

ANOTHER WAR SECRET LET OUT

How \$260,000,000 in Russian
Gold Was Transported Se-
cretly Through Vancouver
— Work of the Rainbow.

(By Canadian Press)
Vancouver, B. C., Oct. 20.—Two seemingly unrelated items appeared recently in news despatches which recited a hitherto unpublished and romantic story of the war. The scene centred in Vancouver, but under censorship rules the story could not be published at the time.

The two items were these: A Reuter despatch in which Mr. Novitsky, former assistant to the minister of finance in the All-Russian government, hinted at the huge amount of gold which was shipped through Vancouver during the war, including 60,000,000 pounds from Vladivostok; a statement of the sale of the obsolete government warship Rainbow to a Seattle firm.

Both Mr. Novitsky and the Rainbow were central figures in one of the most interesting incidents of the war so far as it affected Vancouver.

The first shipment of Russian gold, amounting to about \$45,000,000 arrived here in the February of 1916. It was in the form of bullion encased in boxes about fifteen inches long, six inches wide and three or four deep. It was loaded at Vladivostok for transfer to the mint at Ottawa, and came across the Pacific in a big Japanese warship with Novitsky in charge of the treasure.

The treasure warship never came into harbor. Far out at sea off Cape Plater in a half gale the warship was met by the little Rainbow and the precious freight transferred between the decks of the rollers. The most elaborate measures of secrecy were observed and it was three o'clock of a morning dark and wet, when the Rainbow nosed her way to Shed One on the C.P.R. docks here.

Awaiting her were Mr. Peters and Mr. Vickers, head of the foreign department of the Dominion Express Company, who came out especially from Montreal, to superintend the transfer of the bullion across the continent. A specially selected crew of trusted men

had been warned to be on hand for special duty and marched down to the wharf after midnight under special guards, and without any information of their duty or destination.

Awaiting the Rainbow was a train of coaches disguised as a silk train with five special express cars. On each of these cars was loaded \$9,000,000 worth of gold. Four men armed heavily with rifles and revolvers received the cargo from the sailors. Each car was then closed, the doors heavily barred and guard mounted. The guards stood equal shifts throughout the journey. A telephone system connected the whole train and when any of the sentinels wished

to pass to the dining or to any other car they did so only on release from the official car to the door keepers. These doors were never opened when the train was at a standstill. No guard was permitted to show himself at the windows in passing through towns. The train, at night, ran in absolute darkness, the men doing their work by flashlight.

This was the first of four or five such trains which passed through Vancouver during a period of a year and a half, the details being as follows: February 1916,

\$45,000,000; August, 1916, \$30,000,000; January, 1917, \$117,000,000; August, 1917, \$80,000,000.

A HUNTING PARTY
Moncton Transcript: Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Osman, and Mrs. Weynell, of Hillsboro; J. L. McSweeney and Miss Dorothea McSweeney, Moncton; Miss Lilly Raymond, Col. McLean, St. John; Capt. Seely, Hampton; the Misses Dorothea and Virginia Roberts, and Captain Sidney Willette, returned on Monday after a hunting trip to Salisbury

where they were guests at Hon. C. J. Osman's camp.

Miss Marjorie T. Bullock was one of the students of Mt. Allison Ladies' College who left on Tuesday for Sackville after spending the holiday with her parents at Grand View, N. B.

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