



CZAR ESCAPES

Attempt to Assassinate Him With Cannon.

WAS IN HIS CHAPEL

If Gun Were Aimed Lower Whole Dynasty Would Have Perished.

THE GUNNERS ARE CONFINED

Shots Were the Size of Birds' Eggs and One Policeman Was Killed and Several Others Injured by Bullets Which Sung Over Head.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 19.—The ceremony of "blessing the waters" this year was accompanied by an event more mysterious unprecedented and extraordinary than any afforded by even the annals of Russian history. For a Russian sovereign to fall by the hand of an assassin is no new thing in Russian records, but for the emperor to narrowly escape death by shot fired by his own artillery while engaged in a solemn religious rite, surrounded by the priests of his church is so difficult to realize as to be almost incredible. Yet this happened today when a charge of grape shot from the government battery crashed through the windows of the winter palace when the salutes marking the close of the ceremonies were fired.

The shots were fired from the bourse battery only 500 yards away. Had it been directed a few feet lower it would have wiped out the whole Romanoff dynasty, but all the shots flew above the heads of the spectators. The shots were the size of birds' eggs.

By the merest chance the imperial family escaped unhurt, but public opinion is stunned by what might have been the tragic results of the affair. One policeman was killed by the discharge and several persons were injured. The officers and men of the battery were immediately placed under arrest.

The official account of today's shooting affair follows:

During the ceremony of the blessing of the waters of the Neva today in the presence of the emperor, as the usual salute was being fired an accident happened. A charge of grape instead of the saluting charge was fired from a gun belonging to one of the batteries stationed near the bourse. Some of the bullets struck the facade of the winter palace or quay gardens, breaking four windows. A policeman belonging to the St. Petersburg force was killed. According to information at hand at present no other accident occurred. Inquiry continues.

RESULT OF DESIGN.

Theory of Accident Is Laughed at By All.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 20.—In spite of the official statement that the cannon shot yesterday, which might easily have wiped out the whole Romanoff family, was the result of carelessness in leaving a shotted cartridge in the breach of a gun after target practice, the mysterious cause is still under the combined investigation of the military and police, and the public seems as little inclined as the authorities to accept the published version.

The officers and men of the battery have not been arrested, but are confined in the barracks and by military regulations are so closely under restraint that it is impossible for the culprit or culprits to escape until the responsibility is determined. It cannot be said definitely whether the affair was due to accident or was the result of design.

A general belief is widespread that a plot did not exist, but evidences of de-

sign are so apparent that a statement attributing the presence of a loaded shell from previous target practice evoked smiles in many quarters. It is pointed out as being highly improbable that the gun had not been cleaned for two days, and it is impossible a second cartridge could have been inserted for saluting purposes and it certainly is a startling coincidence that the gun containing this cartridge should have been trained directly upon the imperial chapel.

Whatever may be the solution, it is a strange fact that the shot came from the bourse esplanade, where was stationed the first horse artillery of the guard, the premier artillery organization of the empire and one of the most noted regiments in the Russian service. The roster of this organization has included grand dukes, princes and some of the most illustrious names of Russia.

Military experts say indications are that a charge consisting of grape was inserted surreptitiously in place of the saluting cartridge. If this was the case, probably only one man was involved. Certainly if it was an extensive, deep laid plot, or if an officer was involved, it was badly executed.

WICKED TRICK.

Occident Hotel Scene of Malicious Persecution Last Night.

A horde of drummers wandered "home" to the Occident hotel at midnight last night and found that B. C. Brooks, the American Tobacco Company's man, had gone to bed and left a call for 6 o'clock to enable him to catch the Iwaco boat at 8. Twenty minutes is usually a long time for a drummer to dress, eat and "make" his train, but Brooks is fastidious, and the gang put up a job. They sent one of their conscienceless band up with a call and presently Brooks could be heard paddling in the bath room, then he dressed carefully (it took just an hour) and at 1:12 a. m. he lit a cigarette and started for the bar for his "mawwin's mawwin" and the hoots when he found the doors locked and his comrades lined up to greet him were heard as far as Salem.

It was a slimy trick.

MISSOURI ALARMED

Senatorship Problem Too Much for Managers.

HOLD CONFERENCE MONDAY

Niedringhaus and Cockrell Are Tied With 81 Votes and the Names of Kansas City Men Are Being Mentioned in Lobbies.

Jefferson City, Jan. 19.—The deadlock in the legislature over the election of a senator continues. The second joint session was held today and after casting one ballot without definite result adjourned until tomorrow noon. The result of the ballot was: Niedringhaus (Rep) 81, Cockrell (Dem.) 81; Kernes (Rep) 6, Pettijohn (Rep) 3, showing a loss of four votes for Niedringhaus, two Cockrell, one for Kernes and a gain of two for Pettijohn. Two democrats and three republicans were absent.

As a result of the conference among the party leaders last night, a meeting of the republican state committee was called for Monday for the purpose of considering the grave crisis in the affairs of the republican party in Missouri.

In the hotel lobbies the names of Gardner and Lathrop of Kansas City and C. P. Walbridge were mentioned as possible compromise candidates.

FLORISTS BANKRUPTED.

Gardens of Southern Europe Made Barren by Frosts.

New York, Jan. 19.—Dispatches to the Herald from Paris say the damage done on the Riviera during the recent cold snap was widespread. Flowers suffered and fruit was injured, perhaps destroyed. Ruin extends all over the Italian Riviera and the French Litoral. The beautiful garden of Nice and its neighborhood are now nearly barren.

It is impossible to estimate the loss. Florists at Cannes say it will be at least \$900,000.

PLOT STOPPED

Powers Will Not Divide Chinese Empire.

HAY'S NOTE DOES IT

Gentle Women Give Smoot a Good Reputation Despite All Rumors.

PORTO RICAN'S FIRST TALK

Praises United States and Says There Is No Necessity for Army Appropriation to Maintain a Regiment on the Island.

Washington, Jan. 19.—In a long cable dispatch received at the state department today from the American embassy at Paris the French government reiterates its position and assurances in favor of the preservation of China's integrity. This practically completes the answers from all the powers to Secretary Hay's latest note.

The American government was prompted to take action on the reports from its embassies and legations abroad that the powers were expecting to divide up China, after the war, among themselves. The inquiry by Secretary Hay has checked whatever scheme was on foot and the powers are once again down in black and white pledged to assist in the maintenance of China's territorial and political integrity, all of them having given a favorable reply to the American note.

Don't Need Troops.

Washington, Jan. 19.—The house of representatives today completed consideration of the army appropriation bill and will vote on the measure tomorrow. During the debate Resident Commissioner Degetau of Porto Rico made his first speech in the house. He praised the United States for its attitude toward his island home, and said he saw no need for the maintenance of a provisional regiment of troops in the island.

A vigorous attack on the army transport service was made by Humphrey of Washington.

Smoot's Reputation.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Two prominent gentle women of Utah, one a member of the legislature which elected Senator Smoot, were witnesses today in the Smoot inquiry. Both women gave Smoot an excellent reputation and testified that they would not vote for a polygamist. The counsel for Smoot exhausted their list of witnesses here, but expect several witnesses to arrive in time for the hearing tomorrow.

Heap Much Pow-Wow.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Consideration of the statehood bill was continued in the senate today and Stone spoke for two hours in opposition.

The bill for remunerating American fur sealers who suffered losses because of their suppression was also debated at some length, but no action was taken on it.

TO RELEASE CASSIE.

\$10,000 Needed to Get the Bunco Steerer Out of Hock.

Cleveland, Jan. 19.—Attorney Dawley said tonight that in all probability Mrs. Chadwick will be released on bail tomorrow. Immediately after the amount of bail was fixed by the common pleas judge today at \$20,000, Dawley started to look up sureties for his client and the result of his work will become apparent tomorrow.

JURY STILL OUT.

Sorenson's Fate in Doubt for Yet Another Day.

Portland, Jan. 19.—At 11 o'clock tonight the jury in the case of George

bribe United States Attorney Hall, (is Sorenson, accused of attempting to still out and Judge Bellinger has ordered them locked up for the night.

The trial of the case occupied the entire day. It is not thought Sorenson can be convicted.

MAMMOTH HOTEL.

\$2,000,000 Structure for New York Inn Patrons.

New York, Jan. 19.—Fashionable hotel patrons who deserted the Battery many years ago, are to have an opportunity to return. Plans are now being drawn up for the erection of a 22-story hostelry in Battery park, overlooking the upper bay. Old low buildings now occupy the block which lies between Greenwich and Washington streets, and is one of the few sites in the downtown district overlooked in the rush to erect skyscrapers.

A syndicate has purchased the block for more than \$2,000,000, and it is planned to expend \$2,000,000 more in constructing the hotel. With an entire front of a block and a depth of about 175 feet there will be about 3500 square feet on each floor. Seventeen floors will be devoted to bed rooms, the remainder to dining rooms, etc. A roof garden will overlook the entire bay.

FLAVOR SCARCE.

Cheap Candy Makers Have to Use Japanese Oil.

New York, Jan. 19.—Efforts of speculators with western capital to secure western capital to secure domestic peppermint oil are reported by wholesale druggists here to have been attended by unexpected results.

Rumors of largely decreased production and advances in the market price, caused large manufacturers of low-priced candies to import quantities of dimethylized peppermint oil as an experiment. The cost was only about half that of the domestic oil and while the latter is much superior in flavor, the Japanese product was found, according to the manufacturers, to be perfectly satisfactory in the making of cheap candies.

THUGS ARE CAUGHT

Black Hand Artists in Hands of the Law.

THEY FOUGHT DETECTIVES

Blackmailing Letters Are Traced to the Band-Leader Speaks Good English and Has a Bad Record Behind Him in Sicily.

New York, Jan. 19.—Seven alleged members of a "Black Hand" band, which for months has been terrorizing Italian tradesmen and merchants of Williamsburg, have been arrested by Brooklyn detectives after two desperate fights with knives. Several officers were injured.

A net has been closing around the band for some weeks. Nearly all the numerous letters threatening merchants with destruction of property or death unless money was forthcoming, are said to have been traced to the men just captured. Part of them were taken in a saloon and the others in a flat building.

Their leader was found to be a powerful man, speaking excellent English. He is said to have left a criminal record in Sicily.

WATCH CHILD LABOR.

Conditions Found in the West Call for Immediate Remedy.

New York, Jan. 19.—Secretary Lindsay of the national child labor committee has returned from a three weeks' trip to the west, where he went to confer with those interested in child labor. He reports having found everywhere a sentiment crystallizing against child labor, and a determination on the part of the political parties for remedial legislation.

Abundant evidence was found, he said, of the employment of children of 11, 12 and 13 years of age under the most distressing circumstances in nearly every community visited.

MITCHELL HOT

Refutes Charges Made By Delegate Randall.

HISTORY OF STRIKE

Colorado Miners Wanted Pay for Putting Up Their Own Relief Tents.

\$600,000 POURED INTO FIGHT

Men Who Had the Colorado Miners Cause in Their Hands Branded as Thieves and Grafters by the Federation's President.

Indianapolis, Jan. 19.—In the convention of the United Mine Workers of America, John Mitchell, president, was accused by Delegate Robert Randall of Wyoming with having sold out to the Colorado strike operators, with having been a traitor to the miners' organization and with having entered into a conspiracy with the mine owners, D. M. Parry and Governor Peabody's peace organization to ruin the Colorado miners and lose to them the recent strike.

Mitchell, in replying, gave the reason why the national miners' organization withdrew support from the Colorado strikers. Randall had said that President Howell of the district asked \$40,000 offering to win or lose on that amount. Mitchell, referring to this, said: "Howell did not ask for money. If he had, he would not have gotten it; I could not trust him with it."

He charged Howell with irregularities and ex-National Board Member Gehr with being in collusion with stock brokers, and he told how he forced Gehr to resign his office because of it. Gehr, he said, admitted he was to get \$1000 for advance information concerning the close of the strike. He also told of Howell leaving Gehr in charge of the strike for a time last year and said in two weeks Gehr drew \$35,000 of the organization's money for the strike. "Howell," declared Mitchell, "is not a safe witness against anybody."

Mitchell's statement showed a generally bad situation. He said after \$600,000 had been poured into Colorado, the spirit shown by the miners was such that he had recommended a settlement and that national aid be withdrawn and would do so again under similar circumstances. He said he was ready to get out if it was thought best, and referred to the fact that for six years he has not asked for re-election.

Speeches were made by Vice Presidents Willis, Dolan, Fairly and Secretary-treasurer Wilson. These also went to show that Colorado officers and miners even wanted a per diem for remaining out on strike; they received more money per capita than the anthracite strikers, and also it was stated the miners even refused to put up the tents sent them unless they received pay from the national organization.

The attack by Randall is attributed by friends of President Mitchell, to socialists, who just met their annual defeat by trying to have the miners' organization declare itself for socialism. The feeling shown by the delegates was practically unanimous in favor of Mitchell's position.

SHARKS BILKED.

Pullman Porter Hands It to a Trio of Loan Agents.

Chicago, Jan. 19.—An assignment of wages while in the employ of one company cannot operate against the salary earned in the employ of a different company, according to a decision of Judge Brennan, of the superior court, who has issued a temporary injunction against John Mulholland, Moses Avner and C. L. Steele, loan agents.

The order was granted on the plea of Alfred Pross, a porter working for the Pullman Company and earning \$35

a month, who had given the three loan agents assignments on his wages while employed by the Illinois Central Railroad Company.

Gloomy Views.

London, Jan. 20.—London papers and their St. Petersburg correspondents take the gravest view of the internal conditions in Russia. The majority express the belief that yesterday's incident was a premeditated attempt on the life of the emperor and maintain that the strike is much more of a political than an industrial movement. In short, they consider the signs make it appear the empire is on the verge of revolution.

Rousseau Indicted.

New York, Jan. 19.—Gessler Rousseau, charged with sending an infernal machine to the Cunard dock in May, 1903, was indicted today. It is expected Rousseau will be extradited from Philadelphia.

Declared a Prize.

Tokio, Jan. 19.—The British steamer Rosely, captured by the Japanese cruiser Tekiwa on the sea of Japan on January 11, bound to Vladivostok with a cargo of coal, was condemned today by the prize court at Sasebo.

Range Longer.

Huanshan, Jan. 20.—Considerable increase is noticeable during the last few days in the range of the Japanese artillery. This fact affords ground for the belief that part of the heavy guns used in the siege of Port Arthur have been sent north.

Another Jap Prize.

Tokio, Jan. 19.—The Japanese captured the British steamer Oakley in Tsushima straits Wednesday afternoon. The vessel left Cardiff on November 17, carrying 5900 tons of coal for Vladivostok. She was brought to Sasebo.

Double Crime.

Truckee, Cal., Jan. 19.—Joe Wallace shot and killed Edna Muir, a woman of the Red Light Jance hall, and then shot himself through the heart, dying instantly.

VOTE IS UNCHANGED

Olympia Fails to Elect a New Senator.

FOSTER IS 11 VOTES AHEAD

Mead Signs Bill Providing Two More Justices and Names the Men—Unveiling of Rogers Statue Made Occasion for Holiday.

Olympia, Jan. 19.—In balloting for United States senator today the result was: Foster 44, Wilson 16, Sweeney 26, Piles 23, Jones 8, Blethen 7.

Governor Mead today signed the bill providing for an increase of two judges of the supreme court, and also signed the commissions appointing as additional justices Milo A. Root of Seattle and Herman D. Crow of Spokane.

The governor also approved the Tucker bill repealing the whole of the newspaper libel law.

The senate passed the bill giving King county a sixth superior judge. The only business accomplished in the house was the introduction and first reading of 16 bills.

This afternoon the legislature attended the unveiling of the monument erected to the late Governor Rogers. Addresses were delivered by Mayor Wright of Tacoma, former Governor McBride, Governor Mead and Senator Moore of Seattle. Two thousand people attended the ceremonies, including all the school children of this city. The monument was erected largely through the efforts of the public schools and the contributions of school children.

Army of Strikers.

Berlin, Jan. 20.—Voerwaerts this morning estimates the number of strikers in the coal mining district at 240,000. News from the scene of the strike shows no change in the situation. Sentiment appears to be drifting in favor of the strikers. Refusal of the mine owners' association to negotiate with the operatives is regarded as an affront to the government.