

THE MILLIONS OF TREKING PEASANTS

An Army More to Be Dreaded By Russia's Ruler Than Any Other Danger

INFLUENCED BY THE REVOLUTIONISTS

Imbued With the Conviction, He Who Works the Land Should Own it

London, Sept. 22.—Further light upon the great tragedy that is being enacted in Russia is thrown by Dr. Mackenzie Wallace in the Times today, where he discusses the condition of the peasantry...

All told, he says, they are nearly twice as numerous, and they may prove as influential as all the workers in the towns, of whom so much is heard, and the return of this army of laborers from their dispersion in all quarters of the empire may have results not less important than those already foreshadowed...

"The lot of these wanderers," says Dr. Wallace, "is miserable enough. God knows that they are not free from Little Russia and the steppe provinces. Some of them travel as far as 1,000 versts. They are absent from their villages from two to six months and their average wage is 38 rubles, of which they have a minimum outlay of 21 rubles for passport and food en route. This leaves 17 rubles, which makes an average wage of 14 kopecks, or 9 cents a day. Some travel by train in fourth class, or the slowest Volga boats part of the way, but multitudes go on foot. They spend the night wherever they happen to be when darkness falls. They suffer innumerable privations from hunger, cold, heat and sickness, and finally, if they survive, they reach their destination with all their strength spent before they have begun work."

"Land, give us land!" these peasants cry. Nor do they dream of compensating any of the present landowners whom they may dispossess. At the bottom of their hearts is the ineradicable conviction that a man who works on the land has a natural right to it, which if put in the balance against all the positive laws of property makes them kick the beam. "We are the Lord's," they say, "and the land is ours. Yes, they believe in the Lord and before they lie down on empty stomachs on the steps they commit themselves by the sign of the cross to the Divine care. They believe, too, in the Blessed Virgin and the saints and in icons and heaven and hell. This steppe over which they wander loses itself in the dim horizon where the earth and sky mingle and are lost and there, in the blessed background encompassing their wanderers' lives, in the midst of which are superstitions, portents and signs."

"In the Russian revolution what is these peasants' role? It was discovered to me by a man who had been the companion of my journeyings for two days. He forced his company upon me, for while I was driving across the country he sprang upon me, seized my rifle and made demands which, almost with impatience, I had long expected to hear—"hands up! Even if I had possessed a revolver I should not have fired, for I could have been shot in the back of the head. I have seen pitiable specimens of humanity in my day, but none ever stirred my compassion so profoundly as this man, and I thought I gave him the few rubles I had and some of my cigarettes."

"As he smoked he told me his history. For political offence he had been provided by an administrative order with what the peasants appropriately call a wolf's passport, which forces him to a perpetual wanderer on the face of the earth, or such part of it as is under the dominion of the Czar, repeating himself at specified intervals. He goes along and forbids all the Czar's subjects to give him shelter for more than one night. It is the curse of Cain, and certainly this man's punishment is greater than he can bear. Although his sin was not murder, but merely complicity in printing some illegal literature which the government was making vain efforts to suppress, I am told that he has not met a single fellow sufferer since he was banished. He has been in the last four or five months than in earlier times, and it is to be hoped the government has discovered the criminal folly of treating men as wild beasts."

"But during many years the revolutionary leaders have found use for these men, although the government has none. They have organized them peripatetic missionaries to the remote villages, they supply the peasants with revolutionary pamphlets for dissemination in their villages on their return. They teach them the 'Marxellian' and other revolutionary songs, recount to them the heroic deeds of the revolutionary martyrs who by revolver and bomb have executed judgment upon the oppressors of the people and distribute highly colored and still more highly tinged pictures of the French revolution to teach those who cannot read how they ought to act. This man is himself a living picture which no one who has seen it can easily forget."

"Great numbers of these wandering peasants are sometimes to be found massed together. On May 9th, for example, 24,000 of them gathered at the St. Nicholas fair in Khabovka, and where there are missionaries to visit them on the occasion, large floral contributions from friends in other towns adding to those of the bride's many friends at home to make a wealth of display never equalled here before. After the ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. J. Leach-Porter, a sumptuous luncheon was spread at the family home to a large number of friends. The bride couple, accompanied by the train by many friends, took the Canadian Pacific railway east-bound for their residence in the north."

STANDING OF STEAMER THISTLE

Further Advances of Accident to the Lieut.-Governor's Yacht

BROUGHT BY THE PRINCESS MAY

Expected Steamer Would Be Floated Without Difficulty—Injury Slight

MR. STOLTER STOLE MONEY

Sedan, Kansas, Sept. 19.—O. E. Stolter, treasurer of the People's State Bank of Sedan, with deposits of \$75,000, disappeared today, leaving a note saying he was a defaulter and had fled. The safe is time-locked and the amount of money missing is not known.

STUCK IN THE MUD

Seattle, Sept. 19.—For two hours Mrs. Elizabeth A. Benton struggled in a mudflat under an old wharf south of the city. Steadily she sank until when a chance passerby heard her cries for help, the mud was shoveled away. She was dragged out by employees of the Frye-Brunn company's slaughterhouse a short distance away. Later she was removed to the emergency hospital in the ambulance, where she is in a serious condition. She had passed over the old wharf, which was partially rotted away, when a section of it gave way and she dropped ten feet to the tides. The tide was out at the time.

TAKING UP SOME TIMBER LIMITS

Activity Among Timber Cruisers in Woods of Vancouver Island

Quietly, without the public being aware of the extensive nature of the operations, there is an activity on the island that would surprise most people did they know of its existence. While it is not generally recognized by the people of Vancouver Island, yet it is a fact that the timbermen of the Pacific coast will have to look to Vancouver Island for its last great timber supply.

HEAVY DAMAGE FROM FLOODS

El Paso, Tex., Sept. 19.—A Herald despatch from Guadalajara yesterday states that the correspondent of the Jalisco Times at Mazatlan wired his paper as follows: "Thirty-one persons were drowned in the recent floods in Santiago, Ixcuintla, and adjacent districts in the territory of Tepic. The bodies, it is stated, were taken from the river. During the flood many persons took refuge in trees remaining there until boats were sent to their rescue. It is reported that 500 persons are homeless."

ABDUCTION OF CHARLEY ROSS

New York, Sept. 19.—A Galveston special to the World says: "William Van Hodge of this city says he is in greater than he can bear. Although his sin was not murder, but merely complicity in printing some illegal literature which the government was making vain efforts to suppress, I am told that he has not met a single fellow sufferer since he was banished. He has been in the last four or five months than in earlier times, and it is to be hoped the government has discovered the criminal folly of treating men as wild beasts."

GEN. TREPOFF BURIED

St. Petersburg, Sept. 19.—General Demitri Trepoff, who died last Saturday at the age of 70, was buried today. Contrary to expectations the Emperor was not present at the funeral, as His Majesty is still cruising in Finnish waters on board the Imperial yacht "Svetlana". Robert Keim Chapman and Charles Will Craig, of Vancouver, to be notaries public in and for the province of British Columbia under the Liquor License Act, 1906.

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DAVID SPENCER, Ltd.

WESTERN CANADA'S BIG STORE.

Monday will be One of the Busy Days of the Early Autumn Season

Special Preparations Are Being Made for a Busy Exhibition Week, and the Following Exhibition Specials Go on Sale Monday.

A special offering in the Silk Waist Section on Monday

Silk Waists of various styles. Values to \$4.75. On Sale Monday at \$2.75 Each

Monday in the Dress Goods Store

Special Sale of Dress Goods Monday

Two hundred odd ends of new season's tweeds. Plaid effects, tweed mixtures and homespun. Lengths from two to nine yards, suitable for suits, coats and skirts; widths 54 and 56 inches wide. Regular value \$1.25 to \$2.00 a yard. On sale Monday at 75c yd.

On Monday the Exhibition of \$5, \$8 and \$10 Millinery

Women who were impressed by the variety of styles for this winter in our millinery showings three weeks ago will notice that the same idea is carried out in this exhibition.

How to get the effect of style in inexpensive materials is a problem which we solve every season, and we think we have solved it.

Comfort in Flannelette Things

Supplies have come and we have light dresses, drawers, etc. in blue, white and pink. Night dress. A special at \$1.00.

Women's and Children's Underwear

OUR FALL STOCK NOW COMPLETE

Ladies' Vests and Drawers, all kinds. Ladies' Combinations, all weights. Children's Suits, patent children's combinations. Child's Slippers, etc., etc.

Blouses

A large purchase of new flannel and velvet waists, has arrived.

Furs

Elaborate Stock of Furs is shown: mink, fox, seal, ermine, sable, etc.

SIX STYLES IN WOMEN'S COSTUMES

At \$40.00—Costumes of plum cloth, trimmed with silk braid, short jacket style, lined with silk.

At \$30.00—Costumes of tweeds, stripe and check effects, lapels faced with silk.

At \$25.00—Black moire silk, coat lined with striped silk. Regular masculine effect.

At \$17.50—Costumes of various mixed light tweeds; a very effective plain tailored suit.

At \$22.50—Black cloth costume, coat and skirt elaborately trimmed with one-inch braid.

At \$22.50—Black serge costume, rough effect, lined taffeta silk.

At \$35.00—Broadcloth costume, light colors, pleated and stitched.

THE GRAND FALL FAIR

Attendance at the Exhibition Enormous

THE exhibition buildings, an adjoining grounds were taxed to their utmost yesterday noon by the large number of visitors to the big fall fair.

With the glorious sunshine those intended visiting the fair began to find fairways early in the day and ten till three o'clock the cars crowded to suffocation, as when horse races commenced every point vantage and occupied, even the far down on the lower stretch crowded with visitors anxious to catch a glimpse of the flying steeds.

Those who went early were able to inspect the exhibits before the races commenced and their was a continuous stream through the building during the afternoon and had the attendance during the evening was also very good, in fact the attendance left nothing to be desired.

During the rush the attendants kept very busy but nothing occurred that was displeasing and the afternoon appeared to be out for the afternoon were determined to make the best of the opportunity and enjoyed themselves immensely.

The visitors to the fair itself were well pleased with the exhibits and being in commendation could be heard in the exhibit in cabbage which made by Police Officer Abbott.

The judges in the horse department, Mr. F. J. Logan and Geo. Hogie, in charge of Sir Arthur Stepan's ranch, Derby, who had the task of judging horses were highly complimented their decisions, and with one exception no protests were lodged against any of the points.

The stock parade was the first feature on the programme and the winners in the various classes were loudly and proudly paraded on the grandstand. In this connection it might be stated that in referring to the ten handso Clydesdale stallions in yesterday's issue it is not to be taken that this composition will benefit travel in the department.

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By the time the parade was over greater portion of the crowd had reached the grounds, and the judges lost time in getting the race started.

This proved the feature of the afternoon and the large crowd that was present were treated to an exhibition of horse racing which had been, to some extent, anticipated by the more entries than ever seen on the track. After the Wednesday's rain track was in fine condition and so very fast time was made. The finish was a close one and in several places the field could be covered with blanket.

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