

AMBASSADORIAL HOME DECAYING

House Formerly Occupied by Russian Envoy to England in Dilapidated Condition.

(By Associated Press)
LONDON, July 11.—Just back of the residence of the American Ambassador in Chesham Place, Belgrave, stands a rather dilapidated four-story mansion whose doors since opened only to royalty, the highest strata of English aristocracy, and the great of court and diplomatic circles. It was then the abode of the Imperial Russian ambassador.

Today, according to a footnote on Foreign Office diplomatic lists, it is merely "Chesham House" and designates the address of Monsieur E. Sabine, charged with the liquidation of matters connected with the late Russian government. The brilliant campaign to raise in former days has given place to gatherings of miscellaneous folk who spend an occasional evening there dancing, and paying admission fees, which go to Russian refugee funds.

In Bond Street, London's famous shopping center, and in Moorgate street, within a stone throw of the Bank of England, are located the principal offices of the consular and trade delegations of the Russian Socialist Federal Soviet Republic. In Paris there is the magnificent residence of Leonid Krasin, who, as the representative of the Lenin-Trotsky government, negotiated the Anglo-Russian trade agreement which presaged the establishment of those Soviet agencies in London.

In an obscure corner of London may be found the modest, even humble, dwelling of Constantin Nabokoff, the last representative in London of Czar Nicholas II. Nabokoff was counselor of the embassy when his chief, Count Benckendorff, the Russian ambassador, died in January, 1917. Nabokoff thereupon became chargé d'affaires and in the exalted position was the master of Chesham House until September 3, 1919, when he yielded to E. Sabine, appointed by Sazonoff, foreign minister of the Bolshevik government.

Nabokoff was a member of the Russian delegation that concluded the treaty of Portsmouth at the close of the Russo-Japanese war. Today, Nabokoff, since the disaster of an automobile march's hospitality, shares away at a desk in Fleet Street preparing pamphlets designed to keep alive the anti-Bolshevik cause. With steady smile and cheerful optimism he talks confidently of the day, "not far in the future," when, he declared, Russia will be ruled by the Bolsheviks, and the day, "chosen by the people," will bring his land once more within the sphere of international affairs.

After the collapse of the Kerensky provisional government and the accession of the Lenin-Trotsky regime, all Russian government funds deposited in London banks were confiscated by the British government, but the embassy itself was technically private property and could not be seized. The British Foreign Office notified Petrograd authorities that the appointment of a new Russian ambassador to London was expected. Sazonoff, formerly a Bolshevik, was appointed, but Sazonoff did not appear. Baron Meyendorff was the second appointee for the post. This chance was made early in June, 1917. But he did not come to London.

The third ambassador-designate, Prince Gierulski, of Petrograd, declared at the 11th hour that he would accept to go to Rome. Nabokoff sought the approval of the British officials that an agent, then Russian Ambassador in Rome, should come to London instead. Lord Hastings, under military command, "Three times his rank of His Majesty's lieutenant general," was appointed as an ambassador. None of these gentlemen ever appeared in London and the Provisional Government never took the trouble to regulate the room for this extraordinary presence, much less to apologize to it. This cannot continue indefinitely. Explanation of Prince Gierulski's failure to arrive was demanded. Examination was deferred pending the arrival in London of Petrograd, at that time Russia's foreign minister. Gierulski did not come to London, and a fortnight later the Provisional government was overthrown by the Bolsheviks.

Nabokoff's appointment as Bolshevik ambassador was followed. All Russian government funds including those at the disposal of Nabokoff for personal expenses, were seized by the British government. An official intimation was given Nabokoff, however, that Britain would grant "as a loan" and henceforth embassy expenses were defrayed from the grant. The British consular retaining bill of £20,000 until March 31, 1919, was paid. Funds were owned by the Bolshevik government at Omsk.

Nabokoff, occupant of an embassy that bore the name of a non-existent government, subjected to many limitations, denied the privilege of cipher communication and no longer enjoyed the diplomatic courtesies extended to ambassadors. He latter paid "couverture" with the British Foreign Office.

Nabokoff, the Bolshevik envoy, was never officially recognized, but was in constant intercourse with the British government and enjoyed certain

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privileges, such as cipher and diplomatic courier service, which were refused Nabokoff.

Then Kammeff, appointed Bolshevik ambassador to Paris, arrived in London. Premier Clemenceau refused him admission to France. He was repatriated. In 1918, Lavineff was invited by the British government to return home via Scandinavia, and thus ended in London the anomalous existence of two Russian agencies each claiming recognition, neither receiving it, yet both in close touch with the British government.

In August, 1919, Arthur Balfour, British representative at the Peace conference, and Sazonoff, who had become Foreign Minister of the Czech government, arranged in Paris that E. Sabine should assume charge of London of the liquidation of the affairs of the "late Russian govern-

ment." He took charge in September of that year.

From what source came the funds with which Chekhov House is maintained today, the British government, it never seemed to be anything more than a riddle.

Insurers bear tales of large amounts of money accumulated in London and Paris by the Kerensky and other Russian administrations, remaining to the credit of individuals who played leading roles in those short-lived attempts to establish sovereignty.

Scotland Yard customarily assigns a policeman the special duty of looking for foreign emissaries and legations in London. A white-gloved constable stands night and day before Chekhov House. But it is not because Chekhov House is recognized even by Metropolitan Police officials as an embassy.

SEES FUTURE FOR MOVIES

(By Associated Press)
LANSING, Mich., July 11.—Believing that motion pictures, within the next few years, will become almost as important a factor in education as text books, courses in motion picture mechanics will be inaugurated in the four Michigan normal colleges next fall. Thomas D. Johnson, state superintendent of public instruction, announced today.

It will be necessary to train teachers to operate motion picture machines to carry out plans already laid by the state for introducing motion pictures into the schools, according to Mr. Johnson. Next fall the state department of education will establish a distributing station for educational films. The films are to be purchased outright by the state and rented to high schools. After the next school year it is planned to enlarge the cinema program by using not only purchased films, but films depicting Michigan industries and institutions, manufactured under the sponsorship of the state department of education.

According to Superintendent Johnson, preliminary tests have proven the educational value of films. Students in manual training classes, he asserts, pick up the rudiments of bench or lathe work many times faster if they are first shown the processes of the work they are to undertake in pictures. The same fact applies to natural history, bot-

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned E. L. Meyers has been appointed Administrator with Will Annexed of the estate of John Francis Logue, deceased, by the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Union County, and that he has duly qualified in said court and that all persons having claims against the said decedent or his estate should present them duly verified, with the proper vouchers, to the undersigned at the La Grande National Bank, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice.

Date of First Publication, June 29, 1922.
E. L. MEYERS,
Administrator with Will Annexed,
La Grande, Oregon.
D.V. June 29-27, July 3-11-18.

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any, zoology, chemistry and physics, in state. Within a few years he expects that the motion picture phase of education will have been developed to a point where literature and history will be taught through the medium of well acted plays on the screen.

Mr. Johnson's idea of making motion pictures a vital factor in education already has been endorsed by the state administration. A fund has been granted him for the establishment of a distributing station for films next fall. He plans to ask the 1923 legislature for a budget to further develop the idea.

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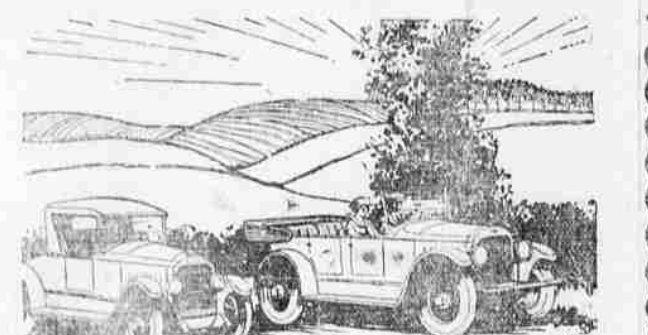


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