



TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION

VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1905.

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NO. 87.

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MURDERED IN PRIVATE STUDY

PROCURATOR-GENERAL OF FINLAND SHOT

Dead Man's Son and Assassin Were Both Wounded in Duel Which Followed Shooting.

Helsingfors, Finland, Feb. 6.—Solsion Soiminen, procurator-general of Finland, was assassinated in his residence at 11 o'clock this morning.

The assassin and Soiminen's son were both wounded in a revolver duel following the killing.

The motive of the crime apparently was purely political, the slain official being a prominent member of the government party.

The murderer appeared at the procurator's residence at 11 o'clock to-day and sent in a card bearing the name of Alexander Gadd, who was smartly dressed in an officer's uniform, was promptly admitted to the official's private study, and on his entrance fired four shots from a revolver, one of the bullets piercing the breast of the procurator, who expired almost immediately.

His 17-year-old son, hearing the shots, rushed in from an adjoining room and fired three or four shots at his father's assassin, whose right leg was broken below the knee by a bullet, and he also slightly wounded in the shoulder and a finger of his left hand was struck.

The assassin fired the one remaining bullet in his revolver at Soiminen's son, wounding him slightly in the calf of his right leg. He then endeavored to escape, but fell to the floor. There he was seized.

Doctors were called immediately, but found the procurator beyond need of their services. The assassin was removed to the surgical hospital, where he lies guarded by police, answering no questions and evidently unconscious.

His recovery is thought to be certain. Up to the present no charges have been made to identify him. He is a dark complexion and apparently between 25 and 30 years of age.

Soiminen, who before he was embroiled, was known by the name of Johnson, was born in 1851 and practiced at the Finnish bar. He was highly esteemed, and had held various government appointments, including that of provincial judge. He was appointed procurator of the Senate in 1901, and in the same year made procurator-general of the Duchy of Finland. Johnson was regarded as a wise and patriotic official. It is understood that it was at his initiative that the Finns exiled by Governor-General Bobrikoff were allowed to return to Finland.

Political Crime. St. Petersburg, Feb. 7.—1.50 a.m.—The news of the assassination of Solsion Soiminen, procurator-general of Finland, although occurring before noon Monday, was not known generally in St. Petersburg last night, but may be expected to produce an immense sensation when it becomes public, as it will be regarded as the precursor of an era of terrorism, for which the present circumstances in Finland render it almost certain that the crime is of a purely political character, and of the same nature as the assassination of Count Bobrikoff, the governor-general of Finland, in June, 1904.

The Russian Senate, which incurred the enmity of the anti-Russian parties on account of its alleged subservience to the process of Russification, and Soiminen undoubtedly was selected as the representative and responsible victim.

ASSASSIN IDENTIFIED. Helsingfors, Finland, Feb. 7.—The assassin of Solsion Soiminen, procurator-

general of Finland, who was shot and killed yesterday at his residence by a young man dressed in an officer's uniform, has been identified as Karl Lenard Hohenthal, formerly a student at the Imperial Alexander University here.

Hohenthal, who latterly had lived in Stockholm, returned to Finland on January 13th. He maintains obstinate silence under examination.

Senator Akerman, who assumed the duties of procurator of the senate, is directing the investigation of the crime. The wounds inflicted on the assassin by the son of Soiminen are not of a dangerous character.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 7.—The assassination of Procurator-General of Finland Solsion Soiminen is believed to be undoubtedly due to political causes. The Associated Press was informed at the ministry of the interior that Soiminen was long ago marked for vengeance by the young Fenoman and Stata Noman parties, who regarded him as a traitor to his country.

As procurator-general he had the confidence of the emperor, and in some respect even superior to that of the governor-general, and he also was the leader of the old Fenoman party, the influence of which is no longer dominant in the Diet, though it is still preponderant in the Senate. It was a matter of surprise familiar with the Finnish situation that Eugene Schumann directed his revolver at Governor-General Bobrikoff, and that the procurator was shot.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 7.—The Associated Press is authorized to announce that not the slightest information has been received at the war office regarding the alleged illness or resignation of Gen. Kouropatkin. On the contrary, the war office information suggests no change whatever in the headquarters staff in Manchuria, and states that the departure of Gen. Gripenberg for St. Petersburg is due to illness.

The version of the departure of Gen. Gripenberg now given in the best informed official circles is that the general left the front because of some operations by our volunteers, which harass the enemy. There is artillery fighting on both sides, and a hasty strengthening of positions by both the Russians and the Japanese.

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Washington, Feb. 7.—In view of the revival of reports from European capitals to the effect that there has been a renewal of efforts on the part of the powers to find some basis for intervention in the interest of peace in the Far East, the United States government respects such a move. The state department has made no overtures recently to either the British or the Japanese, nor does it know officially of any such movement in Europe.

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JAP ADVANCE LINES DRIVEN BACK

RENNENKAMPPFF MAKES SUCCESSFUL MOVE

Gripenberg is Said to Have Sacrificed Thousands of Men Daring Fighting Around Sandepas.

Russian Army Headquarters, Huan Mountain, Feb. 6.—Gen. Rennenkampff's command is operating in the direction of Shogy and Schantan, and has driven in the advance lines of the Japanese, forcing them back to the Taitse river.

PREPARING TO SEND SHIPS TO ROJESTVENSKY. St. Petersburg, Feb. 6.—The Associated Press is authorized to announce that not the slightest information has been received at the war office regarding the alleged illness or resignation of Gen. Kouropatkin.

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A man was a smoking contest in Paris by keeping a cigar alight for two hours and twenty-nine minutes.

MET DEATH AT HANDS OF STRIKERS

MANY MEN KILLED ON THEIR WAY TO WORK

Fatal Disorders Reported From Several Towns in Poland, Where Situation is Growing Worse.

Warsaw, Feb. 7.—Several men were killed here by strikers to-day when attempts were made to resume work. Many arrests have been made.

The price of provisions has gone up. The peasants are afraid to bring in their produce.

Strikers this morning attempted to bring out the employees of the electrical plant of the lunatic asylum, but the doctors succeeded in pacifying the men.

According to a report from Radom, twenty workmen have been killed or wounded in strike disorders there to-day, while at Skarskio twenty-four have been killed and forty wounded.

Grave trouble is also reported at Kutno to-day. Troops have been sent to Kutno from here.

Becoming More Aggressive. Lodz, Russian Poland, Feb. 7.—The factories were opened this morning, but scarcely any of the workmen appeared.

At one factory the men worked until lunch time and then left and refused to return, saying they did not want to be killed by a bullet from the street fired through the door. Another factory abruptly ended work.

The situation appears to be growing worse and a critical time is expected on February 9th, the date on which some of the largest manufacturers have decided to pay their employees the balance of their wages, dismissing them and shutting down the mills indefinitely.

The strikers are becoming more aggressive, and it is reported that a certain mill and destroyed the machinery.

Food Scarce. Batonn, Caucasus, Feb. 7.—The strike situation here is growing worse, business is practically at a standstill, although some steamers have succeeded in getting away. Food is becoming more scarce.

The military governor has issued a proclamation warning the inhabitants against assembling in crowds.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 8.—1.15 a. m.—For the moment the startling crime in Helsingfors has withdrawn attention from the base of the government through Russia. To-day's events in Poland and the Caucasus are quite serious enough in themselves, however.

The smaller industrial towns of Poland have added a score or more to their list of killed, and troops have been sent to Warsaw and Kutno to quell uprisings there. The strike conditions in the Caucasus are becoming worse and traffic on the Trans-Caucasian railway is interrupted.

A large mill factory in the Vassili Ostroff section was burned yesterday.

The central committee of the Russian Social Democratic workmen's party has issued a violent proclamation, calling on operatives to array themselves under the red flag of the social democracy and prepare for an armed renewal of the January demonstrations. The proclamation bitterly assails church and state and the higher classes.

RESUMING WORK

Large Number of German Miners Believe Government Bill Will Remove Many Grievances.

Berlin, Feb. 6.—Two to three thousand coal miners who struck in the Silesian district returned to work to-day believing that the government bill, now in preparation, will redress their relations with their employers.

The government's proposed law limits the working day to nine hours in galleries where the temperatures are about 70 degrees Fahrenheit, including the time going in and coming out of the mines. In temperatures of 80 degrees Fahrenheit and higher only a six-hour day is permitted. Within two or three years the nine-hour day is to be shortened to eight and one-half hours.

About nine-tenths of the miners of Germany come within these provisions. The disallowing of the entire cars of coal because of the presence of foreign substances is to be forbidden. Finns may be assessed, but these must not exceed four to six marks (\$1 to \$1.50) per month. Overtime is to be paid for at the highest rate. Workmen's committees shall be recognized and workmen as representing the men. Making the present condition of the miners worse in any particular than it is, is now forbidden.

Herr Sachse, a member of the Reichstag, speaking at an immense meeting of miners at Essen yesterday said that the government's bill only concerned 4 out of 14 striking districts.

ADDRESSES FROM NOBLES. Ask the Czar to Allow Representatives of People to Participate in Government.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 6.—The assembly of nobles of St. Petersburg to-day adopted an address to Emperor Nicholas congratulating him on the birth of an heir to the throne, and assuring him of the confidence of the nation. The address asserts that the union between the autocratic monarch and his devoted nation is unshaken by recent events at home and abroad, points out that officials and statesmen cannot solve all questions, and begs His Majesty to permit representation of the whole people participating in the discussion and legislation of government measures and system. The address is as follows:

"Sire,—We have met in troubled times. Does not attacking us, then, being to bring Russia to a complete peace, wring from her distant territories and bring to naught the system of government which has been sanctioned by centuries. A way out of the difficulties must be found. We realize that every word addressed to Your Majesty in this painful hour is weighted with grave responsibility. We all are witnesses to Your Majesty's efforts to secure the welfare of Russia, the fulfillment of December 23rd revived the hopes of your subjects, who saw therein the true salvation of the fatherland. This is not the first time dark clouds have lowered over Russia, but despite former efforts to shake the base of the government through Russia, has become stronger and advanced proudly and pulsantly along the path of progress. From union between an autocratic monarch and a devoted nation Russia has ever derived a strength which neither the foreign foe nor trouble at home could exhaust. We, the nobility of St. Petersburg, are convinced that the union is unshaken and must prevail.

With the aid of God our valiant troops, Russians elected by the nation, and this country, so far from weakening, strengthened the autocracy and aided it to attain its present greatness.

"Sire,—Order now that elected representatives of the country may raise their voices to the throne and participate in accordance with your sovereign prerogative in legislation and discussion of governmental measures. The nobles of St. Petersburg sincerely believe that, provided union of the three estates and nation is supported by confidence on the part of the Emperor, internal troubles will vanish and that all Russia will rise and serve the sovereign faithfully, for the salvation and glory of the country and the confusion of its enemies."

The address was adopted by a vote of 158 to 20.

A BIAZZARD. Sleet Falling in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee.

Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 7.—With a blizzard raging in the north and east of Texas and rain and sleet falling in many districts of southern Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee, weather conditions to-night are worse than at any time since the present storm began. A blizzard has been sweeping over the entire ranges of western Texas for two days. Thousands of cattle are reported to be suffering. Telegraphic communication is demoralized in all sections of the southwest.

Arkansas to-night is in the grasp of one of the worst sleet storms in its history.

Natchez, Miss., has been without wire communication since yesterday.

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SEEK DUTY ON ROUGH LUMBER

DELEGATES INTERVIEW MINISTERS AT CAPITAL

Views of the Lumbermen—Matter Will Be Taken Up When Mr. Fielding Returns.

Ottawa, Feb. 7.—A large delegation of lumbermen waited on the government to-day to get a duty of \$2 a thousand on rough lumber. The delegation was organized by British Columbia lumbermen who have been hard hit by competition from United States mills. Among the delegation were J. R. Booth and Denis Murphy, Ottawa; J. B. Miller, Parry, Sound Lumber Co.; W. D. Lummies, Sarnia Lumber Co.; W. B. Trudal, W. Toronto; James Playfair, Midland; W. F. Bull, Toronto Lumber Co.; D. L. White, Midland; B. H. Hepes, Vancouver; T. P. Paterson, Vancouver; W. C. Wells, Mr. Letch, Vancouver; Messrs. Hendry and Jardine, New Westminster; Mr. Jones, Golden; Messrs. MacLennan and Stone, Vancouver board of trade; C. Balmatry, vice-president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, and R. J. Young, secretary of the association.

The delegation met Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Senator Templeman and Hon. W. Patterson, minister of customs, in the railway committee room of the Senate. The first speaker was Mr. Patterson of Vancouver. He said that British Columbia mills had to shut down for three months in the year because of the competition from the United States. The duty on rough lumber was therefore necessary. He appreciated the difficulties that the government had in arranging a tariff to suit the various needs of the country. What he objected to was that British Columbia should be singled out and not given an equal chance with the manufacturers of other provinces. The duty was so far refused because of the competition from the United States. Mr. Laurier said that the British Columbia mills had reached that stage of prosperity which would permit of their paying for this duty. Individually they were better off than the people of British Columbia. The Northwest farmer was willing to pay a duty on wagons and everything else he required, but refused to do so on lumber. The Northwest farmer had production for his eggs, flour and butter. The people of British Columbia had to purchase these and did not object, but they thought it was only fair that the Northwest farmer should meet them in the same spirit. The United States ships the lumber to the Northwest but buys nothing in return. The enforcement of the dumping clause, which they did not object to, operated against the purchaser in British Columbia. The appraiser at Vancouver customs told him this. British Columbia mills could supply all the trade of the Northwest without increasing the price of lumber.

Mr. MacLennan, representing the Vancouver board of trade, was the next to speak. He said that unless the government came to the assistance of British Columbia mills there would be no lumber. The principal industry of the province, British Columbia had no protection, while the farmers of the Northwest had the people of British Columbia had to pay duty on what they purchased, yet when it came to protecting the lumber industry it was refused. Manufacturers elsewhere were protected when it came to British Columbia nothing was done.

Mr. Stone, also of the Vancouver board of trade, read a paper on the importance of giving the duty to protect the industry. He said that it cost \$124 per head to develop British Columbia against \$133 for Ontario.

Mr. Jones, Golden, spoke strongly in favor of the duty. He said that the United States wanted to sell the surplus of their lumber in British Columbia at keep up the regular price at home. If referred to the Western Retail Association which was said to have an unholy alliance with the lumbermen of the coast and that it no longer existed. It disappeared last summer, and anyone could purchase from British Columbia mills. Lumbermen did not intend to raise the price if they got the duty. Manitoba and the Northwest were united against the claims of British Columbia lumbermen.

Mr. Beattie, Cranbrook, spoke of the benefits realized from the bounty on lumber and said that the duty on lumber would do equally as much for the province.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that the government was very much impressed with the views presented by the delegates, and particularly so with the statement that the lumbermen were being tax for what they purchased and got no protection for what they sold. When this duty was taken off lumber it entered into the market and the price of the lumber was stated that there was to be a revision of the tariff. He remarked that the minister of finance was absent but soon as he returned it would be taken and the views of the delegation would get consideration.

PEACE CANNOT BE CONSIDERED AT PRESENT

ANOTHER RUSSIAN GENERAL WOUNDED

London, Feb. 7.—The charge d'affaires of the Russian embassy in London, the Associated Press this afternoon that there is no basis for the renewed rumors of peace prospects. The Russian attitude, he declared, had not changed. Peace could not be considered under the present conditions.

Another Russian General Wounded. St. Petersburg, Feb. 6.—According to Gen. Kouropatkin's last reports, which indicate the wounding of a third Russian general, Demobovski, the operations at Sandepas and the fighting at Shakhke have been momentarily suspended.

The Russians successfully repulsed the latest attack of the Japanese eastward with heavy loss.

There are indications that the Japanese are preparing to break the inactivity on their account as soon as the weather moderates.

Gen. Kouropatkin in a report to Emperor Nicholas, says: "No fighting was reported on February 6th, the date on which some operations by our volunteers, which harass the enemy. There is artillery fighting on both sides, and a hasty strengthening of positions by both the Russians and the Japanese."

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THE TENDENCY IS TOWARDS INCREASE REVIEW OF MARKET CONDITIONS JUST NOW

Price of Potatoes Has Been Advanced - Merchants Predict an Even Greater Rise.

Only two changes of importance have occurred in the local wholesale and retail quotations this week. The price of Island potatoes has advanced, while local apples have become very scarce, resulting in a material rise in the figures quoted.

The crop of Island potatoes was light last year, which partly accounts for the scarcity. Then, those of the lower mainland, quantities of which are generally marketed on Vancouver Island, have been shipped East. These facts are a sufficient explanation of the price now quoted for that commodity.

Appended are the complete retail and wholesale quotations:

Table listing various goods and their prices, including Onions, Carrots, Cabbage, Lettuce, Butter, Eggs, Ducks, Apples, Hay, Corn, Potatoes, etc.

Table listing various goods and their prices, including Wheat, Oats, Rolled Oats, Hay, Straw, Corn, Middlings, Bran, Ground Feed, Carrots, Turnips, etc.

Table listing various goods and their prices, including Salmon, Haddock, Cod, Halibut, Clippers, Blotter, Beef, Pork, Mutton, Lamb, Forequarter, etc.

Advertisement for Wood's Peppermint Cure, describing its benefits for various ailments like colds, coughs, and asthma.

Advertisement for DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS, claiming to be a 'GREAT CURE FOR ALL KIDNEY DISEASES'.

WANTS VICTORIA TO ENTER LEAGUE BASEBALL PROMOTERS ARE NOW IN THE CITY

Messrs. Lucas and McCloskey Anxious For Capital to be Represented in Proposed Combination.

There is every prospect of Victoria being represented in an international ball league this season. According to present arrangements it will include Everett, Bellingham, Vancouver and Victoria, the series to be so arranged that Saturday games may be played in British Columbia and Sunday matches on the Sound.

Up to the present Mr. Lucas has received much encouragement. He is anxious that a stock company be formed among prominent local citizens, with a capital of about \$50,000.

Regarding grounds, both Messrs. Lucas and McCloskey are doubtful as to the advisability of using those at Oak Bay. They consider them too far from the centre of the city.

Mr. Charles R. Bunting, of this city, and Miss N. B. Dickinson, daughter of Mr. Thomas Dickinson, of Rexton New Brunswick, were united in wedlock in Vancouver yesterday morning.

NEW ENTERPRISE. Company Organized to Salt and Smoke Halibut for Chicago and New York.

Advertisement for First Aid in the Home, featuring a bottle of medicine and text describing its uses for various injuries.

Advertisement for WEAVER'S SYRUP, claiming to 'Purify the Blood and cure Boils, Humors, Salt Rheum'.

MONTHLY MEETING. Ladies' Committee of Protestant Orphan's Home Transacted Business - Donations Acknowledged.

Monday afternoon the regular monthly meeting of the ladies' committee of the Protestant Orphan's Home was held at the city hall, when Mrs. W.F. McCulloch occupied the chair.

On behalf of the visiting committee, Mrs. E. Crow Baker reported that the affairs of the home had been conducted in a satisfactory manner during the past month.

HEARD REPORTS FOR YEAR. Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church Tuesday Evening - A Presentation.

The congregation of St. Paul's Presbyterian church held its annual meeting Tuesday evening, which was well attended.

COAL LANDS DISPUTE. Firth & Belden, of Spokane, Still Seek Redress From Andrew Hackett.

The firm of Firth & Belden, of Spokane, seem to be having considerable trouble in compelling Andrew Hackett to share the proceeds of the coal mining ventures in Southeast Kootenay.

Hackett had told him that Firth & Belden were asking too much. "They want half," Mr. Quinn says. Hackett said: "They want \$40,000."

Business Transacted at Meeting of Tourist Association Executive Held Tuesday Afternoon.

Tuesday afternoon a largely attended meeting of the Tourist Association executive was held at the rooms, Fort street.

Enforcement of Law WOULD BE APPRECIATED. Halibut Fishing in Hecate Straits.

The announcement from Ottawa that the Dominion government intends enforcing the coasting regulations respecting halibut fishing in Hecate Strait is good news for those here who are interested in the industry.

Very satisfactory reports were presented from the addition board of management, Ladies' Aid, Y. P. S. O. E. and other school organizations.

Special references were made to the valuable services of Miss Amy McKenzie, organist, and Messrs. Jean anderson, a member of the choir, who are both removing to Portland, Or.

Remains of Walter Clarke were laid at rest Tuesday afternoon, the funeral taking place from the family residence, 62 Niagara street.

Advertisement for NERVOUS DEBILITY CURED, featuring a portrait of a man and text describing the symptoms and treatment.

Advertisement for Gloves, Mitts, Winter Caps, featuring the text 'LARGEST STOCK IN THE PROVINCE' and 'J. PIERCY & CO., Wholesale Dry Goods, Victoria, B. C.'

WONG GOW AND WONG ON ARE FREE. The jury that held the common destiny of the prisoners in the hall of its hand last evening decided that they did not slay the unfortunate Man Quan in the Chinese theatre a little more than a year ago.

Dear Sir - As we are about to depart hence to our homes, we could not do so without extending to you our sincerest thanks for the kindly manner in which you attended to our many wants and the pleasant way in which you looked after our comforts.

SETTING TOWARDS PEACE. Change in Press and Public Opinion in Russia.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 7. - The renewed peace talk resulting from the seeming concurrence of recent events in Washington finds no echo in official and diplomatic circles here.

Mr. Taylor secured a new trial - the one just completed - before this occurred, proceeded against a number of Chinamen, including witnesses against Wong Gow and Wong On.

Winnipeg, Feb. 8. - A. F. Martin, ex-P. P., one of the most prominent Manitoba Liberal politicians, died this morning after a lingering illness.

