officers' duty in the premises is to be merely impartial judges of operations of the act."

IS A "GIGANTIC MONOPOLY."

So Says Secretary Hitchcock About Oil Trust Osage Lease.

WASHINGTON—Secretary Hitchcock gave out a statement arraigning as a "gigantic monopoly" the present lease by the Indian Territory Illuminating Oil company, by which it has the right to prospect for oil and gas throughout the entire area of the Osage Indian reservation, and explaining the agreement reached several days ago, as announced in the Associated Press dispatches, for cutting off more than one-half of the lands operative under this lease during the next ten years.

Peru Protests Against Treaty.

LIMA, Peru—The Peruvian government has handed the Chilean charge d'affaires a protest against the recent Chilean and Bolivian treaty.