

STRIKE TURNED INTO REBELLION

MOSCOW SCENE OF FURTHER BLOODSHED

Revolutionary Leaders Admit Attitude of the Russian Army Will Decide the Issue.

Moscow, Dec. 23.—(Midnight).—The situation hourly is growing worse. The insurgents hold several quarters of the city and fighting continues desperately. Two large arms stores have been pillaged and the weapons distributed among the men who have erected barricades along the Sadova, which encircles the city.

The military has succeeded in isolating various sections, preventing communication. From the heights, colored signal rockets are showing instructions to the isolated commanders.

The searchlights on the Soukour and other towers illuminate the streets where the fighting is proceeding. The roar of cannon continues. Machine guns are being employed to clear the Sadova.

It is impossible to estimate the dead and wounded, but they probably run into the thousands.

In a square in the heart of the city, the insurgents are making a desperate fight from houses, using an English machine gun from the windows against a battery which is cannonading them.

The Plan Failed.

Moscow, Dec. 24, 2 a.m.—The plan of the armed rising of the proletariat was to seize the St. Petersburg station at dawn on Saturday, take possession of the Duma building, capture the State bank and proclaim a provisional government. The workers had the task of taking the station, the object of which was to prevent communication and the dispatch of troops from St. Petersburg. The student revolutionary organizations were to have captured the Duma building at the bank.

Governor-General Duboussoff learned of the scheme at a conference at the palace on Friday night and decided to put it down ruthlessly. He also accepted the offer of the revolutionaries, Prince Tcherbatoff, to organize a militia composed of loyalists. The attack on the station at dawn failed.

Government Confident.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 24, 8:30 p.m.—With Moscow's baptism of blood the revolutionaries made good their threat to transform the strike into armed rebellion. In the next forty-eight hours should determine whether they can marshal sufficient strength to plunge the country into an active state of civil war and seriously threaten the immediate downfall of the government.

The government professes confidence that the whole attempt will fail owing to the insufficiency of arms in possession of the proletariat and the open support of a few regiments might start a landslide in the army. Certainly the shrewdest of the revolutionary leaders fully appreciate that their fate is decided by the army.

Attitude of the Army.

which has yet to cast its die. Instructions have gone forth that rifles must occur everywhere in order to test the troops; and if a foothold can be secured, it is the intention of the revolutionaries to set up a provisional government and proclaim a republic.

Thus far reports from Moscow do not clear up the vital point as to whether any of the troops there actually refused to obey commands, although there are persistent rumors that they did. Revolutionary leaders here claim to have confirmation of reports that a grenadier brigade and some Cossacks mutinied and are now locked up in their barracks.

While the military succeeded everywhere in driving the insurgents from their barracks in Moscow Saturday night, the defeat was evidently not a decisive one, as barricades were again thrown up in dozens of places this morning and fighting resumed before 11 o'clock.

The Associated Press understands that orders have been issued for an uprising here, but the government's measures seemingly

Render This Impossible.

No meetings, public or private, are allowed, which makes an assembly of more than five persons in a private lodging illegal.

Some 300 revolutionary militiamen arrived here by special train from Petrovo on the Moscow-Kazan at about 11 o'clock this morning and a crowd of 2,000 strikers, including several hundred local militiamen, joined the new arrivals outside the Kazan station.

Rumors were purposely circulated that a conflict would be inaugurated at a demonstration of workmen in the Nevsky prospect this afternoon, but they proved to be unfounded. It was a bright, crisp winter day, and smart sleighs and equipages of the aristocracy, with their occupants cloaked in furs and other rich furs, were out in force. Only the sullen faces of the crowds of strikers on the sidewalks

and the heavy horse and foot patrols on every block looked ominous. If the plans of the revolutionaries to produce an uprising in St. Petersburg fail, as it is believed they will, an attempt certainly will be made to terrorize the government by guerrilla warfare, in which bombs will play the chief role. The government having embarked on a war against the "reds," it is difficult to see how it can draw back one step.

The acceptance by Governor-General Duboussoff of Moscow of the offer of the notorious reactionary, Prince Tcherbatoff, to organize the "loyalists" as a militia, has created a shudder of horror.

The Moscow Fight.

London, Dec. 25.—The Daily Telegraph's St. Petersburg correspondent, describing the fighting at Moscow, says:

"The first shots were fired by the revolutionaries on the troops outside Fidler's school, which was surrounded. The revolutionaries were given one hour in which to surrender. Fifty-five minutes had passed and the commanders of the troops were about to give the order to fire when a volley came from the house. Several soldiers were killed or wounded. The troops immediately replied. Soon a white handkerchief was waved from a window. The troops entered, but they were

Met With Rifle Fire and they retired and again bombarded the house. Shortly afterwards a white flag was again waved and the surrender of the revolutionaries was completed.

The correspondent also describes the fighting in other sections of the city, resulting in every case in the defeat of the revolutionaries.

"The desperate courage of the mob," the correspondent says, "was marvellous. Units of three, tens and hundreds would rally forth, be driven back and rally again against the enormous odds, eager to accomplish their mission. Early in the evening the hospitals were filled and private dwelling houses were crowded with the wounded.

"The municipal authorities, the Tverskaja, looks like a street in a city captured by a foreign army. Sivovac fires burn in the streets and rifles are stacked on the pavements. During all the night a region of blood in old Moscow the people were shopping, visiting and otherwise carrying on the ordinary occupations as though nothing in particular was going on.

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"So far as one can judge it will end in the complete defeat of the anarchists, who will be silenced in Russia for several years.

"In the station at Yelna on the Kieff and Voronezh line, entire families of railway officials and strikers have been attacked on the pavements. During all the night a region of blood in old Moscow the people were shopping, visiting and otherwise carrying on the ordinary occupations as though nothing in particular was going on.

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SUDDEN DEATH OF HON. R. PREFONTAINE

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries Passed Away in Paris on Sunday Evening.

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—A Canadian Association Press dispatch from London, dated December 25th, says:

"Private advices from Paris say that Hon. Mr. Prefontaine died suddenly at 9 o'clock last night.

"After transacting some important government business here he went to Paris a couple of weeks ago in company with Hon. Rodolph Lemeux, solicitor-general for Canada. The cause of death was aneuria pectoris."

Sir Wilfrid Laurier received to-day a telegram of condolence with the relatives and friends of the late Minister of the firm of Prefontaine, Archer &

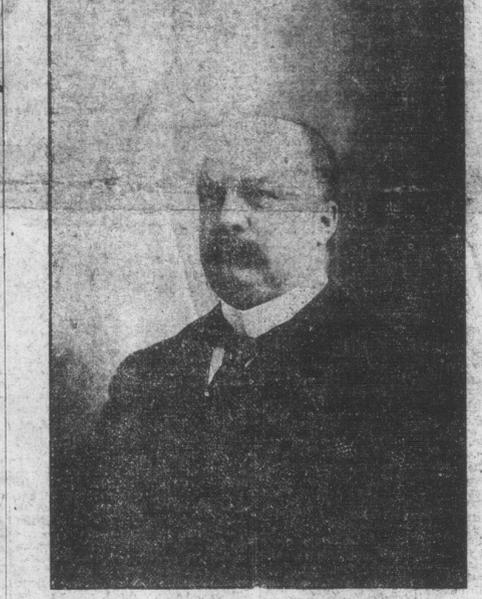
Hon. Mr. Prefontaine had \$45,000 life insurance. Of this amount \$35,000 is said to have been put on last year.

The Ottawa Journal says in the death of Raymond Prefontaine the Dominion and the Empire loses one of their best men.

Mr. Joseph Raymond Fournier Prefontaine, K. C., was the son of Toussaint Prefontaine. He was born at Longueuil, Que., on September 16th, 1850. Educated by private tuition and at St. Mary's College, Montreal, he later graduated with the degree of B. C. L. from McGill University. He was called to the bar in 1873, and was made Q. C. in 1886. He became a member of the committee on foreign and colonial affairs of the chamber; Minister of War, Finance and Minister of Marine.

Should the claims of the friends of M. Fallieres of an assured majority materialize, the contest would be short and decisive; however, the sharpness of the struggle between M. Fallieres and Doumer may prolong the contest and lead to the presentation of a dark horse in the person of Premier Rouvier, who has thus far withheld from the contest.

President Loubet has positively declined to be a candidate for a second term, but the possibility remains of the assembly making him an unwilling candidate. Still, the contest appears to be narrowed down to M. Fallieres and Doumer, with MM. Rouvier, Bourgeois, Brisson and the others named making up the field of emergency candidates.



THE LATE HON. R. PREFONTAINE

Prefontaine from Premier Rouvier of France.

Colonel Gordeau, deputy minister of marine and fisheries, also received a cable from Private Secretary Chevillon, who was with Mr. Prefontaine. It says:

"The minister died this evening most suddenly. I will leave with the body by the next steamer."

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—A cable from London says that the flag over Lord Strathcona's office is at half-mast in respect to the memory of the late Hon. Mr. Prefontaine. Hon. Mr. Prefontaine was spending Christmas in Paris as a guest of Commander Fabre. He was stricken at 8:45 at night, and lingered about fifteen minutes. The last sacrament was administered. A memorial service is to be held in Madeleine cathedral and the body will be embalmed and shipped to Halifax.

Information from Montreal says that

is generally accepted that the main purpose is to have a warship in readiness should a crisis arise requiring the protection or repatriation of French citizens.

The foreign office says the Cassini and Admiral Aube will stay at Copenhagen and await eventualities in Russia, the same as the two German ships now at Memel and the British ship at Kiel. If it becomes necessary the two French ships will embark the French residents at Baltic sea ports.

Gunboat Sails.

Brest, France, Dec. 26.—The gunboat Cassini sailed at 4 o'clock this afternoon "on a confidential mission."

FIRE IN HOTEL.

Unlontown, Pa., Dec. 26.—Fire early to-day practically ruined the interior and contents of the Exchange hotel, one of the leading hotels of this city. The building and contents were valued at \$100,000, and it is estimated that the loss will be \$60,000.

THE FRENCH PRESIDENCY.

Many Possible Candidates—Loubet's Successor Will Be Elected Next Month.

Paris, Dec. 23.—Premier Rouvier is developing marked strength as a possible dark horse in the coming Presidential contest.

The National Assembly meets at Versailles, on January 18th, to elect a successor to President Loubet. The palace there is now being prepared to receive the assembly, and the constituencies constituting the assembly, and the near approach of the voting is causing an active canvass in behalf of the various candidates.

M. Fallieres, president of the senate, has thus far been considered the leading candidate and his supporters say he is already sure of a majority in the assembly. M. Fallieres relies chiefly on the precedent established by M. Loubet, in going from the presidency of the senate to the presidency of the republic. However, the candidature of M. Fallieres does not arouse popular enthusiasm and the opposition combining to support M. Doumer represents the younger and more active element. His candidacy is popular, but he has the antagonism of some strong groups in both chambers. It is expected that the first ballot will be divided between M. Fallieres and M. Doumer, with some votes for M. Leon Bourgeois, the former premier; M. Henri Brisson, another former premier, and former president of the chamber of deputies; M. Paul de Chassel, president of the committee on foreign and colonial affairs of the chamber; Minister of War, Finance and Minister of Marine.

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President Loubet has positively declined to be a candidate for a second term, but the possibility remains of the assembly making him an unwilling candidate. Still, the contest appears to be narrowed down to M. Fallieres and Doumer, with MM. Rouvier, Bourgeois, Brisson and the others named making up the field of emergency candidates.

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THE YORK COUNTY LOAN SHAREHOLDERS

CLAIMS ESTIMATED AT MILLION AND A HALF

Hotel Proprietor Decapitated by the Railway—Fireman Smothered by Coal on Tender of Engine.

Toronto, Dec. 24.—The relative position of several varieties of shareholders in the York County Loan is a matter of much complexity, and a motion for advice will be made to the court before the matter is satisfactorily settled. The following witnesses have been subpoenaed to give evidence: Joseph Phillips, manager; E. J. Burt, vice-president; G. B. Burt, Liat Piano Company; G. C. Calvert, book-keeper; Miss Eva Hall, book-keeper; Stewart Linn, barrister, and Messrs. Hand & Harper, the company's auditors.

The Claims.

Toronto, Dec. 24.—Mr. John Galbraith, the lawyer representing the shareholders under the Ontario Act, said to-day he thought that \$600,000 as the average claim held by the shareholders against the York Loan Company, was a little high, judging from the claims he held, many of which were in the neighborhood of \$10 each. "I would put the average at about \$25 or \$30," he said. "This would make the claims total for 70,000 shareholders about \$1,750,000, or for 50,000 shareholders, \$1,250,000 on the \$25 figure, and \$1,500,000, taking the average at \$30 each."

Reassuring.

St. Catharines, Dec. 23.—Mayor Sharpe has informed local shareholders of the York County Loan Company that he has been assured by Mr. Cook, accountant appointed by the Government to investigate, that holders of terminating shares would in all probability receive one hundred cents on the dollar. Until terminating shareholders are paid the holders of permanent shares will not get a dollar. Dr. Jessop, M. P., has also assured the shareholders that he has just visited the company's real estate and is very well impressed with it.

Found Beheaded.

Woodstock, Dec. 23.—The body of Henry Herlich, proprietor of the C. P. R. hotel here, was found lying between the rails near C. P. R. station last night with the head completely severed from the body. How the accident occurred is not known.

Buried Under Coal.

Calgary, Dec. 22.—A brakeman named G. H. Ward was smothered in the tender of a C. P. R. engine at Camrose this morning. He was assisting the fireman to take on coal when he slipped into the coal pit and was buried under a rush from the chute.

Destructive Fire.

Prince Albert, Sask., Dec. 24.—The York Alber Lumber Company, recently reorganized from the Telford Lumber Company here, received an order scorching this afternoon, a large store house and its contents being destroyed. The property was fairly well covered by insurance. The exact amount of the damage is not known, but will amount to several thousand dollars. The origin of the fire is a mystery. The city fire brigade was promptly on hand and succeeded in keeping the fire from spreading to the adjoining buildings.

Died From Injuries.

Toronto, Dec. 24.—Mrs. Caroline Bedew was terribly burned in bed last night and died at the Emergency hospital.

Suicide.

Toronto, Dec. 23.—John Miller, a stonemason, 38 years of age, out of work, strangled himself to death in his bedroom last night. He leaves a widow and two children.

The McMillan Company.

Toronto, Dec. 24.—An Ontario charter has been granted to the McMillan Company, of Canada, of which McMillans, the famous British publishers, are the principals. The parties obtaining the charter are Frederick and George Augustus McMillan, of Westminster, England, publishers; Geor. Platt Bett, publisher; C. C. Nadai, York, and Frank Wise, of Toronto, publisher. The capital is \$20,000, and the company is authorized to carry on the business of general publishers with head office at Toronto.

Shipowner Dead.

Halifax, Dec. 24.—Rufus Burgess, the wealthiest resident and shipowner of King's county, died at Wolfville on Saturday morning.

Lutheran Seminary.

Winnipeg, Dec. 24.—The German Lutherans will erect a large seminary at Wolsey, Sask., for the education of home missionaries.

On Vacation.

Winnipeg, Dec. 24.—Ex-Premier Haultain has gone East to spend a vacation after the strenuous battle in Saskatchewan.

LOOKING UP EVIDENCE.

Vancouver Detective is Investigating the Record of Harry Fisher in Victoria.

The Vancouver poisoning case promises to be a very interesting one before it is completed. Mrs. Jackson, the wife, and Mrs. Jones, the mother-in-law, have been placed in jail in Vancouver. Harry Fisher is under arrest in Blaine, Wash., awaiting extradition proceedings.

In the meantime the record of Fisher in Victoria Kaminops and Albert is being looked into by Vancouver detectives preparatory to the trial for perjury. Detective Preston is in the city making investigations respecting Fisher.

Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Jackson, like Fisher, are charged with having committed perjury at the coroner's inquest on the death of Thomas Jackson on November 12th last. Fisher swore that he was Mrs. Jones' nephew, and the two women swore behind them to them was that of nephew and cousin respectively. The police will undertake to prove that Fisher is in reality the son of Mrs. Jones, and that in making that declaration they were doing so falsely. Joseph Martin, K.C., has been retained to defend them. Bail is fixed at \$2,000 per person, recognizance and sureties of \$1,000 each, which has not been secured.

Fisher, when first arrested in Blaine, agreed to waive extradition. When Detective Jackson reached that place to take him back to Vancouver he found that the prisoner had changed his mind and was determined to fight extradition. This created a little consternation in police circles. It was found that the government would not stand the expense of extradition, and the city was appealed to. His Worship the mayor gave prompt orders that the officials should do all in their power to get the fugitive back, and the city's two women swore behind them to them was that of nephew and cousin respectively. The police will undertake to prove that Fisher is in reality the son of Mrs. Jones, and that in making that declaration they were doing so falsely. Joseph Martin, K.C., has been retained to defend them. Bail is fixed at \$2,000 per person, recognizance and sureties of \$1,000 each, which has not been secured.

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