



REPRESSION TRIUMPHS. RUSSIAN PEOPLE ANGRY.

Meetings of Members of Parliament Dispersed by Troops.

St. Petersburg, May 8.—There seems to be no longer doubt that the dominant party in Russia is committed to a policy of repression, and the danger of a speedy conflict between the government and the representatives of the people has been greatly increased.

The indignation caused by the Emperor's attempt to reinforce the prerogatives of the Crown has been intensified by the action of the police last night in dispersing a meeting of some members of the lower house of Parliament and of the upper house, or new Council of the Empire, at the hall of the Economical Society.

M. Rodtcheff, a member of Parliament for St. Petersburg, hurried after midnight to the hall where the Constitutional Democrats were holding their convention, and announced to the members there assembled the action taken by the police.

The members of the Constitutional Democracy, when they reassembled here to-day, were greatly excited, and it required all the influence of the leaders to restrain them.

Mr. Rodtcheff then presented a resolution, in substance as follows: On the eve of the meeting of Parliament the government has flung a new provocation to the people by the issue of the fundamental law and by depriving their representatives of the right to revise it.

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When the reading of the resolution was finished there arose a storm of cries of "Too weak!" M. Rodtcheff appealed to the members of the convention not to lose their heads as the government had, but to show themselves strong and calm.

Previously the convention was forced to adopt a more radical declaration on the subject of the agrarian problem, laying down the general principle that the land belonged to those who tilled it, leaving the details of the scheme to be presented to Parliament by the central committee.

The convention closed at 6 o'clock this evening, after M. Milukoff had delivered a speech in which he congratulated the party on having disappointed its enemies, who predicted a split. He believed that the ideas for which the party stood were constantly growing in the country, while, on the contrary, the extreme revolutionary organizations were passing through a crisis.

The police to-night published an explanation of their action in closing meetings, justifying it under the strict letter of the law which permits the presence of only members at meetings of societies.

As if these incidents were not sufficient to excite the members of Parliament, the local authorities inflamed the working classes yesterday. Without warning they ordered many of the leaders of the workmen to leave the city. They had not time to remove their families.

The matter was brought to the attention of a meeting of 122 peasant and workmen members of Parliament, who denounced it as an attempt on the part of the government to bring about a rupture.

Continued on seventh page.

For Albany, Utica, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls and the West the New York Central line trains at 8:20, 8:45, 10:20, 11:15 a. m., 3:20, 3:50, 4:30, 5:20, 6:20, 6:50, 7:50, 8:30, 9:20, 10:20 p. m. Can you do better?—Adv.

TWO TELEPHONE SYSTEMS IN NEW YORK would mean for business men, two books to consult, two bells to answer, two bills to pay.—Adv.

LAYING CORNERSTONE OF UNITED ENGINEERS' BUILDING.



1 E. E. Olcott, 2 Andrew Carnegie, 3 T. C. Martin, 4 Mrs. Carnegie, 5 John Fritz, 6 Charles Haswell, 7 Catherine Olcott. (For story of cornerstone laying see page 7.)

MR. BELMONT ON STAND.

TELLS OF RACE BETTING.

Testifies in Union's Suit to Recover Money Treasurer Lost.

August Belmont went on the witness stand yesterday before Justice Amend, in Part 12 of the Supreme Court, in the suit brought by the Housemiths and Bridge Erectors' Union 52 to recover \$1,000 from the Westchester Racing Association, of which Mr. Belmont is president.

Mr. Belmont appeared in court with his counsel, Dr. Lancy Nicoll, who asked Justice Amend to place Mr. Belmont on the stand, as he had to go out of town to-day.

"This man De Lacy," said Mr. Nicoll, "has fomented over fifty cases of this kind. Mr. Belmont is here and ready to testify to-day, and it is hardly fair not to take his testimony now."

Counsel for the plaintiff said they were not ready to examine Mr. Belmont. J. F. Perdue, counsel for the union, denied that the suit was a scheme of Peter De Lacy's, and said that he was there "to recover money lost by workingmen."

"This is a matter of personal annoyance, and if you had any decency you would have told me that I need not come to-day. I know your object and what you are paid for."

Mr. Belmont finally took the stand, and testified that counsel had informed the Westchester Racing Association that it would be illegal to accept money from the Metropolitan Turf Association.

Asked why any arrangement had ever been made with the Metropolitan Turf Association and whether, if the revenues from the turf association had not been forthcoming, the racing would have had to cease, Mr. Belmont said: "If there were no revenues from the Metropolitan Turf Association, the revenues of the Westchester Racing Association would be very much cut down."

The examination continued: Q.—Then you came to the conclusion that racing would be unprofitable without the assistance of the bookmakers? A.—No; but it was deemed a helpful source of revenue.

Q.—At this time you were chairman of the State Racing Association? A.—I was.

Q.—One of the duties of the commission was to prohibit betting, was it not? A.—No.

Q.—Aside from purchasing a large number of tickets the Metropolitan Turf Association attracted many people who otherwise would not go? A.—Yes.

Mr. Nicoll then examined the witness. He asked: Q.—Did the Westchester Racing Association enter into an arrangement with the Metropolitan Turf Association to allow them to make bets? A.—It did not.

Q.—Was the purchase of the tickets voluntary on the part of the Metropolitan Racing Association? A.—Entirely so.

Q.—Do you bet on the races? A.—I do not.

Rasmussen took the stand and told how and when he bet at Morris Park. He said that he confessed to using the union's fund at the racetrack, and that he had paid back part of the money.

John G. Cavanagh was sworn in. He said his business was dealing in racing stationery. The witness testified that he furnished racing blanks and "advance information." He said that any one could go to the racetracks and become a bookmaker.

STRIKERS PARADE.

Five Hundred Italians Visit Greenwich, and Stop All Work.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Greenwich, Conn., May 8.—Five hundred striking Italians paraded through Greenwich this afternoon and stopped all of their fellow countrymen from working. By night, after they had cleaned out the stonemen at the new plant being built at Cos Cob to electrify the New Haven Railroad, they numbered a thousand.

The men started a hundred strong, and first visited the quarry districts, then crossed the Byram River to Belle Haven and Field Point Park. All the gangs putting in foundations for the trolley poles along the railroad tracks joined them.

At W. H. Truesdale's estate the strikers took the tools from the workmen. In one place an Italian is reported to have raised a red handkerchief on a whip for a flag and fired a pistol in the air.

Sheriff Ritch was called upon for protection, and gathered together fifty special officers to prevent damage being done. The men acted peaceably and no arrests were made. The strikers demand \$175 a day.

POLAND SPRING HOUSE.

Special representative will be at the Resort Bureau, 5th Floor, E. Cor. E-way and 28th St. (May 10th to 25th) to make engagements and satisfy all inquiries concerning the summer season of 1906 at Poland Spring. The Mansion House (always open) greatly enlarged. The Poland Spring House opens May 20th.—Adv.

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TRIES SUICIDE IN P. O.

FOLLOWS THIRD DEGREE.

Act of Clerk Shut in Room Eight Hours—\$2,000 Missing.

Jacob Luckstone, chief clerk in the registry department of the General Postoffice and for eighteen years an employe there, tried to kill himself early last evening in the Postoffice building. Postoffice Inspector Mayer received orders to find out where \$2,000 in bills sent to the First National Bank of Tallahassee, Fla., had gone. He said last night he had kept nine postal clerks, including Luckstone, for eight hours yesterday in a room in the Federal Building, and had told them he would not let them go until he found out what had become of the money.

Luckstone said he was weak from hunger, got into another room by the excuse, and tried to end his life by cutting his throat and wrists. His life was not considered in danger last night.

The Chemical National Bank is the loser. On April 26 the bank sent two packages of registered matter to the postoffice, both addressed to the First National Bank of Tallahassee, Fla. One of the packages contained \$1,000 in \$1 bills, and the other \$1,000 in \$2 bills. May 2 the Chemical Bank received a telegram from the Florida Institution which said the money had not been received.

The case was put into the hands of Postoffice Inspector Mayer. His investigations led him to believe that the money had been filched from the postoffice here. He said that an alteration had been made in the records, and that this made it appear that the money had been sent.

Mayer says the clerks protested that they knew nothing of the money. Mayer had seven of his assistants with him, and he and they kept talking to the men until 6 o'clock.

The men got nothing to eat and were not allowed to send out for anything. Luckstone protested as hard as any. When Luckstone was finally allowed to leave the room Mayer said no attention was paid to him for half an hour, and he then went in to see the man. He was startled to find him bleeding from wounds in the throat and wrists. A small penknife, the blade covered with blood, lay beside the couch where he was lying.

The Hudson Street Hospital ambulance surgeon was summoned. He saw the wounds were superficial, and dressed them quickly. He said the man need not go to the hospital.

Mayer put him under arrest and took him to City Hall station. Mayer said the man gave his address as Lexington avenue and 23d street. The City Hall police say the address was not the correct one, and that the man lives at No. 146 West 82d street.

Luckstone is thirty-eight years old. His salary as head of the registry division was \$1,800 a year. He was well liked, and was considered a good man in his place.

BAR ACTS AGAINST POOL.

Association to Demand That Appellate Division Remove Him.

The Bar Association, at its meeting last night, resolved to prosecute City Magistrate Joseph Pool and to ask the Appellate Division to remove him from the bench.

The action of the association was brought about by certain members preferring charges against Magistrate Pool, which they presented to the grievance committee. The committee approved them, and presented them to the executive committee, which recommended to the general body the resolution of censure that was adopted. The nature of the charges was not revealed.

The resolution authorized the president to appoint a prosecutor to submit charges against Magistrate Pool to the Appellate Division, and to ask for his removal from the bench.

BOMBS FOUND IN PARIS.

Two Men Wounded by Premature Explosion in Capital.

Paris, May 8.—A striking carpenter named Habert and another man were wounded this afternoon by the explosion of a bomb which they were loading in the garret of a house in one of the districts inhabited by the working classes. After the men had been arrested other bombs were found.

SAYS WIFE MOCKED HIM IN PULPIT.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Anderson, Ind., May 8.—The Rev. James E. Haffner, pastor of the Universalist Church of this city, filed suit for divorce to-day, alleging that his wife, Bertha Haffner, has stigmatized him professionally and treated him cruelly. He says his wife marked passages in his Bible so as to confuse him in the delivery of his sermons, and often sat in church and made faces at him as he attempted to preach.

DEATH ENDS STAGE MYSTERY.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Logansport, Ind., May 8.—The death of Mrs. Elizabeth Renner in the insane hospital near this city to-day solves the mystery of the disappearance of Miss Elizabeth Renner from the grand opera stage ten years ago. She was playing in Paris in 1895, when symptoms of insanity developed. Her husband, D. H. James Clarke, brought her to this country for rest, and she improved and again went on the stage. While giving a performance at Laporte a year later she went insane and was committed to the asylum near this city.

POLAND SPRING HOUSE OPENS MAY 30TH.

Hiram Ricker & Sons beg to announce that their special representative will be at the Resort Bureau, 5th Floor, E. Cor. E-way and 28th St. (May 10th to 25th) to arrange for bookings and satisfy all inquiries concerning both the Poland Spring House and Mansion House at Poland Spring.—Adv.

SPEAKER DROPS DEAD.

Detroit Attorney Succumbs to Heart Disease at Society's Dinner.

Detroit, Mich., May 8.—Alfred Russell, one of the prominent attorneys of Detroit and formerly Eastern District of Michigan, dropped dead to-night at the Detroit Club.

When stricken Mr. Russell was making an address at the annual dinner of the Michigan Society of Colonial Wars. His collapse created a commotion among the guests and brought the dinner to a tragic close. Heart disease was assigned as the cause of death.

Mr. Russell was seventy-six years old, and was a native of Plymouth, N. H.

DEFAULTER NOT DEAD.

Missing Deputy Treasurer Swapped Clothes with Corpse in London.

St. Paul, May 8.—A special to "The Dispatch," from Crookston, Minn., says that news has been received that Joseph Matthews, who, as deputy treasurer of Polk County, defaulted to the extent of \$6,000 and was thought to have died in a London hotel in 1898, is alive and expects to return soon to Crookston to reimburse the bondsmen of County Treasurer Peardry, who settled with Polk County officials.

HARRIMAN'S FAST TRIP

Crosses Continent in 33 Minutes

Less than Three Days.

Edward H. Harriman alighted from the Empire State Express at the Grand Central Station one minute after 10 o'clock last night, finishing a record trip by rail from San Francisco. He kissed his wife and daughter, who were waiting for him at the station, and then answered inquiries which were pressed on him by waiting reporters.

"I made the trip in thirty-three minutes less than three days from San Francisco to New York," he said in reply to the first question.

The following are the time table and itinerary of the remarkable trip:

Left Oakland Moie, Cal., 7:23 p. m. last Saturday. Sparks, Nev., 36 miles, 6:47 a. m. Sunday. Green River, Wyoming, 79 miles, midnight Sunday.

Omaha, Neb., 87 miles, 2:45 p. m. Monday. Chicago, Ill., 448 miles, 12:46 a. m. Tuesday. Buffalo, N. Y., 540 miles, 12:39 p. m. Tuesday. New York, 440 miles, 10 p. m. Tuesday.

"You want to know about San Francisco?" said Mr. Harriman. "Rebuilding is already in progress. They are putting up wooden buildings of one and two stories, creating a temporary wholesale district. They are trying to get the wholesale district as near the railroad as possible. Most of the buildings at present is on Van Ness avenue and Filmore street. In the burned residence section also they are erecting wooden structures on the grounds of the residences."

"How would the burned district in San Francisco appear in New York?"

"It would be as if all the buildings on Manhattan Island were laid waste from 57th street to the Battery, with here and there a few big buildings, or the walls of buildings, left standing; all the section destroyed except the waterfront. You may imagine what would have been the result of the fire if the waterfront had been destroyed and there had been no connection with the mainland. If the approaches to the ferries had been destroyed there would have been no escape for many people."

"What is the present state of order in San Francisco?"

"The military are still in charge by courtesy. The people feel more secure while the military are taking care of the property left in the burned business district."

"What about the syndicate that is to aid in rebuilding San Francisco?"

"I know nothing about that yet. I said in San Francisco that the city could get \$100,000,000 if she needed that much and could show that she needed it and what the money was to be used for. San Francisco has less debt per capita than any of the large cities of this country. If the burned district were not rebuilt the city would have enough assets left to pay the debt."

"Will there be restrictions in rebuilding the city?"

"Strict methods in construction and materials will be insisted on, and the height of buildings will be limited. They probably will widen some of the streets. They may adopt part of the Burnham plan. They will not abandon the wholesale district. There is no difficulty in building on made ground if the foundations go deep enough. There will be a change in the location of Chinatown. There is plenty of hope in San Francisco, but it will take years to get the city back to where it was before the fire."

"Will Seattle grow at the expense of San Francisco?"

"I forgot about Seattle. I don't care to make any invidious statements. There is no reason why one city should grow at the expense of another."

SMALLPOX PATIENTS PLAY BASEBALL.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Crisfield, Md., May 8.—Open air exercise for smallpox patients at the posthouse and grounds across the river has resulted in the formation of two baseball teams composed entirely of colored men suffering from the disease, mostly in mild form. The smallest teams play every afternoon, and crowds of Crisfield people sit on the piers and watch the odd spectacle on the quarantined diamond.

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KILLED IN ELEVATOR.

Philadelphian Crushed to Death in Victoria Hotel Lift.

Charles N. Grover, a representative of the Mechanics Insurance Company of Philadelphia, whose home was at No. 1519 North 52d street, Philadelphia, was instantly killed in an elevator at the Victoria Hotel, 27th street and Broadway, shortly before 7 o'clock last night while ascending to his room, on the third floor. Thomas Fitzgibbon, in charge of the elevator, became so excited as a result of the accident that he had to be treated by Dr. Mount, of the New York Hospital.

According to the police, Mr. Grover, with a friend, Frederick D. Savage, whose address is given as the Murray Hill Hotel, entered the elevator to go to Mr. Grover's room. Midway between the second and third floors Mr. Grover lost his balance apparently, and lurched forward in such a manner that his head projected through the elevator door.

Fitzgibbon, the elevator man, reversed the lever, and the car dropped to the first floor. Mr. Grover was caught between the elevator and the third floor and his skull was crushed.

Dr. S. W. Smith, the hotel physician, and Dr. A. H. Hillsman, who happened to be in the hotel, were hurriedly summoned, but they could do nothing. Mr. Grover's family in Philadelphia were notified.

Coroner Schraday investigated the scene soon after the accident, and said that, technically, Fitzgibbon should be arrested, but on account of his condition his examination would be postponed until to-day.

Mr. Savage was so shocked by his friend's death that he was put to bed in the Victoria Hotel.

VESUVIUS AGAIN ACTIVE.

Main Crater Discharging Sand—Heavy Detonations.

Naples, May 8.—Vesuvius is again showing considerable activity. A dense column of smoke is rising from the crater, accompanied by loud detonations and electrical discharges. The main crater is throwing out sand and cinders.

An English engineer named Moser to-day ascended Mount Vesuvius, going within eighty yards of the opening of the crater, which now is four hundred feet lower toward Resina than it was before the recent eruption.

MR. ROGERS CHANGES OPINION.

H. H. Rogers, Jr., who on Monday was a firm believer in the murder theory, had somewhat modified his opinion last night.

"Since making the statement that I believed Spier had been murdered by a burglar," said Mr. Rogers, "I have heard from the police, and am now not quite so certain. I will not admit it to be a case of suicide, although it may be possible. I do not believe that the fact that Spier recently took out \$75,000 in life insurance has any bearing on the case. That may be merely a coincidence, as in many similar cases."

When asked whether Spier's finances were in a bad condition, Mr. Rogers said that if it were so it was news to him. He did not believe his father, H. H. Rogers, Sr., would offer a reward, in view of the fact that Borough President Cromwell already had done so.

John Boone, manager of the Times branch of the New York Life Insurance Company, said yesterday that both policies issued to Mr. Spier were incontestable, and would be paid by the company, even if it were certain that Mr. Spier committed suicide. He said he did not know Mr. Spier's reason for having the policies made out to Alfred Lauterbach as trustee. Mr. Spier was solicited for the insurance by Mr. Boone personally.

Mr. Lauterbach said yesterday that as trustee and counsel for Mr. Spier he was prevented from talking about the case. It was plain that Mr. Lauterbach scouted the suicide theory. There was a report that the policy for \$50,000 would have to go to the payment of the Yettman Company judgment obtained against Mr. Spier last February.

Police Commissioner Bingham yesterday declined to make public a report he had received from Inspector Grant regarding the Spier case.

POLAND SPRING, SUMMER SEASON.

The Poland Spring House opens May 20th. A special representative will remain at the Resort Bureau, 5th Floor, E. Cor. E-way and 28th St. (May 10th to 25th) to make engagements and answer all inquiries. Tel. 416 Mad.—Adv.

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SPIER DEATH UNSOLVED.

SUICIDE THEORY GAINS.

Recent Business Worries Ascribed as Motive for Self-Destruction.

The death of Charles L. Spier, the confidential man of H. H. Rogers, of the Standard Oil Company, was as much a mystery to the police last night as ever. Captain Hogan, who commands the precinct in New Brighton, Staten Island, in Kings avenue, inclines to the theory that Spier committed suicide, although he will not commit himself definitely to such a statement. On one point, however, Captain Hogan is positive, and that is that no burglar committed the deed.

"After the most careful examination of the house and the grounds surrounding it, I am absolutely certain that the house was not entered by a burglar," he said.

On the other hand, Dr. H. W. Patterson, the Spier family physician, who was one of the first to reach the house after the tragedy, and Coroner M. J. Cahill are just as positive that Spier was murdered by a burglar who was caught in the act of robbing the house by its unfortunate owner.

The burglar theory rests mainly on the testimony of the widow. Mrs. Spier said that she was awakened by her husband knocking at her door and saying: "Karl, there are burglars in the house. I must go after them."

Then Spier took his collar band, crept down the stairs. A moment later, Mrs. Spier says, she heard her husband call out, "Ste 'em, Buster!" There was the report of a revolver, the sound of a body falling, and all was still.

When Dr. Patterson and others came in answer to shots fired by a passing tradesman who heard the cries of Mrs. Spier and her two maids, they found a few pieces of silverware on the floor. The doors leading to the back porch were open. There were no signs anywhere of a struggle.

POLICE FIND FEW CLUES. Two beer bottles, wrapped in a newspaper of last Sunday's date, were found near the back fence of the Spier garden. It was learned that they had been purchased from a dealer in Tompkinsville, and the police are said to be in possession of the name of the man who bought them. This, the burglar theorists say, may furnish a clue to the murderer, although no arrest had been made at a late hour last night.

The maid, Eva Ohloff, has also told of seeing a rough looking man looking at the house on Tuesday and Thursday of last week. This might supply a clue, but the police do not place much faith in it.

It was learned from one of the maids that the doors opening on the porch were frequently left open at night, so apparently that had no significance. And, while it would be easy for an active man to climb up to the porch from the sloping ground at the rear of the house, there was not a scratch or a footmark or evidence of any kind that any one had done so. Captain Hogan and his detectives say a fleeing man must have left some marks, even if he had gained entrance to the house without doing so.

The advocates of the suicide theory say that for several days Spencer had been in a nervous condition, so nervous that he had voluntarily occupied a room apart from his wife, so that he might not disturb her at night. This was the judgment for \$50,000 against him as president of the Yettman Typewriting Transmuting Company. Again there was the odd changing of the beneficiary in the two New York Life insurance policies, aggregating \$75,000 and only recently taken out, from his wife to Alfred Lauterbach, as trustee of his estate.

Furthermore, according to an intimate business friend, Spier was known to be a heavy speculator.

"In this connection," this friend said, "it is worthy of note that the stocks in which the Standard Oil crowd are interested have been hammered a great deal of late, and what might only have made a dent in the roll of the biggest men might have swamped Spier's."

Another point urged by the suicide theorists, is that Detective Sergeant Lawson, the first police officer to view the body, is positive that there were distinct marks of powder on the pajamas Spier wore. Here, however, a direct conflict of testimony is reached. Dr. George Wood, the coroner's physician, says there were no such marks, and that only the edge of the shirt was marked with powder, which would place the shot were fired at close quarters.

One phase of the case that has caused some feeling between the police and the coroner is that the latter has positively refused to carry the autopsy to the morgue, the coroner's office, who will decide to-day whether any further probing shall be done before the burial, which is set for 2 o'clock this afternoon at the Moravian Cemetery, New Dorp, Staten Island.

Berthel experts were at work on the case yesterday. They examined the finger print on the rear door jamb and a smear made by a thumb on the handle of the bread tray which was found on the floor. The smear on the bread tray was found to measure up with the thumb of Mr. Spier.

The dog, Buster, is the subject of much discussion among the arguing parties. Some of the dog was a big racket at the time of the shooting, and others that he was not heard. Dr. Horace V. Patterson, whose home is at the rear of the Spier place, states that Buster did much barking at the time Mr. Spier was killed.

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