

EX-CZAR NICHOLAS IN PARTS UNKNOWN

Escape From Guard at Tobolsk Is Reported at Bolsheviki Office in Petrograd.

PURSUING FORCE STARTED

Former Emperor and Family Since October 11 Had Been Quartered in Monastery—Petrograd Denial of Escape Made.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 15.—Former Emperor Nicholas of Russia has escaped from his confinement at Tobolsk, according to advices received today at the Smolny Institute, the Bolsheviki headquarters.

The American Consul at Tiflis, in the Russian Caucasus, recently sent a report which was received in Washington on December 8, stating that a rumor was in circulation that former Emperor Nicholas had escaped. The message made it clear that there was no confirmation and there had been since received anything concerning the report until the Petrograd advices today.

EX-CZAR PLACED IN MONASTERY

Tobolsk is in Siberia, about 1500 miles east of Moscow. For some time after the outbreak of the revolution and the monarch's deposition, he, with his family, was confined in the royal palace at Tsarskoe-Selo. On August 19, however, the Russian provisional government announced that he had been transferred to Tobolsk, together with the members of his family and his suite. At first he was quartered in the Governor's palace in the town of Tobolsk, but on October 11 it was given out that he and his family had been transferred to a monastery situated about 20 miles outside.

A shortly after the recent escape of General Korniloff and almost concurrently with the rumor from Tiflis that Nicholas Romanoff, as the Emperor was known since he was deposed, had effected his escape, one of the Bolsheviki government organs in Petrograd announced that several detachments of soldiers of the Red Guard had been sent to Tobolsk to guard him.

FUGITIVE MAY BE IN JAPAN

One of the many rumors that were current about the time the Tiflis report was in circulation reached London by way of Zurich was to the effect that Nicholas had made his way out of Siberia through Harbin and had arrived in Japan. The route through Harbin was regarded as the most favorable one for him to take, and this may have given rise to the rumor that he actually traveled this road out of his former domain. It is known, however, that he was recognized, as Tobolsk is 4000 miles from the Pacific Coast and 1000 miles from the Chinese border.

On the other hand, there were unconfirmed reports in November of a political overtaking in the Far East, which made the vast province a land friendly to the former ruler. The report, which came through Finland, said that Siberia had declared its independence and had proclaimed Nicholas its Emperor.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 15, 3:45 P. M.—An official denial was made at the Smolny headquarters this afternoon that Nicholas Romanoff had escaped from Tobolsk.

UNFAIR TRADE IS CHARGE

Federal Trade Commission Files Complaints Against Corporations.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Unfair trade methods were charged against three manufacturers in complaints issued today by the Federal Trade Commission. The Ward Baking Company, New York, is alleged to have changed prices from time to time to distributors of its bread, with the intent of stifling competition. The corporation also is charged with raising arbitrary and excessive prices and refusing to sell to distributors who would not maintain such prices. J. F. Hillier & Son Company, Louisville, Ky., is accused of violating the trade law by forcing its distributors to maintain certain standard re-sale prices on baseball bats and violating the law which forbids price discrimination. The National Distilling Company, Milwaukee, is charged with stifling competition by giving large amounts of yeast free to purchasers, who buy it to the exclusion of yeast made by other firms.

ARTILLERYMAN TO MARRY

Wesley Milliken and Miss Bernice Buckles Granted License.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—A marriage license was issued here today to Wesley D. Milliken and Miss Bernice Buckles, popular young people of Oregon City. Mr. Milliken is a member of the Coast Artillery Company at Fort Stevens. He is the eldest son of Dr. W. T. Milliken, pastor of the local Baptist Church. Miss Bernice is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Buckles. The young people are recent graduates of the Oregon City High School.

CLYDE RUPERT ARRESTED

(Continued From First Page.)

atives, he said that he had received the bonds from Rupert in exchange for stock in an operating ship. At the request of Alvin Miley, one of the Burns operatives, Mr. Rix accompanied Miley to the Northwestern National Bank. The detective wished Mr. Rix to identify Rupert as the man who sold him the bonds. The identification was readily made, but Rupert, seeing Mr. Rix and the detective together, put on his hat and coat and prepared to leave.

He was detained and taken into the office of Vice-President Olmstead, but refused to wait while a warrant was returned for his arrest. When taken to police headquarters by Detective Moloney, Rupert refused to discuss the affair. His only remark, addressed to Captain Baty was, "I'm no piker."

RUPERT WILL NOT TALK

After being booked on the police ticket, Rupert was removed to the county jail at his own request. He refused to admit the robbery. The missing bonds recovered are those traced through the aid of Mr. Rix.

A warrant charging the Federal of

fense of theft from a National bank was filed against Rupert yesterday by Robert R. Rankin, Chief Deputy United States District Attorney, and was served last night in the jail. The warrant upon which Rupert was arrested simply charges larceny. Bail on each warrant was set at \$20,000.

For several days Mr. Rix has been aiding the detectives in recovering the bonds and gathering data fixing suspicion for the robbery. "Sometimes ago Mr. Rupert, whom I had often met in the bank when I was there on business, asked me if I would tell him of some good investment occasionally, as he was expecting an estate from the East," said Mr. Rix. "I told him then—this was several months ago—that I would keep an eye open for a good opportunity. Not long ago he asked me again, and informed me of some ship stock. He asked me then if I would accept liberty bonds, as the estate had been in bonds. I assured him I would not at the prevailing market.

"After several brief conversations he arranged to discuss the matter at my office and told me that for family reasons he didn't want to be prominent in the negotiations. He asked if I would negotiate through a trustee and help him arrange for one. Such matters are common in negotiations of that kind, and it was fixed up. I thought



Clyde (Red) Rupert, ex-Sergeant of Police, prominent athlete, leader and bank watchman, who is charged with theft of liberty bonds.

nothing of the matter, for I knew Mr. Rupert was a trusted and heavily bonded man, and furthermore, he had spoken of his own knowledge. I knew he had asked bankers what they thought of my stock, etc."

Mr. Rix explained that the bonds were handed to him by Rupert December 5 in the lobby of the Northwestern Bank, in the most commonplace sort of way.

"I gave me \$4000 worth of bonds, and I told him he would have to trust me with them until I took them to my bank and placed them for sale on the market. I gave him a receipt in due time and told him to surrender that when the stock was issued to him. I then deposited the bonds and started to have the stock issued. I also sent him a check for \$250 to cover the difference between the bonds and the cost of the stock."

"It so happens that the secretary of the ship company is out of town and the stock has been delayed. I have stopped the stock issuance, but, of course, I stand to lose \$250 which I gave to Rupert as the difference between the stock and bonds. The bonds, of course, are returned to the bank and I am the loser on the difference. Mr. Rix explained that he had not attempted to collect interest on the bonds, as he had placed them on the market as soon as he got them. It was, however, able to lend valuable service to the banks and detectives in recovering the bonds.

"Instead of the bank, said last night that \$19,500 was a high estimate of the bonds taken. "We know that \$5000 worth were taken as this sum has been recovered," he said. "It may take some time to learn just how much more was taken. The loss, if any is, entirely covered by insurance."

WIFE SUES FOR DIVORCE

Clyde Rupert was appointed to the Portland police force in January, 1908. He was made a sergeant in May, 1912, and discharged with 11 other members of the force in December, 1913, for gambling. He has held the position of watchman or house detective with the Northwestern National Bank for the past four years.

Rupert was sued for divorce last June. His wife, Pearl, obtained a decree and the custody of their 3-year-old son. Mrs. Rupert charged her husband with cruelty.

Rupert prominent as athlete. Rupert is well known among the sporting fraternity of the northwest as "Red" and was prominent in all lines of athletics, especially in boxing and football. He started his athletic career with the Albany College football team a number of years ago. Later he went to Portland where he played semi-professional baseball with a team organized and managed by himself called "Rupert's Rubes." This team played in the old Inter-City League for a number of years and graduated many "bushers" into the class D leagues about the country.

Rupert was a star football player on the Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club eleven and for many years played basketball. He captained the 1913 Multnomah Club eleven which played the Olympic Club at San Francisco. He coached the Oregon City football eleven which claimed the independent football championship of the state in 1915.

ALBANY ROYAL ARCH MASONS ELECT

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—John R. Pendleton, city engineer of Albany, was elected high priest of the Royal Chapter, No. 8, Royal Arch Masons, of this city, in the annual election of officers of this order which took place during the ensuing year were elected and installed as follows: King, Charles H. Cusick; acting, Roy C. Lewis; captain of the host, William S. Weaver; treasurer, H. N. Bouley; secretary, Edward Washburn; trustee, W. R. Bilyou.

Liquor, Drug and Tobacco Habits

The Neal Cure Institute Remember, we give a bond and contract to cure the liquor habit in three to seven days, drug and tobacco habits from seven to 21 days, without any harmful effects. We will be glad to talk with anyone in regard to themselves, their friends or relatives, and explain the treatment to them. If you are not satisfied at end of treatment we will refund your money. For confidential information, write 394 1/2th, cor. Harrison, Portland, Or. Phone Marshall 2400.

SPRECKELS PEEVED, HOOVER DECLARES

Refiner's Balance Sheet This Year Is Not What It Might Have Been.

TRAFFIC ADMITTEDLY HURT

While Many Feel Badly, Majority of Citizens Are Sacrificing Profits and Many Are Sacrificing Their Sons in War.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Charges made by Claus Spreckels, president of the Federal Sugar Refining Company, before a Senate investigating committee, that the Food Administration is responsible for a sugar shortage drew from Food Administrator Hoover tonight a vigorous attack on Mr. Spreckels. An open intimation is made by Mr. Hoover that Mr. Spreckels' testimony was inspired by the fact that the Food Administration cut profits in sugar transactions. "It requires no proof from me," said Mr. Hoover, "to establish the fact that Mr. Spreckels, a leading sugar refiner, is sore at the Food Administration and would like to see it destroyed. I realize that Mr. Spreckels' balance sheet will not look so good next year as last, for refiners' profits have been regulated. Furthermore, his balance sheet would have looked better this year if the price of last August had not been reduced and held fast, in the face of a partial shortage that promised a fair opportunity for 30-cent sugar and much increased profits.

Others Also Feel Badly. "Mr. Spreckels, therefore, has reason to feel badly. There are other citizens who will feel the same way and no doubt can entertain the public by assailing the Food Administration. While many feel badly, still the vast majority of men and women of our business community and of our farmers are sacrificing their profits daily to the Nation's necessities without complaint, for many are sacrificing more than their money—their sons. "We have had two months of partial sugar shortage—October and November—and will have December before relief from the new crop. "American people have had 500,000 tons of sugar in these two months—that is 70 per cent of their normal supplies in each month, and if cars are available they will have 70 per cent in December. Owing to car shortage, the shortage has been most acute in the Northeast, and about 200 cars are today blocked from that region.

SUPPLIES SENT TO FRANCE

"This 70 per cent is twice the French ration. In the meantime we have given France a good part of the 30 per cent and are proud of it. This supply to France was given deliberately and the American people were told of it at the time. We have also agreed to draw 10,000 tons for our friends in Canada. I have yet to meet an American citizen who would have had it otherwise.

"As to the Food Administration, stopping the sources of supply: The fact that all available supplies have been brought here that ships and cars could bring, and that it had already been eaten, is sufficient answer. "Mr. Spreckels knows the bitterness of the 10-year fight between producers and refiners—between different refiners—and if he looks back over the last three months he will observe a desire of many of these elements to use the Food Administration as a club to settle their long-standing bitterness.

"If Mr. Spreckels will tell us where there is any sugar today that ships can be obtained to carry or cars can be obtained to deliver, it will be delivered at once with the same regulation that we have requisitioned or distributed over 50,000,000 pounds of embargoed sugar since October 1. In the meantime, the 500,000 tons of sugar in Java is as remote as cheese out of the moon since the plan has been built, and with the loyal

—unless we wish to take bread ships from our own soldiers and the allies to provide ourselves with candy."

SPRECKELS AIRS GRIEVANCES

Business Hurt and Rivals Benefited. Is Charge Made.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—President Claus A. Spreckels, of the Federal Sugar Refining Company, on resuming his testimony today at the inquiry into sugar prices said he had protested to Food Commissioner Hoover against including refiners on the international committee, created by the Food Administration to purchase all raw sugars for refiners. Spreckels declared yesterday that against the committee worked against his firm and to the benefit of the American Sugar Refining Company. "The State Department had a hand in fixing the price of \$4.60 for raw sugar, f. o. b. Cuba, but to what extent was not brought out, for diplomatic reasons. H. Curtis Lindley, attorney for the Food Administration, stated. Spreckels protested to Hoover that he was not brought out, for diplomatic reasons. The Cuban planters protested it was too low.

When Spreckels testified that the price was too high, notwithstanding the fact that he raised Cuban sugar, the Cuban planters protested it was too low.

Spreckels testified that the price wholesalers should pay the refiners was fixed by three American members of the international committee of the food administration, having charge of the American supply and added that the three men were sugar refiners, Senator Reed asked. "Was the public represented at this price-fixing meeting?" "No," replied Mr. Spreckels. "Before the hearing session ended, Spreckels and President Babst, of the American Sugar Refining Company, clashed over the anti-trust suit against the Food Administration."

Spreckels said Babst last October discussed with his competitors dissolution of the suit and asked Spreckels to write a letter to President Wilson suggesting that the suit be dropped. Babst declared he had only asked Spreckels if he would join in such a request if his other competitors did.

Babst makes proposal. Spreckels testified that on or about October 1, Babst came to him and said: "We are good now and we have an intimation from the Attorney-General that if you will write a letter to the President saying we are good, the suit will be dismissed."

"What makes you think I have such influence with the President?" Spreckels asked him replied. "Because you are one of our principal competitors," was stated as the answer. Spreckels stated that Babst said again that "we are good now and will be in the future," and that he (Spreckels) answered: "I am not willing to take a chance on the future."

Spreckels said he declined to write such a letter. Babst gave his version of the conversation and said nothing about the request for a "jit."

Alleged statement denied. "Wasn't anything said about a letter to the President?" asked Senator Reed. "No."

Spreckels, sitting a few feet from Babst, quickly faced about and questioned: "Didn't you ask me to write a letter to President Wilson?" "I did not," said Babst firmly.

Turning to Senator Reed, Spreckels declared that "my statement was made under oath and I am willing to repeat it."

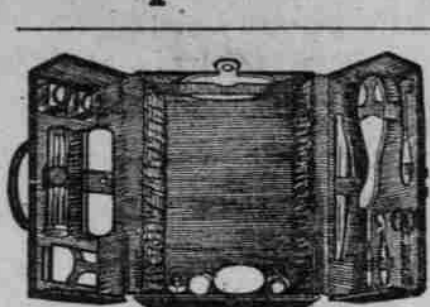
"So was mine," snapped Babst. "I explained to Mr. Spreckels," Babst said, "that as we were all under Government control, it had been suggested that possibly the dissolution suit against us might be dismissed. I asked him if such a proposition was made by our competitors would he join in the request that it be done. He said he would think it over."

HUGE TASK WELL UNDER WAY

Within 60 Days Nine Million Registrants Will Be Classified.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The War Department's huge task of classifying the Nation's man power for Army service actually began today with the mailing out of the first 5 per cent of the questionnaires. The mailing of questionnaires will be completed, according to the War Department and within 60 days more than 9,000,000 registrants will be divided into five classes as regards their liability for military service. In a statement issued today, Provost Marshal General Crowder said: "The plans have been made, the machinery has been built, and with the loyal

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THE 'VICTORIA'

In 12 and 14-inch. The handsomest piece of hand luggage made. Each fitted with best white Ivory. When engraved to match the lining, makes a gift of exquisite beauty.

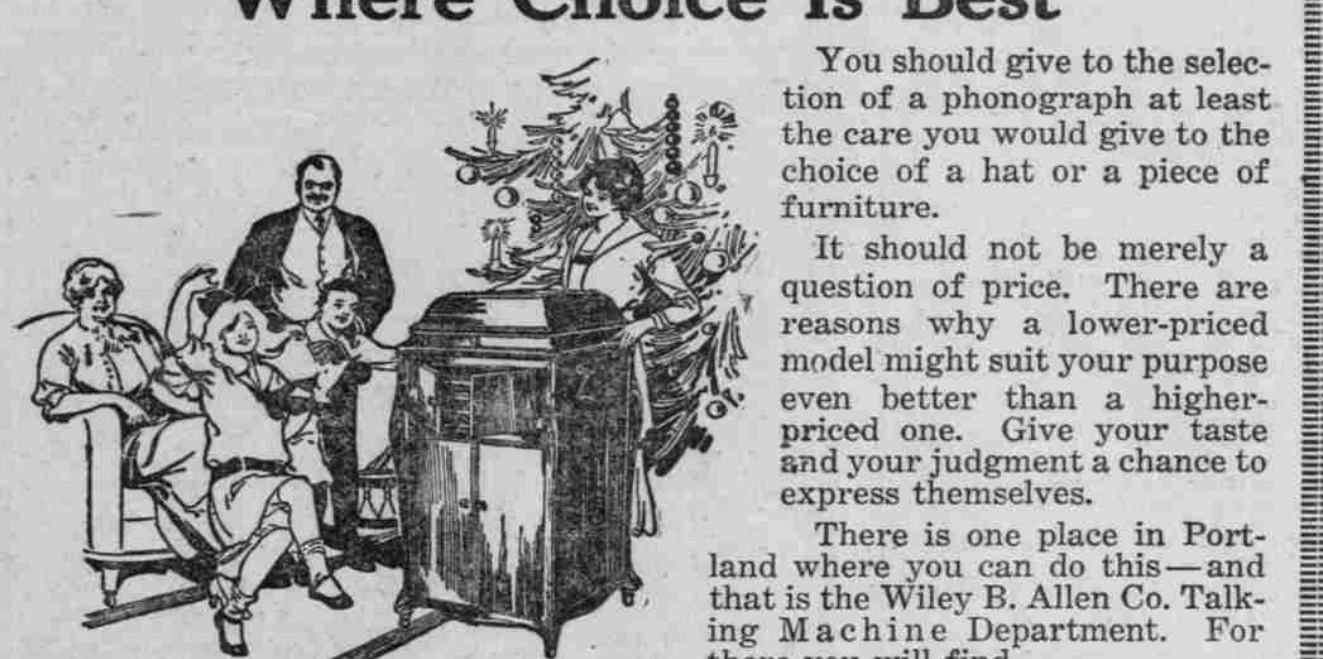
for your convenience in shopping. A gift from this department will be one of lasting durability. Each piece handsome in design and originality. Here is the Money Belt the boy going to France must have. The large space for French money is oil lined, rendering all bills and papers waterproof. From \$1.00 Up

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Auto Restaurants
Fitted Suitcases
Seal Traveling Bags
Fitted Overnighters
Swagger Sticks
Fine Seal Suitcases
Fitted Toilet Rolls
Fitted Toilet Cases
Babst makes proposal.
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"First Aid Cases
Card and Bill Folds
Two and Three-fold Wallets
Wrist Watch Cases
Wardrobe Trunks
Medicine Flasks
Coat Hangers
Shirt Folds
Handkerchief Cases
Letter Cases
Sammy Kits
Sewing Baskets
Vanity Cases
Scissors Sets
Desk Sets
Sewing Stands
Portfolios
Jewel Cases
Desk Calendars
Line-a-days
Ribbon Cases
Bridge Sets
Poker Sets
Laundry Kits
Pullman Slippers
Beaded Bags
Overnight Bags
Auto Cases
Army Kits
Traveling Bags
Manicure Sets
Shopping Bags
Tobacco Pouches
Children's Umbrellas
Music Cases
Medicine Cases
Hat Boxes
Drinking Cups
Collar Bags
Tie Cases
Coin Purses
Jewel Bags
Trench Mirrors
Air Cushions



co-operation of the local boards, so amply demonstrated by their past accomplishments, the millions of registrants will, within 60 days, stand marshaled for their place in the world's war, each in the class to which his economic worth entitles him. "I have not the slightest hesitation in predicting the absolute success of the classification system. "Never before in the history of the world have armies been chosen with the scientific precision of the new system. Men will shoulder the gun first who should by all the laws of reason offer themselves first to their country and only grim necessity will compel us to invade the more deferred classes, but if such necessity does arise, it will find the country ready." Silver Spoons Aid Red Cross. ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Scores of out-of-date and worn silver spoons are being dropped into a Red Cross donation barrel and will be sold to raise money for the Red Cross. The drive for silver spoons is a novel one and bringing good results. 99 Newberg Boys in Service. NEWBERG, Or., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—The honor list of Newberg boys who have enlisted in the service of their country totals 99. They are all volunteers. Some are in the trenches, others on the ocean and some are at training camps. Captain Bartlett in Service. VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Robert A. Bartlett, noted Arctic navigator, who was captain of the Karluk, the flagship of Vilhjalmur Stefansson's exploring fleet, is now serving the United States Government, according to reports received here, which said he has been named marine superintendent of the Port of New York. Bartlett went on three of Rear-Admiral Robert E. Peary's expeditions. Slacker Taken to Tacoma. CHEHALIS, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Deputy United States Marshal Fleetwood was in Chehalis yesterday in quest of Alex Zurek, who was arrested recently on a charge of being a slacker. He has been taken to Tacoma, pending an investigation by the Federal officers. One hundred thousand dollars of a gift of \$220,000 from the late Mrs. Frances Naest Gamble to the Methodist board of foreign missions will be used to build Methodist headquarters at Petrograd and at Bucharest.

Choose Your Christmas Victrola Where Choice Is Best



You should give to the selection of a phonograph at least the care you would give to the choice of a hat or a piece of furniture. It should not be merely a question of price. There are reasons why a lower-priced model might suit your purpose even better than a higher-priced one. Give your taste and your judgment a chance to express themselves. There is one place in Portland where you can do this—and that is the Wiley B. Allen Co. Talking Machine Department. For there you will find ALL Models of BOTH Victor and Edison Machines With Everything to Choose Among, You Can Choose With Intelligence Prices From \$20.00 to \$500.00 Our terms of payment are easy and sensible. Our famous service follows every purchase until permanent satisfaction is absolutely assured. We have a practical method of selling machines and records BY MAIL. If you cannot call at any of our stores, send us this coupon:

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