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REGN OF TERROR

Rebellion Rampant in the Caucasus.

TROOPS ARE BESIEGED

Over One Thousand Killed in Riots at Baku.

POLAND CUT OFF FROM WORLD

Railroad Strike Stops All Communication, and Strikers Again Grow Riotous—Black Sea Fleet Bombards Rebel Town.

SPECIAL CABLE.
ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 24.—That there is a reign of terror in the Caucasus is no longer denied by the officials here; in fact, it is openly admitted at the War Office that communication with the district is absolutely cut off and that the troops there are simply unable to communicate with St. Petersburg. In many places the soldiers are besieged in their barracks and are only holding their positions by force of numbers.

One report received here states that sailors and marines from the Black Sea squadron have been landed and hurried into the district to cope with the infuriated mobs of strikers, who are parading throughout the country districts looting the mansions of the nobles and carrying away all of the livestock of the several places.

It is reported here this morning that the Czar has issued an order drafting reservists from all of the outlying districts and from St. Petersburg and Moscow to do duty in the Caucasus, and several brigades which were destined for the Far East have been ordered to remain until this latest insurrectionary movement is put down.

MOBS RIOT IN BAKU STREETS
Strikers and Tartars Fight, and Over a Thousand Are Killed.

SPECIAL CABLE.
BAKU, Russia, Feb. 24.—Not in the history of this city have such scenes as have transpired during the last three days been known, and in nearly every household there is a mourning today, and the end is not yet.

On Sunday a street brawl broke out between a party of strikers and Tartar boys, which soon resolved itself into a general riot. Fighting continued until Wednesday, when both sides called a truce.

Hundreds of houses were burned about the heads of the occupants, and while the casualties are as yet unknown, it is estimated that over 100 persons were killed, while more than twice that number were injured. Entire families have been dragged from their homes and massacred and their bodies shockingly mutilated and left in the streets.

A mob of fully 2000 persons made an attack upon the Pityeff and Kaspigsk works, but were finally repulsed by the guards, leaving behind them over 30 dead. More trouble is feared.

WARSHIPS BOMBARD REBELS

They Control Batoum, and Government is Powerless.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 23.—Extremely alarming reports are current here concerning the situation at Batoum and Poti. It is alleged that some vessels of the Black Sea squadron (Russian) have bombarded Poti.

An English merchant who has just arrived here says he was obliged to flee from Batoum, where his life was menaced by strikers and his office destroyed. This merchant says the authorities of Batoum are powerless. The strikers are all Georgians, and are estimated to number 40,000.

The steamship line from Constantinople to Batoum has suspended service.

AWFUL CRIMES STAIN BAKU

Whole Family Burned to Death, and Many Murders Committed.

BAKU, Feb. 23.—The town is now quiet. All the Armenian shops have been closed, but the banks are doing business under military protection. Order has been restored at Bakhany, but at Romany today strikers attacked two factories and as a result 20 persons were killed or wounded.

In Baku many terrible murders have been committed. Manager Adamoff, of the Naphtha Refining Works, his wife and children were burned to death. A legal official and a bazaar owner, with the latter's family, have been murdered.

POLAND CUT OFF FROM WORLD

Railroads Are Tied Up, Strikers Violent and Strike Spreading.

WARSAW, Feb. 23.—The situation here is causing the greatest anxiety in all circles. The assistant of the Governor-General, who was interviewed today, frankly admitted that the government is at a loss to know what to do. Alarming reports are current concerning the intention and plans of the revolutionary party, and March 4 is awaited with much apprehension. The strike agitation is spreading in every direction, and bank clerks, journalists, office servants, printers, drivers and stationary engineers and mechanics in general are all threatening to strike. Notwithstanding all this, the situation in the city is remarkably quiet.

The Vienna railroad is still completely at a standstill, and there appears no hope of a speedy settlement of the difficulty. The directors had a long session today, but were unable to find a solution. They will renew the conference tomorrow.

Western Poland is completely cut off from communication with Middle and Western Europe, except by telegraph. No mails are arriving or leaving, the authorities apparently preferring to hold mails rather than send them by circuitous routes. Commercial interests and private individuals are much inconvenienced.

The city is threatened with a coal famine, the entire supply of coal coming from the District of Dombrowa over the Vienna road. The Governor-General has offered to supply military men to work the trains, but it is impracticable, as the strikers have destroyed switches. Many troops going from Moscow and St. Petersburg are detained here and great quantities of perishable freight from France and Italy are being utterly spoiled by the delay.

A telephone message from Lodz says the workmen in most of the factories there have returned to their labors, but as the big mills are only paying the old wages, while the pay of the men in the small mills has been increased, it is feared that the improvement is only temporary.

The employees of the Warsaw-Miava section of the Viatska Railway have struck, cutting off the last direct line of communication with Germany. Only very circuitous routes are now open.

FIGHTING IN CITY STREETS

Black Sea Squadron Reduces Poti to Ruins.

SPECIAL CABLE.
CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 24.—It is reported here that the situation along the Black Sea in Russia is most threatening and that rioting and fighting in the streets of all the cities has been in progress for several days.

One report has it that the Russian Black Sea squadron opened on Poti with its guns and wrecked a large portion of the city.

BONDS OF SOCIETY LOOSE

Strikes and Riots Everywhere—Czar Called "Nicholas the Last."

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 24 (3:30 A. M.).—Dispatches from many cities in the south of Russia as well as in the Caucasus, make this region the center of interest in the week's developments, though there have been sporadic strikes in all portions of Russia. The tie-ups of railroads radiating from Moscow is a very serious feature of the situation. In the Caucasus region the authorities appear for the moment to have gained the upper hand, but the situation may at any time again pass out of their control. Even the reinforcements of the military in all of the cities seem to have been inadequate to prevent the continuance of conditions tending to robbery, murder and terrorism.

Telegraphic communication was restored to Batoum this evening and a dispatch received from that city indicated that the troops and authorities have regained control, but that marauders are increasingly active, while racial strife continues and the whole population is in a state of panic.

On the other hand, other cities outside the Caucasus are in a condition of complete disorder owing to strikes. The forces of law and order apparently have been unable to prevent the strikers from resorting to the tactics of their fellows in St. Petersburg and making their way from shop to shop and forcing the guards, leaving behind them over 30 dead. More trouble is feared.

RUSSIAN AUTHORS ARRESTED

One of Them Vividly Depicted Scenes of Bloody Sunday.

MOSCOW, Feb. 23.—The police today arrested Leonide Andreeff, a well-known author, and two other less known writers. The police refuse to say whether the arrest is in connection with the assassination of Grand Duke Sergius or for complicity with Gorky and other Liberals in alleged revolutionary conspiracies.

Andreeff, who is known as "Little Gorky," has recently attracted much attention by a powerful sketch entitled "The Red Laugh," which is appearing in a magazine, and which resembles not only in name, but in vigor and vividness Stephen Crane's "Red Badge of Courage." The sketch was written under the inspiration of the tragedy of January 22, first depicting the ghastly merriment of pools of blood in Manchuria at finding themselves repeated in the streets of Russian cities. One critic characterizes the sketch as a "Verstasagin in prose."

WILL ABOLISH THE CENSORS

Minister Boulougan Declares in Favor of Free Press.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 23.—The conference opened under the presidency of Privy Councillor Koboko to consider the question of the censorship has in principle declared in favor of the abolition of the censorship of newspapers. The report of the Minister of the Interior declared that Minister Boulougan himself favored this course and he wished that the change be made gradually. The conference further advocated the abolition of the book censor for original works and translations.

FUSION FAR OFF

Commission Advocates Ready for Deal.

LUMBERMEN QUITE SHY

Demurrage Matter Can be Settled at Later Date.

EAST SIDERS ALL PLEDGED

House Caucus Has Agreed on the Unit Rule in Dealing With All Matters in Connection With Crane-Dickson Bill.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 23 (Special).—The developments of another day have not brought any encouragement to the railway commission men. The prospect of an alliance with the lumbermen of the Senate on the Barles demurrage bill now seems very remote, although the commission leaders of the House have sent out a steering committee to make a deal, if possible, on this or almost any other basis that will secure enough votes to put the Crane-Dickson measure through. This steering committee was appointed at a caucus of East Side members of the House after adjournment this afternoon, and the men comprising it are Representatives Dickson, Relfer and Crane.

The East Side combine of House members now claims every East Side vote in the House with the exception of Huxtable of Spokane, who is a railroad supporter, and who in the joint committee favored the railroad amendments to the subcommittee bill. The caucus has agreed to go down the line on the Crane-Dickson bill and has adopted the unit rule for dealing with other matters that may arise in connection with the railway commission bill.

Lumbermen Are Flirting.
Several outside lumbermen appeared on the scene today, including George H. Emerson, of Hoquiam, and George Loggie, of Bellingham. If any efforts were made to secure a meeting of men interested in the demurrage bill they were without avail, and the impression is abroad that other proposals have been made to the lumbermen that will effectually shut off negotiations between them and the commission men.

In discussing the tentative proposal made by the Barles men tonight one of the House commission men was disposed to threaten dire consequences to the demurrage bill if it should be passed by the Senate through the concessions of anti-commission men, given in order to defeat the passage of the House railway commission bill. It was asserted that the commission men had enough votes in the House to kill the demurrage bill, and would do so under such circumstances.

If the lumbermen are flirting with the other side, however, it is partly due to the fact that the plan was not feasible in the first place, because of the inability of the lumbermen to bring all their strength on such a question.

Another element also enters into the case. The logical course of the railway commission fight is the passage of the bill by the House, and the cutting of it to pieces in the Senate with amendments. Under the present terms of the bill the commission would undoubtedly have the power to deal with the demurrage question and the threat to kill this bill and the Dickson-Crane bill would only be double-shooting the turn, with the slight advantage of having the demurrage question settled positively without leaving it to the subsequent determination of a commission.

In the absence of an inability to get together on a trade with the commission men, the lumbermen will not worry over the ability of the House to kill the Barles bill, but will expect to save the powers of the commission in that direction when conference committees are appointed to agree, if possible, on the amendments put in the commission bill by the Senate.

Factory Bill to Be a Club.
Another club is mentioned in connection with the forcing of the railway commission bill. This is the Davis factory inspection bill, now on third reading in the House. The bill is a modification of the present factory inspection law, which is unsatisfactory to factory and lumbermen. The lumbermen want the Davis bill unless the lumbermen line up in the Senate for the House commission bill is under discussion as a possible means of converting Senators to the railway commission idea.

The East Side caucus has put out an agreement tonight which they are circulating among both House and Senate members. It pledges the signers to stand by the Crane-Dickson bill without amendments. The railway commission men are not entering into the fight thus earnestly with any great degree of confidence. They have every confidence of passing the Crane-Dickson bill in the House and assert that they have sufficient strength pledged to do so. They are not positive of a two-thirds vote, however, and are therefore not asserting that they will be able to suspend the rules tomorrow and put the bill on final passage. Undoubtedly the attempt will be made, but if the opponents of the bill are seeking delay it is likely they will be able to postpone final action for a few days in the lower branch.

The possibility of delays does not worry the commission men nearly so much as the status of the fight in the Senate, and

a toothless measure or none at all are their only genuine expectations as to the final result.

HOUSE KILLS OSTEOPATH BILL

Measure Required Examination Before State Medical Board.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 23 (Special).—It took the House about three minutes this afternoon to kill the Wilson osteopathy bill. This measure, originated in the Senate and was passed by that body in spite of the opposition of a lobby maintained by the members of the osteopathic profession.

The bill has been referred to factually as a "measure to require osteopaths to submit to an examination before a packed jury." It required an examination and certification before the State Board of Medical Examiners as a prerequisite to practicing osteopathy, and gave to that school one member out of ten on the board. The bill was on the calendar for second reading, and when it was reached Booth of King promptly moved its indefinite postponement. The motion carried with only a murmur of opposition.

Prior to the killing of the osteopathy bill, another measure by Senator Wilson, giving the State Board of Health control of vital statistics, ran a gauntlet of opposition from the friends of the newer schools of medicine and surgery. The bill contained a provision that in all cases of death an examination and burial certificate should be secured from a licensed medical practitioner. It was alleged that this section was the interest of a "medical trust," confined to members of the older schools of medicine.

Crane of Spokane introduced one amendment intended to correct the offending section, and it was voted down. He then introduced another, and while it was under discussion a motion indefinitely to postpone the bill was made and defeated.

The second amendment was then passed and the bill was advanced to third reading. The crane amendment provides that in the event a person dies without the attendance of a licensed practitioner, any adult male will certify to the cause of death for purposes of furnishing statistics to the Board of Health and permitting the issuance of a burial certificate.

The House passed a number of important Senate bills today. They include Tucker's bill, making it a felony to adulterate milk, and a bill to prohibit the use of poisonous or deleterious substances; Russell's bill, fixing a maximum penalty at life imprisonment for aiding prisoners to escape from the State Penitentiary by mail; and a bill to prohibit the use of a bank check drawn against imaginary funds.

The House passed Senator Moore's bill, requiring hotel and restaurant kitchens to be kept in a sanitary condition and prescribing certain regulations to attain that end. The bill as it passed the Senate made it the duty of the State Commissioner to inspect kitchens and prosecute violations of the act in a similar manner to the investigations and prosecutions provided in Moore's bill of two years ago affecting bakeries, which is now a law.

The House also passed a bill which prescribes a method for taking up and (Continued on Page 12.)

CONTENTS OF TODAY'S PAPER

The Weather.
TEMPERATURE—Maximum temperature, 57 degrees; minimum, 40 degrees. Precipitation, none. Wind, light variable.

Rebels in the Caucasus besiege troops in barracks and terrorize cities. Page 1.**Race riots at Baku cause 1000 deaths and twice as many wounded.** Page 2.**Railroad strikes tie up Poland and all Southwestern Russia.** Page 1.**Grand Duke Sergius buried in state at Moscow.** Page 3.**Minister Boulougan declares for free press.** Page 1.**North Sea decision declared not wholly for either nation.** Page 1.**British War Secretary defends his army.** Page 4.**House passes river and harbor bill.** Page 4.**Senate passes Panama Canal bill.** Page 4.**Postmaster loses attempt to control patronage.** Page 1.**Stuyvesant Fish gives railroad edict of rate question.** Page 4.**House calls for documents on Oregan oil lease.** Page 4.**President will push land fraud trials with vigor.** Page 1.**Interior Commission decides against pooling California fruit traffic.** Page 4.**Dr. Oeder expresses startling opinions on usefulness of old men.** Page 2.**Coroner's jury accuses Hoch of murder.** Page 3.**Politico.**
Charles Knapp, accused St. Louis bootlegger, acquitted. Page 4.**How graft money was distributed in Illinois Legislature.** Page 4.**Minister Boulougan declares in favor of free press.** Page 1.**District Attorney Jerome exposes New York police corruption.** Page 4.**Referendum may be invoked on Oregon million-dollar appropriation bill.** Page 5.**Governor Chamberlain vetoes three more bills.** Page 6.**Alliance between lumbermen and commission radicals seems far off.** Page 1.**Pacific University applies for injunction against proposed Forest Grove school.** Page 5.**Spokane united church people mourn for Bishop McIntire.** Page 5.

WAR IS RENEWED

Foster's Last Chance at Patronage.

WANTS TO NAME JUDGE

New Judicial District Bill Will Soon Pass.

JONES HAS THE FIRST CALL

Foster Will Have a Week to Work on Appointments Before Term Expires—Candidates for Judgeship.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, D. C., Feb. 23.—The patronage war today with President Roosevelt, further developments in the land fraud cases in Oregon and California may be expected at no distant day. Since the first steps were taken looking to the prosecution of the alleged offenders the President has shown a keen interest in the investigations and the indictments which followed. With the view of acquainting himself with the situation, the President today was in close conference with Secretary Hitchcock, Attorney-General Moody and Special Attorney F. J. Henry, who discussed with him the evidence so far gathered.

Later he held a second conference, at which were present Secretary Hitchcock, Mr. Henry and Secret Service Inspector William E. Burns, who was active in bringing about a number of the arrests. At this latter meeting it is understood a plan of action was mapped out, and the statement was made tonight that it need not occasion surprise if further arrests are ordered. To Mr. Burns, it is understood, the President conveyed his warm commendation for weaving around the alleged offenders a chain of evidence on which the indictments were procured.

None of the persons mentioned would make any statement, but from a reliable source the information was gleaned that the President purposes to carry the prosecution to a final conclusion as vigorously as were the Postoffice cases.

STILL RECOVERING THE DEAD

Rescuers in Ruined Coal Mine Baffled by Foul Odors.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 23.—At 8 o'clock tonight 32 bodies had been recovered from the Virginia mines, and the rescue work continues. The foul odors from the decomposing bodies have now become so unbearable that the rescuers work in short relays, and hundreds of pounds of disinfectant have been used to make further work possible.

Fifty-five funerals were conducted in the suburbs of Birmingham today, all of which were for victims of the awful disaster.

It is estimated that there are at least 25 more bodies to be taken out, and the rescuers have to finish up the level they are on today and open up a new level. There are three bodies in the bottom of the lowest level, which it is expected will require at least 10 days to reach. The bodies are those of the pumpers and his assistants. They are covered with water, and since the pumping machinery was ruined by the explosion, it will take much time to get the water out of the mine.

Governor Cullum has been quickly instructed State Mine Inspector Gray and his assistants to make a thorough investigation of the disaster and report to him at the earliest practicable moment. The relief fund for the stricken families so far amounts to more than \$15,000.

Coroner Paris today impaneled a jury, which was taken into the mine as soon as possible. In order that it may be aided in reaching a conclusion as to the cause of the disaster.

The relief work was abandoned at midnight and will not be resumed until morning. Many of the bodies found the latest morning recesses of the mine were in a kneeling posture, as though the men spent their last moments in prayer.

MURDERED AND THEN BURNED

Tragic End of Aged Women Attributed to Missing Coachman.

MONTCLAIR, N. J., Feb. 23.—Following the discovery of the body of Mrs. Hannah B. Ross, a wealthy octogenarian, in the ruins of her home in High street today, the police expressed the opinion that the woman had been murdered and the house first to conceal the crime. A German coachman, who was the only domestic employed by Mrs. Ross, has not been seen since the fire, and a search of the ruins failed to reveal any trace of his body. Three adjacent houses were destroyed by the fire, which started in the Ross house, but the occupants had no difficulty in escaping.

Mrs. Ross made her will last Saturday and it was witnessed by the missing coachman. The house and the valuable furniture which it contained she left to her adopted daughter, Mrs. Rupe, of Baltimore. When her body was found it was completely decomposed.

The police believe that, if she was murdered, the fire was incendiary and the motive was one of revenge. All the woman's rings were on her fingers.

May Sustain Governor Adams.

DENVER, Feb. 23.—The gubernatorial contest committee tomorrow afternoon will receive the briefs of the attorneys. Under the rules, its report will have to be completed by next Wednesday. Unconfirmed reports are in circulation to the effect that the majority of the committee, which consists of 19 Republicans and 8 Democrats, will sustain Governor Adams and recommend that Peabody be given leave to withdraw his petition.

Mad Mullah on the Warpath.

ADEN, Arabia, Feb. 23.—The Somali Mullah, "the Mad Mullah," is again on the warpath. He is reported to be a day's march from Obbia, and to have seized and killed a number of the Sultan of Obbia's followers.

Fulton Secures His Appointment and Confirmation at Hillboro.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, D. C., Feb. 23.—The President

WHICH HAS WON?

Doubt About North Sea Decision.

BOTH LET DOWN EASILY

One Authority Says Middle Ground Is Taken.

OTHERS SAY RUSSIA HAS WON

Report is Adopted and Will Be Published on Saturday—Finds Cannonade Justified, but Criticizes Russians.

PARIS, Feb. 23.—The international commission appointed to inquire into the North Sea incident practically concluded its work tonight by finally agreeing to the report, which will be publicly announced at the closing session, to be held at Paris next Saturday. Concerning the general nature of the report the following statement was made in a most authoritative quarter to the Associated Press:

"When the text of the decision becomes known, it will be more acceptable to the press and public than they have been led to believe. The semi-official reports which have appeared, while more or less accurate, tend too long and also that the Russians should have sought a middle ground, and the decision is not a pronounced victory for either side. It is of such a character as to preserve Russia's self-respect and at the same time give the British public much ground for satisfaction. If anything, the decision is rather more favorable to Great Britain than to Russia."

More Favorable to Russia.
On the other hand the Havas agency tonight confirmed its semi-official statement of last night. It says:

"The conclusions as a whole are quite favorable to Russia, recognizing that Admiral Rojstevsky could legitimately consider himself in danger and act as he did. However, the report contains reservations calculated to satisfy British susceptibilities, the most important being that the Commission esteems that the Russian fleet was too long and also that Rojstevsky should have speedily notified the British maritime authorities of the deplorable incident. Upon the question of the presence of torpedo boats the Commission frees all navies from the imputation."

"The Commission rejected a motion of Admiral Beaumont (Great Britain), blaming the Russian crews.

"The conclusions are said to be in the form of questions, whereof the Commissioners state their answers either unanimously or as a majority."

Americans Think It Favors Britain.
The American officials are strongly inclined to accept the view first stated, that the decision is more favorable to Great Britain than to Russia.

The four foreign members gave a banquet tonight in honor of the presiding officer, Admiral Fournier (France). The latter will return the compliment on Saturday. President Loubet will give a luncheon in honor of the Commission at the Elysee Palace Sunday.

Rear Admiral Charles H. Davis (United States) and his aide, Ensign William F. Byrdner, have taken passage on the Finland, sailing March 4 from Antwerp. The Admiral's wife and daughter remain for a tour of Italy.

QUICK EXULTATION IN RUSSIA

Naval Officials Say Decision Justifies Action of Fleet.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 24 (C. A. M.).—The intimation that the decision of the international commission on the Hull affair will be favorable to Russia is received with much quiet exultation in Admiralty circles, and by the St. Petersburg public, where it is felt to show the baseness of "the senseless clamor" against Vice-Admiral Rojstevsky.

Naval officers always have maintained that there was another side to the question as it was presented by the press of Great Britain and believed Rojstevsky was amply justified in taking all precautions for the safety of his fleet, especially in view of the warnings, the seriousness of which apparently was not realized elsewhere, and were convinced that a commission of impartial experts would take the same view. Hence the report is accepted without surprise, although it has not been announced officially.

President Harper Doing Well.
CHICAGO, Feb. 23.—The condition of President Harper, of the University of Chicago, who was operated upon Wednesday afternoon, is said to be improving. In a bulletin issued tonight it was stated that he was making satisfactory progress toward recovery, all nausea having disappeared. The patient took solid nourishment today and slept restfully most of the time. He passed a comfortable night last night.

No More Passes for Hoosiers.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 23.—The Indiana House of Representatives today passed the Davis anti-pass bill, which prohibits the issuance of railroad passes to any citizen of the state, by a vote of 25 to 9.