

CZAR DEFIES PARLIAMENT; CIVIL WAR IMMINENT.

House May Make Fiery Reply and Compel Dissolution.

Czar Refused to Receive Parliamentary Deputation Presenting Address Demanding Constitutional Government—The Members Are Wild With Rage and a Rupture Seems Unavoidable.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 20.—A bomb was thrown into the parliament chamber this afternoon by a note received by President Mouroumstef of the lower house, from Peterhof, which, instead of making an appointment for a deputation to receive the address in reply to throne, contained the information that Emperor Nicholas would not receive the deputation, and that the address must be presented through the ministry of the court.

Disconcerted utterly at this unexpected development, the leaders of the majority in the house hastily summoned a caucus of the constitutional democratic deputies. President Mouroumstef, instead of sending the address to Baron Fredericks, minister of the imperial house, immediately issued a call for a meeting of parliament at eleven o'clock tomorrow, at which he will report the occurrence and the further instructions. A most heated meeting is in prospect.

The first disposition of the caucus of constitutional democrats which was in session all the afternoon and evening of yesterday, was to regard the refusal to receive the deputation as a challenge and an open affront which was only answerable by a counter declaration of war.

The deputies were red with rage, but after the first passion had cooled, the leaders realized the danger of precipitate action and set for themselves the task of bringing their enraged followers under control. Outsiders were not admitted to the caucus, but through the glass doors of the hall of the Constitutional Club, when the session was held, it could be seen that Professor Mikukoff, Prince Peter Delgouroff, vice-presidents of the lower house; Prince Prot, Professor Kareff and others were on their feet and again pleading with and commanding their auditors to act deliberately and not ruin all by unreasonable passion. The cooler counsels seemed ultimately to be prevailing, but it is almost certain that the radical group, accompanied by a portion of the peasantry, will break away tomorrow and endeavor to force the house into some fiery declaration against the emperor and the government which will compel an immediate rupture, entail dissolution and civil war.

An interesting constitutional point is involved in the refusal of a personal audience by the emperor. According to the parliamentary law "the president submits to the consideration of the emperor the transactions of the lower house," but it is not stated whether he does so personally and a deputation is here now authorized.

The Associated Press is informed by a member of the ministry that Emperor Nicholas was willing to receive President Mouroumstef, but that the president of the house in appointing a delegation to accompany him was regarded as a dangerous precedent, capable of being stretched to include a deputation of any size—even the whole of the membership of the house. This minister intimated that if the leaders of the house desired to avoid a rupture they could do so either by accepting the instructions to present the address through the ministry of the court as a proper and justifiable matter of routine, or, by keeping within the limits of the constitutional provision, direct the president of the house to apply alone for an audience. It was pointed out that no distinction had been made between the lower house and the council of the empire and that the last named body had also been instructed to present its address through the same channel.

President Mouroumstef again went to Peterhof this evening in order to be presented to the emperor, who had no opportunity of meeting him during the ceremonies there Saturday. He did not see the emperor.

RUSSIA HOPES FOR BRITAIN'S FRIENDSHIP

Visit of British Squadron to Cronstadt is Looked Upon as a Good Sign.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 21.—The paper's this morning are full of comment regarding the proposed visit of a British squadron to Cronstadt this summer, most of them considering it a further overture for an Anglo-Russian entente, though it is also regarded as another step in Great Britain's altered naval strategy which looks upon the Baltic and the North Sea as the most probable battlegrounds of the future.

The twentieth century regards the prospects of an entente with approval, declaring that it would make for the world's peace by neutralizing the ambitious diplomacy of Germany, facilitate the solution of the Balkan question and give Russia time to recuperate without fear of foreign aggression.

In this connection rumors of the forthcoming meeting between Emperor William and Emperor Nicholas are received with interest. This is believed to be a move on the part of the German emperor to prevent a consummation of Great Britain's policy by bringing his personal influence to bear upon Emperor Nicholas.

RUSHING TROOPS TO SANTO DOMINGO

PHILADELPHIA, May 20.—The cruiser Columbia, which arrived at the League Island Navy Yard several days ago to undergo repairs, is being hastily prepared for sea and will leave for Santo Domingo tomorrow with 600 marines. Under hurry orders from the navy department detachments of marines from Boston, Brooklyn, Washington and Norfolk arrived here during the day and are on board the Columbia. The cruiser expects to be ready to steam away at ten a. m.

HE SEES ITS FINISH.

LONDON, May 21.—The Daily Telegraph's St. Petersburg correspondent declares that the days of the Russian parliament are numbered. He says: "In the eyes of the court party parliament is already dead, the only question not solved being how and when to arrange a decent burial. My belief is that the crown will dissolve the parliament, promulgate a narrow electoral law and order new elections, which will result in the return of its own parliament."

The biggest bargains are useless unless possible buyers are informed that they exist.—Fairport, N. Y., Mail.

MYSTERY SURROUNDING THE MISSING BABES.

Hundreds of People Joined in the Search Yesterday.

Many Think Action of Parents is Suspicious—Mother Apparently Does Not Worry Much—Spiritualists Consulted, But Spirits Failed to Agree.

SACKVILLE, N. B., May 20.—The mystery surrounding the disappearance last Sunday night of the two children is becoming even more mysterious and puzzling as time passes. The impression was strong that when Sunday came and hundreds joined in the search that the dead bodies would surely be found, thus throwing light on the terrible affair, but when fully two hundred men and boys searched diligently throughout the day; when the woods were covered carefully for miles by a living chain, the stoutest hearts have begun to lose their courage and all hope is being abandoned. How the children could penetrate the thick under brush, travel over obstructions that try the strength of men and so quickly get beyond distance is one of the most mysterious things that can possibly be imagined.

It was a serious looking crowd that left the station of the N. B. and P. E. I. railway today for the scene of the mystery. More than thirty relatives of the Creemers, ready and willing to do their part in the effort to find the children. Everyone was impressed with the seriousness of the quest and there was a decided absence of levity. The train reached Maiden about noon and there the crowd was met by John Henderson, who acted as a guide through the woods. Following an old road for perhaps one and a half miles, the party at length emerged in a clearing which lies immediately in the rear of the house of Mrs. Tremholm, mother of the children. This house lies at the end of the branch road, or lane, on which one other house, that of Creemer's is situated. The Tremholm and Creemer houses are a little more than a quarter of a mile apart. Mrs. Tremholm's husband is dead, but she has nine sons, the youngest being about seven years old, and one daughter, Alexandra Tremholm stayed long enough at her grandmother's to get a drink of water and then went further up the shore to Thomas Briggs's place, where he found John Creemer. Alexander says that he remained there about the quarter of an hour, and was about starting for home when Gena, Creemer's oldest girl, arrived with the news that the children had been lost. Creemer and Alexander then started on the run for the Creemer house and joined in the search. This statement accounts for Creemer's time pretty well and seems to indicate clearly that whatever has happened to the children Creemer himself had nothing to do with it.

Excitement over the whole affair continues to grow. There is no other topic of conversation, and dozens of different theories and explanations are propounded, but none will bear investigation.

Some persons who know very little of the matter think that Russell Tremholm knows more of the matter than he says or admits, and urge strongly that he be arrested, while others who have searched the woods and investigated the matter carefully and without prejudice are as firmly convinced that he is entirely innocent. The location of the children being drowned is very improvable. The stream near the Creemer house is very narrow and is stopped up with logs and drift wood in many points. It would be impossible for the children to fall in, or stream and be carried out to sea, for the current at that point is not sufficiently strong to carry bodies out, and anyway the creek was searched thoroughly after the disappearance at a time when the tide was out.

The stories of Russell Tremholm and Gena Creemer, of which mention was made in Saturday's Sun, are not so conflicting as would at first appear. The Sun representative carefully questioned both of them, and the only point of difference seems to be in reference to the position in which the children and Russell were last seen. The variation is not at all material and does not cast suspicion on Russell Tremholm, who appears to tell the exact truth. He is extremely difficult to believe that he is being guilty of an outrage and a murder as some whisper. The lad is only fifteen years old and bears an excellent reputation. All the neighbors give him a splendid name, and the absence of any motive for a crime would seem to prove pretty conclusively that he is innocent of any wrong. The statement of Mrs. Creemer that little Ollie had said that Russell was a nasty dirty brute, as he had taken improper liberties with her, is not taken very seriously by either Creemer or his wife. They both say that they always considered Russell a very fine boy, and they do not for a moment believe that the children's absence is due to any act of his. Mrs. Creemer seems to bear up remarkably well, too well many think. She is a woman above the average height, with light brown hair and very large blue eyes. She does not bear evidences of grief that one might expect. All the mothers in the vicinity are nearly crazy over the disappearance, but she seems either callous or perfectly self-controlled. She looks pale of course and her skin has a transparent look, but she smiled while in conversation with the Sun and discussed the whole affair in a thoroughly dispassionate manner.

Her husband on the other hand seemed terribly broken up. He talked as though suffering from unbearable pain. Whether this was assumed or whether he really feels as badly as he seems, is a big question. Certainly it is that on Tuesday he absented himself from the search and got drunk, arriving home in the evening in an ugly mood. He ordered out the man who was in the house, but instead of complying the latter knocked Creemer down.

The Creemer house is a very poor

shack, consisting of a living room, very small bedroom, porch and pantry. No part of the house is plastered, and upstairs is not even partitioned off. The whole place looks poverty stricken.

Gena Creemer is a bright girl, with large dark brown eyes and long brown hair. She speaks with distinctness, and seems to understand the loss of her brother and sister.

With the exclusion of the probability of foul play by following out the various clues, the theory of kidnapping has gained ground. Many are firmly convinced that the children are not in the woods, but that they have been taken away by some one, perhaps with the connivance or assistance of the father, or mother, or both. But just why either would take the trouble to get the children away is not an easy question to solve.

As each searcher returns after weary hours spent in travelling through the woods, opinion grows that the children are not in the forest unless they are concealed.

The report is in circulation that spirit-bodies have travelled carefully through the woods for miles, but no trace has been found. It is true that a number of foot-prints have been seen, but very little dependence can be placed in them. The Tremholm family much worked up over the attempt of someone to steal the children, drank liquor with a view of getting possession of evidence which might possibly prove incriminating. They feel very angry over the affair.

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THUNDER NEARLY CAUSED PANIC

In Crowded Audience in Glace Bay Theatre

Terrific Electrical Disturbance—Considerable Damage in Cape Breton Town McKenzie House Penetrated

GLACE BAY, May 20.—What developed into the most terrific electrical disturbance known in Glace Bay in years began shortly after nine o'clock last night, and for over an hour lightning played almost incessantly about the town. The lightning was unaccompanied by thunder save at rare intervals, but when they came together there was damage done. Peter McKenzie with his wife and daughter were sitting in the dining room when without warning a deafening crash fell upon their ears. The lightning had struck their house. It penetrated the roof in the rear, descended through the bedroom to the kitchen, working its exit then fortunately through the kitchen window but leaving no flames in its wake.

Although badly scared the McKenzie family sent in an alarm of fire. The department quickly responded, and in a short time had the fire out. The rear of the house, however, is badly damaged. Mrs. McKenzie collapsed at the time and was revived with difficulty.

The same flash of lightning put the electric light service for the upper portion of the town, out of business. There are many stories about the streets today of shocks received by different people.

The Jere McAllister Dramatic Co. was playing at the King's theatre to a crowded house during the storm, and when the big clap came many left the theatre and a panic was barely averted.

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BALLOON RAILWAY THE LATEST THING

Adrian Engineer Invents a New System.

Gas Bag Fastened to Single Steel Rail and Car Seating Ten Persons.

GENEVA, May 19.—An Austrian engineer, Herr Balderauer, of Salzburg, has been experimenting with much success in the mountains near Salzburg with a novel balloon railway.

It consists of a large captive balloon attached to a single steel rail, which in turn is fixed firmly to the side of a steep mountain, whose precipitous slopes no other form of railway could climb without making a series of serpentine detours and passing through tunnels.

The balloon remains balanced in the air about ten yards above the rail, to which it is attached by a stout wire cable, and it is moved up and down the side of the mountain at the will of the engineer.

For an ascent the balloon itself furnishes the lifting force by means of hydrogen; for the descent a large reservoir attached to the balloon is filled with water at the highest station, and serves as "brake."

Under the balloon is a circular car, seating ten persons. The wire cable from the balloon passes through the floor of the car to a speed regulator underneath, which is controlled by the engineer.

Herr Balderauer has made dozens of ascents both alone and with the car filled with people, and has never had an accident.

The inventor claims that the balloon railway will replace the funicular railway in the future. It is cheap to construct and the sensation while travelling is delightful.

The passengers are whirled up thousands of feet in a few seconds, without the slightest jar. The balloon can be instantly released in case it becomes unmanageable, and an automatic brake keeps the car under control.

HE BELIEVES THAT JAPAN IS AFTER AUSTRALIA

And Senator Dawson Insults the Admiral of a Japanese Training Squadron—Calls Him a Spy.

LONDON, May 21.—The Chronicle's Melbourne correspondent says that Senator Dawson, former Minister of Defence, has declined to accept the hospitality of the Japanese admiral of the training squadron visiting Australia. He explained that he did not wish to be discourteous but that he would not be a hypocrite and said he believed the Japanese came to spy upon the land. Senator Dawson prophesies, the correspondent says, that Japan some day will endeavor to seize Australia. The correspondent adds that Mr. Dawson's action is condemned, but that his views reflect the secret fear of many Australians.

METHODISTS AND DANCING.

Rev. Dr. Salton, of Ottawa, Says It is No Sin.

OTTAWA, May 20.—"Is dancing a sin?" This question was asked by Rev. G. F. Salton at the Methodist district meeting in Dominion church. Only one answer was ventured, and it was in the affirmative. The questioner contended, however, that it was no sin to dance. A good part of the session was taken up in discussing with much vigor and outspokenness a motion made by Rev. Mr. Salton and seconded by Mr. J. E. Caldwell, that the rules of the church, except those of a historical nature, should be eliminated from the discipline.

Mr. Salton supported his motion in a speech that made his auditors sit up. He began his argument by laying down the premise that if there was a man in Canada keeping the law, then it would be better to have no law. He then proceeded with his argument and made the somewhat startling statement that there was not a single member of the Methodist church, including ministers, that kept all the rules of the church. Why, then, stultify themselves by having rules that they did not keep, the minister that came to his congregation and said that he preached and practiced all the rules said in effect, "I lie."

The discussion was continued by several ministers and laymen, and the motion was voted down.

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE NEXT.

It Will be Subject Before Insurance Commission Today.

TORONTO, May 19.—When the insurance commission resumes its sessions this week, the first company to be investigated will be the North American Life. This investigation follows logically upon the Union Life and National Agency enquiry, as the industrial and provident branch of the North American was taken over by the National Agency, and forms the foundation of the present business. Subpoenas have been issued to officials of the North American.

DONALDSON LINER HESTIA FLOATED

Towed to Safe Anchorage and Closely Inspected

HALIFAX, N. S., May 20.—The Donaldson liner Hestia, which struck Horse Race Ledge, off Cape Sable a week ago Saturday and was subsequently towed in leaking condition to Shelburne and beached there, was successfully floated Saturday afternoon, after cargo had been partially discharged. She was towed to safe anchorage at Sand Point and closely inspected. She will be temporarily repaired to enable her to proceed to Halifax for docking.

A FARGO LAYOUT.

Egyptian mummies are said to be spreading consumption. At the same time, Moses can hardly be held responsible, this being one of the plagues he forgot when he was disciplining Pharaoh.

Five Picture Post Cards

of local views, will be sent to any SEMI-WEEKLY SUN subscriber who sends one dollar on his arrears of subscription account to the Sun Office.

A splendid picture of King Edward VII, and 5 Picture Post Cards, will be sent to any new or old subscriber sending to the Sun office 75 cents for a subscription one full year in advance and making the request.

SUN PRINTING COMPANY, St. John, N. B.

DR. HERRIDGE AT ST. ANDREWS

122nd Anniversary Observed by Presbyterian Church

Large Congregations Hear Scholarly and Learned Sermon by the Ottawa Clergyman

Rev. W. T. Herridge of St. Andrew's church, Ottawa, preached at both services yesterday afternoon at the 122nd anniversary of the founding of the congregation. Large congregations were present at both services, the number at the evening service being especially large.

Rev. Mr. Lang announced that the collections would go to help pay off the bonded debt of the church. He also said that the excellent history of the church, the work of his honor Judge Forbes, would be bound in the year book of the church.

The music at both services was unusually good. In the morning solos were sung by Miss Baird and Judge Willich and in the evening by Mrs. Fred McNeil. The choruses were scholarly and well delivered. The evening sermon being taken from the words, "Leave me alone, what have I to do with thee, Jesus of Nazareth."

This evening the Ottawa clergyman will lecture in the church on the subject The Conduct of Life.

TROUBLE BREWING IN BORNEO AGAIN

Grave Native Disturbances Reported From Brunel.

Malays Prove Antagonistic to Spread of Civilization—To be Annexed to Straits Settlement.

LONDON, May 20.—Reports of unrest in Borneo have been received in this country, and Rajah Brooke, of Sarawak, stated that he had received a telegram announcing the outbreak of grave disturbances in Brunel. It is stated that a feeling of unrest has prevailed in Brunel for some time past. Brunel is in parts almost surrounded by Sarawak territory.

The Colonial Office recently took over the administration of the country, and the Malays are displaying some antagonism to the spread of civilization.

Enquiries at the Colonial Office show that the department has received no news on the subject.

With regard to the question of the administration of Brunel, it is officially declared that the Imperial Government having taken back Labuan from its direct administration, the administration of the British North Borneo Company, the government of Labuan having in former times been combined with the Consul-Generalship of Borneo, it will now be combined with the duties of Resident and Adviser to the Sultan of Brunel.

It is contemplated that Brunel will be administered on similar lines to the Federated Malay States, and Labuan and the residency in Brunel will be directly under the Governor of the Straits Settlement.

A BOUGUREAU OR A LION?

"Isn't that a Bougureau?" asked Mrs. Oldcastle, as they stopped for a moment to look at the new pictures. "A lion," replied the hostess, "this is a lion. But I told Justice when he brought it home that it looked a good deal more like one of them things you mention."—Chicago Record-Herald.

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POLICY

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W. H. THORN