Many Political Forces Struggling is held secret. For Mastery.

IN . THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE

Eighty Per Cent of Russia's Popula-Father" and WouldFight for Him.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 12,-While it is impossible in the present confusion to elearly outline various political forces which are struggling for mastery in Russia, the foreign student of Russian affairs can with profit bear in mind the general party divisions as at present constituted perhaps first of all in the order of importance, is the party of Reaction, not at court, but among the nobles, who believe in the old regime and among the great mass of peasantry, who still believe that all good flows from the "litle father," and the church and who continue extremely hostile to their inteligencia, which is regarded as part of the machinery for their oppresion.

The "black masses" the term by which the peasantry, who comprise 80 per cent of Russia's 140,070,000 people, are known, can at any time turn the scale. The peasantry may rise, burn and pillage and murder landlords, but there is no evidence that the allegiance of more than an infinitissimal fraction has yet turned against the emperor. In skilful hands they, therefore, always will constitute an immense force in favor of a counter revolution.

There are two parties under which the peasantry might eventually be enlisted and which may be said to make up the extreme right, consisting of those who will never forgive the emperor for abrogating his autocratic power. They talk of the necessity of deposing Nicholas and electing a new emperor, Prince Dolgorouki of Moscow, one of the descendents of the Ruriks, is their avowed candidate.

One of these parties was organized last April by Baron Gorge-Rosen Lagenika and others who are in favor of sustaining the autocracy.

The issue of the imperial manifesto, another party called the "Holy Alliance for National Self Protection," has been organized under the leadership of Count Bobrinsky and M. Sherematieff. It summons all true sons of Holy Russia to battle "for the teachings of Christ, the emperor and the Fatherland," All the church banner bearers of Moscow's 500 churches, who alone number 200,000 have been enrolled in its ranks.

These parties might evenutally sustain a military dictatorship against the revolutionary. forces,

Ammediately to the left of this party of reaction might be placed the moderate conservatives, who support Count Witte in the introduction of a new regime. They comprise the conservative Zemstvo elements under the leadership of Dmitri Shipoff, M. Guchkoff, and Michael Stakovich, and they have organized two parties called respectively the "League of October Thirtieth," and the "Party of Law and Order," with the Novoe Vremya and the Slovo as their organs. Their platform callfor the realization of the reforms promised for the integrity of the empire and for a strong central government.

More radical still is the group of parties between supporters of Count. Witte and the social-democrats. These parties include the constituional Demoerats, the successors of the empanicpation league, the radical wing of the Zemstvoists. It is in the demands for a constituent assembly, but universal direct and secret ballot, but, its members differ among themselves as to whether women shall have the right to vote and as to whether the parliament shall have one or two chambers. The Russ, the Novosti, and the Bourse Gazete are its spokesman.

Now comes the parties favoring the complete overthrow of the government -the Social Democrats, radical Demoerats, Social Revolutionaries, and anarchists. The former, by far the best organization, is in favor, first, of a Democratic republic, and later for the atainment of the dread of a regime of universal socialism. The radical Demoerats form a conceting link with the Social Revolutionaries. Their program includes a Democratic republic, with a single parliamentary chamber, ministers elected from the majority of the various nationalities, full autonomy, the abrogation of all titles and ranks and the extension of suffrage to women, The Social Revolutionaries also want

a complete and immediate political and social debacle by leveling all ranks, he division of lands among the Mujiks, and they are in favor of armed revolution for the accomplishment of their aims. The program of the anarchists

TO HELP MINERS.

Denver, Dec. 12.-The executive board of the Western Federatio nof Miners last night decided to submit a proposition to the unions to raise a funds of \$1,000,000 with which to embark in the mining business on a co-operative basis, The Great "Black Masses" Numbering The plan is said to have each member of the Federation contribute \$10. One tion, Still Believe in the "Little of the benefits of the plan, the committee believes, will be to give emploment to members of the union who are deprived of work by reason of the card system in use in Colorado and other

ELECTED FOOTBALL CAPTAIN.

West Point, Dec. 12.-Cadet Ray C Hill was last night elected captain of next year's football eleven. He is an Ohio boy and made the team in 1903, his first year at the military academy. He is a strong half back.

On Time



Flustered Old Lady-What time is the next train for Puddleboro, young man?

Porter - Not another one till 4:14 Flustered Old Lady (devoutly)-Thank evins, I'm in time!-Bystander.

A Bed Break.

"I hear that English nobleman has discontinued his attentions to Miss Nuritch."

"Yes; he queered himself with old Nuritch. The chump asked the old fellow if he ever followed the hounds," "Well?

"Well, Nuritch was a dog catcher be fore he made his pile."-Catholic Standard and Times.

Himself. Cholly-Such vulgah persons. They talked forevah about twade, don't y

Miss Sharpe-And what did you talk about? Cholly-Nothing. Miss Sharpe-The idea! How ego-

tistical :- Philadelphia Ledger.

An Arboreal Observation. "That supercilious men is always

talking about his family tree." "Yes," answered Miss Cayenne, " have observed in nature that it is always the smallest twig that does the most rustling."-Washington Star.

Never Has Any.

"There goes Bjones, the poet. That man has absolutely no idea of the value street. of money.' "How is that?"

"Didn't I say he was a poet?"-Milwankee Sentinel.

Striking an Average. "Poddleton has bought an absolutely noiseless auto."

"Indeed." in town attached to it."-Cleveland reward, Plain Dealer.



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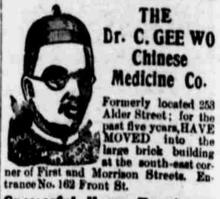
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