

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B. MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1908.

WOMEN WHO GLORY IN MURDERS COMMITTED IN FREEDOM'S NAME

Striking and Typical Stories Showing the Part Women Are Playing in the Warfare Against the Russian Government—A "Sister of Mercy" Who Carried Bombs in a Basket, and a Laboratory for the Manufacture of Infernal Machines—Plots to Assassinate the Czar That Were Planned by Women—Petticoat Rebels Who Devote Themselves to Corrupting the Soldiers.

(Copyright in the United States and Great Britain by Curtis Brown. All Rights Strictly Reserved.) St. Petersburg, Dec. 17.—That a lot of women are mixed up in the revolutionary struggle in Russia, every one who reads the papers must know. They get arrested now and then for assassinating somebody, or, as more frequently happens, for trying to do it and making a mess of the ghastly job. And when they get arrested their stories get in the news. But few readers can have any conception of how many plots in petticoats there are in the Czar's domain, or of the prodigious influence they wield in the movement for overthrowing the government.

and how they play it, I have set down a few typical and true stories which might be extended to fill a volume. Not least among these female rebels against Czarism is Wanda Dobrodzicha, who is in an Austrian prison awaiting the decision of the extradition court. While a student at the St. Petersburg University she joined the revolutionary movement. She longed to "do something great"—to prove her devotion to the cause by putting some high official out of the way. In August, 1906, her opportunity came. The governor-general of Poland was sentenced to death by her party. Wanda begged the committee to allow her to plan and execute his "removal" as the murder of an official is called. She got carte blanche, and took up her residence in Warsaw, where the govern-

ous kinds of bombs; the second plans of the royal palace of Peterhof, Carakole Side, Catches in which the paths and roads used by the imperial family were marked with red ink, and notes made of the villas inhabited by palace dignitaries. Papers found contained the details of a plot to murder the whole of the imperial family and the chief courtiers. Zubova was immediately placed under arrest, of course, and confessed that she thought of all the lives about to be imperiled made her attempt suicide. She soon recovered from her self-inflicted wound, however, and her examination led to the arrest of the other women and several men. The men were all hanged and the women sentenced to hard labor in Siberia.

Tarasova besides being implicated in the "Palace Plot," as it is called, formed an organization whose chief object is to make soldiers and sailors mutiny. This organization is very strong in Viborg and Cronstadt, and though seventeen women have been arrested in connection with it, there is little prospect of its being stamped out. Its members, who have triumphantly taken to the streets in the revolutionary cause at all costs, go into the lowest resorts which they frequent and do not hesitate to sacrifice in order to win them over. It is another case of the end justifying the means. It is said that all the mutinies which have broken out in Russia during the last four years have been hatched in these days by women of the so-called "intelligent classes."

Mary Prokofieva, who lived with one of the male conspirators in the character of a maid and used to let in all the accomplices when meetings were held in the "Grand Hotel" in Petersburg while making bombs in 1906. She was the fiancée of a Cossack named Mitya. Mitya was shot some years ago. Tarasova and Prokofieva are both married women—their husbands were lawyers and have been hanged. It was "Nina" who used to receive the Cossack Kols and tried to persuade him to help in the cause. Nina is an exiled place in the "party" if he would do so. He visited her several times and presented to her a list of names. In each meeting with her he went to the police at Peterhof and gave a detailed account of the interview. Nina's great confederate was a Cossack named Naumov, who had been sent to Siberia some years ago and escaped thence to Petersburg. It would be an endless task to enumerate all the women who have been and are still implicated in the Russian revolutionary movement. They nearly all end their careers in Siberia, where they go to the settlements set apart for political offenders. Some even work in the imperial family's copper and salt mines in the Ural Mountains. This fate has been reserved for those who belong to the "Comrade Nina" organization. A new trial of twenty women is about to take place in Petersburg, and it is quite probable that they have had some connection with "Nina," as their names appeared on lists found in her lodgings. They are charged with helping in the cause of the revolution among soldiers and sailors is due to the new programme of the revolutionists, who, realizing that they do nothing so long as the army and navy remain faithful to the Czar, have decided to convert these ranks into a revolutionary army. The recent "mishap" to the Czar's yacht when in Finnish waters is part of their work. If the revolutionary movement were in the hands of men alone it is possible that it might be stamped out. But enlisting as it does a legion of women who stop at no cost, hesitate at no crime to further the cause, it is doubtful if it ever can be suppressed.

The recent unsuccessful plot against the Czar, which, thanks to a Cossack at the Peterhof Palace, who betrayed the revolutionaries, was discovered, just before it was ripe, resulted in the trial of a large number of revolutionaries, 80 per cent of whom were women and young girls. The head of this large and powerful group was also a girl, Nina Zakhajano, known in her party as "Comrade Nina." She planned the death of Pawlow, the Martial Procurator, and of Von Lango, head of the town of St. Petersburg. It was with her bombs that both these men were killed. She lived as a fashionable milliner in Petersburg, but behind her shop was a large laboratory, fitted up with materials used in bomb-making and containing large stores of firearms and ammunition. To her many admirers she was known as the Grand Duke Nicholas. Nicholas was traveling to St. Petersburg in the spring of 1907 and the subsequent plot to kill the Czar and his family. It was after the failure to blow up the train that the police fell upon traces that led to the discovery of Nina's laboratory. But the most clever of the revolutionaries was traveling to St. Petersburg, where he was traveling continually under false names between Moscow and Peterhof. Finally Nina was condemned to death, but her sentence has been commuted to life-long exile in Siberia.

The women who helped her in the plot against the Czar, and who made friends with the Cossacks who kept guard at the palace are: Zubova, Mary Prokofieva, Olga Emma, Anna Dagit, Tarasova, Fedosieva and Peshkova. The life history of each of these women would provide material for a sensational novel; but space forbids more than a mere sketch of each. It was through Zubova the plot against



NEWA ZAKHAYANO. She was a Laboratory for the manufacture of Infernal Machines in-Corrupting with Her Millions. She and Was the Leading Agent in Plans to Assassinate the Czar.

general lives. She and her younger brother, who obeyed her instructions, and played only a minor part in the plot, took a flat in Natalina street, next door to the house occupied by the German vice consul, Von Lange, a young man who had arrived recently in Russia, and therefore knew little about the inhabitants. Von Lange was walking down the street one morning, when a man dressed in the uniform of an artillery officer stopped him, hit him twice full in the face and ran off.

Von Lange at once telegraphed an incognito account of the insult he had received at the hands of a Russian officer to his embassy at St. Petersburg. The governor-general did all he could to trace the insult, but failed. As a matter of fact it was no other than the brother of Wanda, dressed up as an officer in an old uniform bought from a Hebrew dealer in second-hand clothes. But the trick had the desired effect, for the governor-general had instructions from St. Petersburg to call in the German vice consul and apologize for a Russian officer's misconduct. This, of course, was just what Wanda wanted to bring the governor-general into the street in which she lived. For three days she and her brother kept watch on the balcony await-



OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF POLAND. The Cross indicates the House from Which Wanda Dobrodzicha Threw the Bombs at Him.

ing the arrival of his proposed victim, who always drives about with an escort of Cossacks. At last the quiet street resounded with the clatter of horses' hoofs. The Governor-General was coming to call on Von Lange. Wanda's fair head—she wore a golden wig—appeared in her balcony. The great man drove up to the Vice Consul's door, and afraid to stay in the street, entered the house, while his adjutant went upstairs to see if the Vice Consul was at home. As it happened, Von Lange was out, so the Governor-General reentered his carriage and the whole cortege started for the palace. It was then that Wanda threw the bombs she had prepared from her balcony, and the result was another demonstration of the limitations of the

the Czar was discovered. She used to be a nurse in the Borkin barracks near Peterhof, and for a long time the authorities did not suspect that she was anything more than an ordinary Sister of Mercy. One evening the report of firearms was heard in her room. The servants went to it, to find that she had shot herself in the head, but was still living. As a usual in such cases, the police were called to make a list of the wounded woman's effects, while she was sent to the hospital. When overhauling her things they opened two large wicker baskets of the pattern used by Russian women for their body linen. To their amazement they discovered that one contained bombs, explosives, firearms, illegal literature and cylinders, for making the newest and most danger-

FRANCIS N. POWELL. REV. T. O. DEWITT DEAD AT BEAVER HARBOR. The Baptist clergy of the province suffered a distinct loss in the death of Rev. Thomas O. DeWitt, of Hoyt Station, Sunbury county, which took place on Friday evening, several years ago. Mr. DeWitt sustained a fall and had not been in robust health since, but for the past year had been preaching at Beaver Harbor, where he had been very successful. Rev. Mr. DeWitt was one of the oldest of the Baptist clergymen of the province. He belonged to the Free Baptists from his youth, and early in life took up the work of ministering to the people. His ready flow of language, natural talent and capacity for absorbing knowledge compensated for the lack of a classical education, and his stirring, forceful words brought many a sinner to repentance in time of revival. The church at Central Hillside has been much stronger since a great revival he conducted there with the assistance of the late Rev. John MacKenzie some twelve years ago, when he himself baptised forty converts.

NEW BRUNSWICK GIRL MARRIED IN MALDEN. The marriage of Miss Anabel Fraser and Edwin G. Lane, 35 Robert terrace, occurred on Wednesday evening, March 25, at the parsonage of the Central Methodist church, Malden (Mass.). Rev. John R. Shannon, D. D., officiated, and the single ring service was used. The bride was attired in a blue traveling suit with hat to match and carried a bouquet of bridal roses. She was attended by her cousin, Miss Eva M. Fraser, who was attired in pink silk with lace trimmings and carried a bouquet of pinkies. Harry Lane, brother of the groom, was best man. The favors included an opal stickpin to the bride, and a gold brooch pin to the bridegroom. The happy couple immediately left on a wedding tour through New Hampshire. Miss Fraser belongs to St. Martin's (N. B.), a daughter of the late Wm. H. Fraser.

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Fawn Coating at a very special price. We have on sale a lot of 66 inch, very stylish, Invisible Fawn Plaid Coating, pure wool, regular \$1.90 quality on sale for \$1.00. These are some of the goods that we promised to put on sale during the month of special prices. This material will make a handsome spring Coat at a very small cost.

Navy Blue Corded Silk suitable for lining, regular 85 cent quality on sale at 39 cents. It makes a handsome lining for a light spring jacket and, as blues are the leading shades, this ought to be in big demand at such a low price.

Colored Shantung Silks. The natural shade at 47 and 79 cents a yard. The first price is 27 inches wide and the latter 33 inches. Both have a fine texture and are pure silk.

Also Navy, Brown and Green Shantung Silks 27 inches wide 75 cents a yard.

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GOOD ROADS UP IN ONTARIO NOW

Their Great Importance to Farmers Emphasized by Sir Mortimer Clarke.

Toronto, March 28.—Lieutenant-Governor Sir Mortimer Clarke attended at the opening of the fifth annual meeting of the Western Ontario Good Roads Association in York county council room yesterday afternoon.

His honor emphasized the importance to the country of good roads, comparing the attitude thereof of the ancient Romans and the Canadians today. Under the ancient Roman Empire, said his honor, only men of the greatest ability and highest position were appointed to take charge of the roads, which were regarded as an essential element in the prosperity and stability of the empire. With this standard, Ontario compared unfavorably. He knew of one case where a roadmaster had put \$600,000 on the road when he might at less expense have put good gravel, and then explained his action by saying that the gravel would make the roads hard and the farmers would complain of having to have their horses reared.

In Canada hitherto attention had been given chiefly to railway construction and municipalities had been assessed to bonus these and properly so because the establishment of a railway was a great boon. Railways, however, would be of little benefit to the farmers unless there were good roads to connect the farm and the railway.

It was unfortunate, said his honor, that farmers had been rather disinclined to spend much money on the road because the construction of such roads would be of immense value to them financially. During many years of his professional practice he had been connected with loan companies and he knew that the value of a farm depends largely upon its situation in relation to the roads. The bad roads blocked the transport of goods to the market, causing both loss and injury, to say nothing of the wear and tear upon horses, wagons and harness.

The social life of the farmer, continued his honor, would be improved by good roads. Farmers living away from the railroad were isolated largely because of the bad roads. It was a matter of great consequence to the country to make farm life happy and comfortable for the young. The disposition of the younger generation to move to the cities and towns was greatly to be deprecated and this would be checked by the building of good roads, which would improve the opportunities of social intercourse.

The people of Ontario had entered upon a new era, said his honor, and the province of Ontario was the greatest in the British Empire, not only in its wealth, but also in the condition of its people and their manner of livelihood. It was their duty to utilize this wonderful heritage to its greatest possible extent and this could not be done unless great care was taken of the roads.

The province was indebted to the association for the interest its members had taken in the question of good roads, said his honor, and he hoped that they would continue their work and educate the public mind, for otherwise the question would fall asleep.

W. Pugsley of Richmond Hill, president of the association, thanked the lieutenant-governor for having been present at the meeting and for the interest he and the more easily the farmer could get his product to the market the better for the farmer. Warden Keith of York county said that there were many obstacles in the way of good roads, but in finding means to overcome these difficulties the meeting would be doing a public service. Frost, he thought, was the great enemy of good roads and spring thaws washed away a great deal of the work of the previous season. He was sorry to say that the County of York had not yet adopted the county system of roads.

BANK MAKES CLERKS CONFESS. Looked Them Up for Two Days After Shortage Was Discovered and Locked Their Scheme.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 28.—Henry Reiber, paying teller, and John Young, auditor, who are accused of a \$300,000 defalcation by the Farmers' Deposit National Bank, were kept locked in a room in the basement of the bank building for two days after suspicion was directed toward them until a complete confession was wrung from them. It is declared the men speculated in mining stocks, depending entirely on the amount of the bank's credit with the New York correspondent to cover their speculations. When the bank examiner came the cash was always counted first, and the books inspected. As soon as the cash was counted Young and Reiber would hurry enough cash to New York to cover the amount of their latest theft. When suspicion was directed towards them the bank examiner appeared and went over the books first, and then took two days to count the cash. In this way they were prevented from sending any money to New York.

There was consternation today among local brokers over the arrest of Harry Silberman, the local representative of Miller & Co., brokers of New York and Pittsburg, who is charged with conspiring with Reiber and Young to defraud the bank of \$300,000. There is but one similar case on record. That case was carried through all the courts, the broker finally losing. The courts maintained that the broker should not have permitted a poor bank employe handling other people's money to specu-

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ICE GOES OUT OF THE KENNEBEC RIVER. Bath, Me., March 28.—The Kennebec river opened to navigation today from Augusta to the sea. This is the earliest the ice has left for years. The date a year ago was April 15.

C. P. R. Station Destroyed by Lightning. Toronto, March 29.—(Spe i 11).—The C. P. R. station at Weston was struck by lightning and burned to the ground Saturday

Another Good Show at Nibels. Four more brand new pictures—the famous Pathé make—and two stirring national songs will be the Nibel's features today and tomorrow, and the combination will prove irresistible as an entertainment. The pictures are: A Wedding in Brittany, a most remarkable photographic record of a marriage ceremonial among quaint people in one of the quaintest countries on earth; "We Won a Pig" a joke at a picnic; A Different Position, or a dad's dilemma at a dance, and The Angel of the Village, a pathetic story of a parentless child. These pictures are all unquestionably new and were published not earlier than two weeks ago at the Pathé laboratories. Sydney Beckley, English basso, who has been quite ill, will return with that inspiring British air rule Britannia, elaborately illustrated, and Mr. Maxwell, by request, will sing "Way Did They Sell Killarney."

Livers Exchanged. If the active liver of the cod-fish could be put into the place of the torpid liver of the consumptive it would probably do him a world of good. Next best thing is Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil. Almost as good as a new liver. The great power of SCOTT'S EMULSION as a flesh-producer proves that much of the activity of the cod's liver is contained in every spoonful. All Druggists; 50c. and \$1.00.

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