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TWENTY-SIXTH YEAR — TWELVE PAGES—SATURDAY MORNING JANUARY 21 1905—TWELVE PAGES — ONE CENT

# ZAR MOVES TO OVERAWE STRIKERS WARNING PEOPLE NOT TO ASSEMBLE

Senate Reading Room—
S—541

**Police Messenger, the Only Paper Published in St. Petersburg, Conveys His Message and Social Upheaval Checked For a Time.**

St. Petersburg, Jan. 21.—(6 a.m.)—A proclamation has been issued this morning forbidding all assemblages, parades or other demonstrations in the city, and warning well disposed workmen and other private individuals to avoid gatherings, as the authorities are determined to break up and disperse meetings imperilling public safety. The proclamation is printed in The Police Messenger, which is the only publication appearing this morning, the police having forced the printers to remain at work until the paper appeared.

**MORE POLICE.**

St. Petersburg, Jan. 20.—With the Russian capital seemingly on the verge of an incipient revolution, thousands of workmen parading the streets, agitators and fanatics sowing the seeds of disorder, half the city in darkness and without fire protection owing to walkouts, the situation was hourly growing more intense when the authorities decided to-night to adopt energetic measures to preserve order, prevent rioting and overawe the violent-minded, at the same time seeking to placate the striking workmen by offering satisfaction to their demands in so far as they were just and reasonable, thus acting with combined firmness and moderation.

**Increase City Garrison.**

The government to-night augmented the garrison of the city with 2500 cavalry and 1000 infantry from Tsarskoe-Selo and filled the streets, especially in the disaffected quarters, with heavy patrols of soldiers. The refusal to permit a delegation of workmen to present a petition to the emperor at Tsaskoe-Selo made it known that the great demonstration planned for Sunday, with its unlimited possibilities for an outbreak, will not be permitted to take place.

**Will Offer Concessions.**

At the same time, acting in conjunction with a conference of employers, it has been determined to offer concessions in the terms of employment which the employers declared the great majority of the workmen would be inclined to accept if they were guaranteed protection from the more violent faction. Late to-night it was reported that Father Gopon, the leader of the workmen, had been quietly spirited away from his bodyguard and taken into custody in furtherance of the plan to disorganize the elements that are threatening the peace of the city.

**Even Expect Peace.**

The authorities believe that by these steps they have the situation well in hand, and announce that they expect a peaceful solution of the problem. The situation had entered an acute stage to-day and the strike had assumed an open political phase. The day was one of intense excitement. Mill after mill and factory after factory closed. Throngs of workmen paraded the streets, and when their colleagues refused to join them broke down gates and forced out the men. The whole industrial centre is idle. All the textile mills and every printing office in St. Petersburg are closed.

**Over 100,000 Men Out.**

One electric light plant and one water plant have shut down and over 100,000 men are out. Thruout the day workmen's meetings were held, at which incendiary speeches were made, the wildest threats being uttered as to what would come if the authorities and employers failed to meet their demands. The general dread was increased by reports that the workmen of Moscow, Kieff, Kharkoff, Kishineff and other large cities in the interior might join in the movement. While the government and employers temporized the telegraphers and railroad employes threatened to join the strike, paralyzing the communications of the country. Many foreigners are preparing to send their families abroad. Every newspaper in St. Petersburg has been forced to suspend publication owing to the strike.

## EIGHT-HOUR DAY STICKS.

**Employes Willing to Adjust All Points But That.**

St. Petersburg, Jan. 20.—The strike situation is extremely bad. The strikers are parading the city and closing shops. Over a hundred thousand are now out. Reports from the interior are to the effect that efforts are being made to induce workmen in other cities to join and make the strike general thruout Russia.

The managers of the big concerns here have formally decided to refuse to treat with any persons except their own workmen, but they are ready to adjust all the points in dispute except the 8-hour day, which they say is a matter for government to decide, as a legal work day in Russia is eleven hours, allowing committees of workmen to fix the price of piece work, and the payment of the men while striking.

There is a general fear, however, that the strike has entered on a political phase, and that turbulence and bloodshed are inevitable. At the meetings to-day the men were greatly excited and drew up a formal petition to the emperor, which will be sent to Tsarskoe Selo to-night by a deputation, asking him to give a response at the winter palace on Sunday, at the same time guaranteeing him immunity from personal violence.

The printing establishments are closing, and the newspapers may be forced to suspend publication. The greatest danger is in a shutdown of the electric light plant, which would throw the city into darkness, when a reign of terror might ensue. As the day progressed the ranks of the strikers were rapidly augmented. Strong delegations visited all the factories and printing shops, threatening to compel a cessation of work unless the employes voluntarily joined in the strike.

Practically all the small establishments in St. Petersburg are already closed. One deputation of strikers visited the office of a recently established news agency and informed the printers that unless they joined the movement the building would be wrecked.

Continued on Page 5.

**TROUBLES NOW FACING THE CZAR WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF RUSSIA:**

- Threatened Revolution in Russia
- War with Japan
- Uprising brewing in Finland
- General strike in St. Petersburg
- Secret rebellion, open rioting, in Moscow
- Smouldering revolt in Poland
- Recruits attacked in provinces
- Consequences of firing on British trawlers
- Student riots
- Attacks on Governors of provinces
- Nihilists active at home and abroad

## ASKING FOR A LIVELIHOOD WITHOUT LIFE OF SLAVERY AND CONTINUOUS TORTURE

**Workingmen of St. Petersburg Send a Pathetic Petition to the Czar to Put an End to Their Sufferings.**

St. Petersburg, Jan. 20.—The following is the text of the strikers' petition to the emperor:

"Sire,—We, workmen, inhabitants of St. Petersburg of all classes, our wives and children and indigent parents, come to you our sovereign, as king for protection. We are poor, persecuted, burdened by labor beyond our strength. We are insulted, treated not as men, but as slaves, who ought to bear their cruel fate in silence. We have suffered, but we are being plunged deeper in the mire and deprived of our rights. Uninstructed, stifled by destitution and injustice, we are perishing. We have no strength left.

**Can Endure No Longer.**

"Sire, we have arrived at the extreme limits of endurance, we have reached the terrible moment when death is to be preferred to continuation of our intolerable sufferings. We have left our work and informed our employers that we will not resume until our demands are conceded. We have not asked much: WE HAVE ASKED BUT FOR MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD, WITHOUT WHICH LIFE IS A BURDEN, AND LABOR CONTINUAL TORTURE. Our first request is that our masters should investigate our case. They have refused. We have been denied the right to put forward our claim, it being held that such right is not recognized by law."

**No Freedom of Speech.**

After referring to the eight hour day and other points of their case, the petitioners continue: "Any one of us who dared raise his voice in the interests of people of the working classes, has been thrown into prison or transported. Kindness and good feeling have been treated as a crime. The bureaucracy has brought the country to the verge of ruin in a shameful way. It is luring it to its downfall. We have no voice in the heavy burdens imposed: we do not know for whom or why this money is wrung from an impoverished people, and we do not know how it is expended. This state of things is contrary to divine laws, renders life impossible. It were better that we should all perish, we workers and all Russia. Then good luck to capitalists and exploiters and poor, corrupt officials, robbers of the Russian people.

**Plead for Salvation.**

"Assembled before the palace, we plead our salvation. Refuse not thine aid and raise thy people from their tomb. Give them means of working out their own destiny. Rescue them from intolerable official domination. Throw down the wall that separates; free thy people; order that they may rule the country with thee. Create for the people the happiness wrenched from us, leaving us nothing but sorrow and humiliation.

"We pray your majesty graciously to receive our demands, which are inspired by a desire for your majesty's and our welfare, and the consciousness of necessity of escape from an intolerable situation. Russia is too great and her needs are too varied and numerous for officials only to rule. National representation is indispensable, as only the people themselves know the country's real needs."

**WANT CHANCE TO LIVE.**

St. Petersburg, Jan. 20.—A petition to Emperor Nicholas, now circulating at workmen's meeting for signatures bitterly complains of the desperate condition of the workers and their "deprivation of human rights." The petition expresses devotion to the emperor and concludes: "Be merciful to us. Let us live. If Thou leavest us in this position we prefer to die."

## STRIKE SURPRISES RUSSIA DEMANDS GROW POLITICAL

**First Only Industrial Evils Were Complained of, but Public Mind Is Now Inflamed.**

St. Petersburg, Jan. 20.—The suddenness of the strike and the far-reaching nature of the workmen's organization was largely a surprise to the government and employers. Startling with the walk-out of a few thousand employes of the Putiloff Iron Works, due to purely industrial causes, it spread as rapidly as a conflagration thru the laboring classes of St. Petersburg and became general.

At first only industrial demands were presented, such as shortening the hours of labor and for increases of wages, but poverty and discontent, under the excitement of socialistic and democratic agitators, led to the formulation of political demands. A petition was drawn up and largely signed, which, going beyond the complaints from which the strike originated, attacked the whole capitalistic system of the country, bitterly assailed the present government as one of bureaucracy and demanded the reform of both, asserting that death was preferable to existence under such conditions.

This was to have been presented personally to Emperor Nicholas. A deputation of workmen endeavored to see his majesty at Tsarskoe-Selo and appeal to him to come to the winter palace Sunday, to be present at an immense demonstration of the industrial classes. It was planned to have all the workmen of St. Petesburg headed by their leader, the priest Gopon, in full gorgeous canonical garb, march to the palace and assemble in the great parade ground in front of the palace and there present the petition to his majesty. The deputation, however, will be refused admission to the Tsarskoe-Selo. The government believes this will render a meeting on Sunday impossible.

The employers at the same time, after conferences with the minister of finance, which was the first to recognize the gravity of the situation, determined to offer concessions in wages and other conditions of labor to individual employes, but declared that is was impossible to grant an eight-hour day, without general legislation affecting competitors and price regulations for piece work. Compliance with the employes' demands for payment of wages during the strike was held to be out of the question, and the employers declined also to permit of dictation of terms by other than their own employes. They express the belief that most of their employes were desirous of accepting the concessions and returning to work, if they could be assured of safety from personal injury.

## MISSILES THAT MISSED AIM WORK OF TWO ANARCHISTS

**Tho Grand Duke Sergius Says Charges of Grape Were Ready for an Emergency.**

St. Petersburg, Jan. 20.—In the midst of the fever of excitement to-day over the strike situation, the incident at the winter palace on Thursday is attracting secondary consideration. Sensational reports of a widespread conspiracy and wholesale disaffection in the army seem to be absolutely without foundation.

Grand Duke Sergius Michaelovitch, in his preliminary report, shows that the caisson of the battery contained charges of grape in readiness for a possible emergency, such as to rake the streets in case of rioting, one of which was introduced in the gun, in front of the saluting guard. The guards are under arrest and their antecedents are being examined, and it is impossible to learn whether anything important has yet been discovered.

The military authorities are inclined to believe that the incident was the work of two men, one of whom inserted the missles while the other trained the gun. An eye witness has reported that he had seen a cannoneer carefully training the gun, but this does not agree with the statement made by Grand Duke Sergius to a prominent military attache that the gun must have been pointed downward, as the charge struck the ice, reccochetting and two balls entered the imperial pavilion.

One ball also pierce a palace window, others striking the facade of the palace, or actually flying over the palace and dropping around the statue of Alexander I in the Palace Square beyond.

**Death by Carbolic Acid.**

Brandon, Man., Jan. 20.—(Special.)—A Winnipeg woman committed suicide here some time during the night by taking carbolic acid. The woman, whose name was Mattie Borland, came from Winnipeg on Wednesday night's train and proceeded to an east end resort, where her dead body was found this morning. Her husband is an engineer in Winnipeg.

MAP OF WINTER PALACE AND SURROUNDINGS.

**WHERE THE BLAME LIES.**

The people of Ontario will not readily subscribe to the theory that no one can be held responsible for the carnival of fraud and corruption that has disgraced the province. That electorate outrages have been committed over a number of years and thru a series of political crises no one pretends to deny. But the government which coolly accepted the fruits of all this wrongdoing, protected the wrongdoers and continued in office by virtue of a corrupt majority, now contends that the people must hold it blameless. The electorate is asked to confess absolute helplessness in the situation, to grieve, to deplore, but on no account to punish. The proposition might be dismissed as absurd if it was not being carried to the point of insolence.

There must be some way for the people to express their intolerance of electorate outrages. Assuredly that is not by re-asserting confidence in the government in whose behalf the outrages have been committed. The only way to lessen evil is to punish the evildoers. This principle is recognized in the criminal laws of the country, and why should it be relaxed in the case of violations of the election law? The Globe is fearful lest charges of fraud and corruption should be laid at the door of the Ross government. It would fain see public indignation frittering itself away in a vain chase of nameless individuals who did the actual wrong. It is sufficient for The Globe's conscience to know that connection has not been established between the electorate corruption committed and any member of the Ross government. This is a very sweeping acquittal of the members of the Ross government. It is contradicted by the fact that Hon. J. M. Gibson refused to head off the expedition of the Minnie M, of which he was duly warned, and by Hon. E. J. Davis' retention of an organizer in North York who to his (Mr. Davis') personal knowledge had been reported for corrupt practices.

Yet a government may be responsible for electorate outrages which cannot be brought home to the individual ministers. Ministers take very good care to leave the more delicate manipulations of a campaign to individuals and organizations which, if necessary, it can repudiate. Of this we require no further proof than the evidence given by Hon. E. J. Davis in the North York election trial. Mr. Davis confessed ignorance of the make-up of the Central Liberal Association. He did not know who paid the officers of that organization or anything else about it. The same Central Liberal Association is the great political engine of the Ross government, sending money and agents into constituencies when they are needed. When ministers of the crown are in blissful ignorance of the constituent and functions of this association, and such is the sworn statement of Hon. E. J. Davis, how can connection be established between them and electorate outrages? Is it not sufficient indication of their guilt that they have clung tenaciously to the rewards of fraud and corruption, that they have protected the agents of electorate crime and amassed great campaign funds, which are the root of all corruption?

The Globe introduces an unfortunate analogy when it asks if Sir John Thompson laid down the seals of office when Langevin was driven from the government, because under his eye the treasury had been looted unmercifully, or if the Conservatives went out of office over the Curran bridge scandal. Did The Globe refrain from criticizing the government under which these scandals took place and did it maintain that the sole public issue was that which turned on the sins of the individual wrongdoers? Of course The Globe did not argue anything so foolish. It held and rightly held the government responsible for every offence committed in its name or by its agents. But what would The Globe have said if the late Dominion government had seized for its own private use the spoils of the scandals it mentions just as the Ross government has accepted the spoils of electorate outrages? Every seat which has been won for the Ross government by fraud and corruption has been wrested from it at the point of the bayonet. Every inch of legal ground has had to be contested. The Ross government has accepted freely and abandoned grudgingly the spoils gathered by its Sullivans, its Cummings, its Wildfongs, and its Minnie M's. AND YET IT HAS NOT TO BE CALLED TO ACCOUNT FOR THE ELECTORAL DEBAUCHERY FROM WHICH IT ALONE HAS PROFITED. It asks the people to endorse its record and share the odium which it has brought upon itself.

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