

THAT RUSSIAN POISON PLOT

COUNT DE LACY'S ATTEMPT TO GET A FORTUNE BY MURDER.

Panchenko, the Bozov Doctor Who Helped Him, a Psychological Problem—Details of the Crime as Brought Out by Evidence—Toxin Used to Kill.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 5.—The Supreme Criminal Court of the empire has concluded one week's hearings of a murder trial to which 270 witnesses have been summoned. It promises to last about a month, including sittings on Sundays, and every phase of the story that it unfolds is as astonishing as the crime.

There are three accused persons, Count Patrick Casimir O'Brien De Lacy, a nobleman of Gresham descended from an Irish family which settled in the old kingdom of Poland in the eighteenth century, Dr. Vladimir Panchenko, an abnormally big, young old man, who presents a psychological problem to criminal jurisprudence, and an elderly woman named Ekaterina Muravieva, who became the maid of Panchenko while doing field hospital work in the war with Japan and has been his close associate since that time.

There is the accusation made in the indictment "Against the hereditary nobleman, Patrick Casimir Petrovitch O'Brien De Lacy, 47 years old, that he, without direct participation in the crime, with advice, forethought and by money payments procured that the defendant, Panchenko, injected a deadly poison into the body of his De Lacy's brother-in-law, Vassili Boturlin, in order to possess Boturlin's inheritance; against Vladimir Panchenko, son of a lieutenant-colonel, aged 62, that he carried out the injection of the poison with an undischarged syringe and thereby caused Boturlin's death and did so in concert with De Lacy and for money payment; against the courtier and widow, Ekaterina Muravieva, that she, without participation in the crime, was aware of it and that she harbored persons that were in Panchenko's possession to destroy traces of the crime, and that she received money from Panchenko, well knowing for what purpose he had received it. Finally Panchenko is accused of styling himself doctor of medicine without having a right thereto."

Fourteen of the summoned jurors sought and obtained exemption in view of the time that the trial would last. None of those accepted was protested against, and within an hour of the opening of the court a jury of twelve, who chose Baron Stempel as foreman, was empaneled. The first nighter element in St. Petersburg society soon filled the court room. Two figures who were watched by the crowd with curiosity were old Gen. Boturlin, a decrepit veteran, father of the dead man, and his daughter, Countess O'Brien De Lacy, wife of the principal accused man, who has stood by her husband throughout his troubles. Dressed in deep mourning she knelt and prayed audibly before the sacred icon outside the court, crossing herself again and again as she rose.

Not here, although they did not speak or recognize each other, was young Boturlin's widow, formerly a choir concert singer, also in deep mourning. The leaders of the bar crowded the seats for the counsel engaged and the press accommodation was given over to the journalists who have been pronouncing judgment daily on the case with a vehemence that establishes the non-existence of libel law in Russia when the matter in hand does not affect politics.

O'Brien De Lacy was the first to take his seat on the accused's bench, an inconspicuous looking middle-aged man, with hair and a mustache, redish, eyes hazel. His eyeglasses shook a little from nervousness during the first few minutes of the trial. Near him sat Panchenko, a patriarchal, silver-haired man, looking more than his years. He viewed the court with almost excessive benevolence. Mme. Muravieva was visibly angry at her position. As soon as she had answered to her name she drew a veil over her flushed face.

THOUSANDS DEAD OF PLAGUE

CHINESE CITIES STRICKEN; RUSSIANS ALARMED.

The Dead Lying in the Streets in Heaps in Fuzuyadyan—Chinese Can Do Nothing—Kharbin in Danger—Russia Urged to Take Action—Population in Flight.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 6.—From family letters sent home by Russian members of the Eastern Chinese Railroad administration at Kharbin the *Norveg Vremya* obtains details of the plague situation. The conditions at Fuzuyadyan are scarcely credible. The mortality during January was over 100 a day. Every few hundred yards hillocks of unburied bodies were gathered. The population a year ago was 40,000. By death and flight it was reduced by the beginning of the present year to 6,000.

Visitors to the town at that time say that only servants of the sanitary corps and soldiers were to be seen in the streets and even their numbers were thinning out. Weeping children sat all day by the heaps of corpses. On the outskirts of the town individual Chinese were to be seen dying on the ground. The Chinese authorities began only a fortnight ago to destroy the bodies systematically. First they burned three collections totalling 2,500. Great trenches banked with wood were dug for them and they were drenched through fire hose with petroleum.

The first consignments were burned thoroughly; later, through scarcity of petroleum and wood, they were only partially destroyed. Hungry dogs then devoured the charred flesh. The railroad administration furnished the Chinese with more wood. There were still over 1,000 corpses unburned when the last despatches were sent and new heaps were being formed daily. The survivors in Fuzuyadyan were giving themselves over passively to death. In Hulanchong, Ashio, Tsitsihar, Kurgenchangsi and Mukden the plague was killing from a score to a hundred in each place daily. At the first named the corpses were piled on the ice of the river to be floated away when the thaw came.

In the Tsitsihar district most of the local doctors are dead and the mortality among the soldiers increases rapidly. There is now a fear to flee for safety. The Kharbin population sees with great anxiety the approach of the warm days when the bodies now frozen begin to decompose and to infect the air and the rivers. The report of Russian families is well on the way. The panic spreads by reports of the uselessness of inoculation. The writers agree that Russia will have to look to her own safety. The Russian settlement at Kharbin will have to be burned down and a wide isolation zone protected by troops drawn around the Russian settlements. The Chinese authorities who realized the danger too late cannot stamp out the epidemic. In Fuzuyadyan and in the regions nearest the railroad the fight must be entrusted wholly to Russian hands.

It will soon be impossible, says one leader, to walk in the streets of Kharbin, which is only two weeks from Europe. One often sees Chinese begin to stagger as they walk and to roll over seized by the plague. Only the Russians stick to precautions and medical orders. People go about with muffers soaked in sublimate tied over their mouths. Metal money is washed and only two cents from Europe are most foodstuffs have to pass through Chinese hands there is danger of infection at any moment.

Before Dr. Michel died he made on his sick bed the experiment of inoculating himself with Dr. Ehrlich's "606" preparation. "We still have the man who eats penicillin in the car and throws the shell on the floor, though sometimes he seeks the comparative seclusion of a motorman's cab, one that is open in the car he is in. There he is out of sight of most of the people in the car and more comfortable for himself. But the peanut man will learn in time I hope and do not doubt."

MANNERS BETTER, HE THINKS.

Observations of an Elevated Railroad Conductor of His Passengers.

"I note," said an elevated railroad guard, "that people's manners are improving. I see on the cars among the many people who daily come under my observation less and less hogghishness and more and more courtesy and consideration. "Only this morning I saw one of the ill-mannered, boorish chaps come up with me. This man was sitting with his legs crossed and one foot stretching out half way across the aisle, in the way of everybody passing. Then there came along a man who saw that foot and saw it plainly, but did not turn out for it. No. He kept right on straight along the middle of the aisle and brushed against it roughly, as roughly as he could, and fairly knocked the man's crossed leg off the other knee and around into the place where it ought to go. Then he stopped, looked down on the man whose foot he had thus violently used and said: "I hope I didn't disturb you" and then he stood there and waited for an answer. "But he didn't get any. The other man looked up and glared, but he didn't say anything. The man standing there in front, waiting, was twice as big as he was.

"But you don't see anything like so many men keeping their legs up now while people are passing. Men still cross their legs, but nowadays the great majority of men take the crossed leg down when somebody comes along. "And now it is less common for men who chance to get a corner seat to cross their legs and spread them along over two or three seats; and it is much more common nowadays for people to move along a little and make room. "And men now more commonly give up their seats to women than they did, say five years ago. When ten years ago women came first in large numbers into office and general employments more or less in competition with men and on practically the same footing politeness to women competitors and in fact to all women when met in public conveniences did more or less decline. I think we must admit that, but now man's natural instinctive politeness to women is returning and now men are again giving up their seats to women. It would be safe to say that no elderly woman would now be compelled to stand in a car. It would be trite to say that a pretty woman always gets a seat. She does generally, but not always. It would depend somewhat on the sort of man she was standing opposite.

In fact you may say that our general manners are better in every way, and one thing, it seems clear to me, that has greatly contributed to this end is the city ordinance against spitting in the cars. "We still have with us the man who sits in an orange in the car and throws the skin on the floor, though sometimes we see a man put the skin back in the bag from which he took the orange and carry it away with him. Not so pleasant, rather unpleasant in fact, but who manures his finger nails in the car. But certainly we don't see so much of him as we did. "We still have the man who eats peanuts in the car and throws the shell on the floor, though sometimes he seeks the comparative seclusion of a motorman's cab, one that is open in the car he is in. There he is out of sight of most of the people in the car and more comfortable for himself. But the peanut man will learn in time I hope and do not doubt."

A FISH OF ODD WAYS.

Besides Being of Unusual Shape and of Beautiful Coloring.

The queen trigger fish, thin and deep bodied, ungraceful in shape but of beautiful coloring, is a creature odd in its ways; there is one at the Aquarium that people stop to look at and to watch. It may be seen with its thin body upright and horizontal in the water, in a normal position, but stationary, resting on the bottom of the tank and leaning slightly against the rock at its back and showing the signs of life. It may seem lifeless, and in this position it may remain for a considerable time, but if you watch you may see it presently roll its eye.

It may take this same position, but upside down, resting on its back, lying in that position quite motionless, and more than once when it has been seen by the visitors have told the attendants that they thought the queen trigger fish must be dead; but when the attendant comes to look the fish may be standing motionless in the water upright and seemingly supported on its tail, or it may be in like manner standing on its head, or sometimes it may thrust its head into a rock cleft just big enough to receive it and stay so for a time. It swims, to be sure, just like all other fishes, but besides being of unusual shape and of beautiful coloring, it is also odd in its ways, and the queen trigger fish is truly attractive. This specimen has been here about two years.

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AEROPLANE TENTS.

Specially Designed for the Convenient Housing of Flying Machines.

To the many kinds of tents made for various purposes there has now been added aeroplane tents, made of cotton duck of whatever weight may be desired and in various sizes from 33x40 feet to 40x90 feet. It is a wall tent, with the walls held up in the ordinary fashion by ropes drawn to outside driven stakes. The peak is held up by two or by four poles, according to the size of the tent, these poles being placed not within it, as in the case of an ordinary tent, but outside, and the two end poles at some little distance from the ends of the tent, so as to leave the tent openings at either end entirely free and unobstructed, giving ample clear space there to permit of the easy rolling in and out of the flying machine.

The peak of the tent is supported on a cable attached to the top of the end poles, which are swayed upright into place by blocks and tackle. For the biggest tents side poles are set up outside to support the peak midway of its length. Aeroplane tents cost from \$200 to \$375 each, according to size. They are designed for the use of flying machine men traveling and giving exhibitions, and also to be set up wherever they may be required more or less permanently, for professional and amateur aviators.

FREDERICK LOESER & CO. BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS. FREDERICK LOESER & CO.

Frederick Loeser & Co. The Subway to Hoyt Street Brings the Loeser Store Within 17 Minutes of Forty-second Street. In every detail the Leading Retail Establishment of Brooklyn.

Women's New Foulard Dresses, \$9.98 for Values Up to \$15. IF YOU WILL LET ME PROVE TO YOU how much your customers will like these new Dresses of mine I will make you a concession on the first shipment. That was the maker's suggestion and as a result we have a group of fresh and charming Foulard Frocks here to sell for \$9.98 tomorrow instead of prices up to \$15 each.

\$3 to \$5.50 Waists at \$1.98. Several Hundred in Important Sale. THE LOESER STORE has set a high record of value for Waists at \$1.98 in past weeks. Now here is another offering that matches that high standard and that many women will think exceeds it.

\$5 to \$7.50 Waists at \$2.98. \$7.50 to \$8.98 Waists. \$5. These are combination Blouses and single piece chiffon and voile Blouses, loaded with white heads. Colors are fancy black, black, tan and Alice blue. Kimono style, these are very effective when worn over a guimpe or lingerie waist. Also in this lot are voile Waists made over soft, all-over fancy netting cluster tucking each side and fancy yoke effect of hand embroidery combined with white heads. Net stock collar and under-sleeves. Colors are wistaria, green, navy blue and peacock. There are a number of fancy silk Waists and a few plain colors, full length sleeves and stock collars.

\$5 Lingerie Batiste Unmade Robes, \$2.98. THREE HUNDRED OF THEM were sold last Monday and doubtless this lot will go twice as quickly. They are exceedingly pretty and difficult to describe in type. They are Robes of qualities and patterns which sell regularly at five dollars. The material is a fine, sheer, French lingerie batiste and all are embroidered in attractive floral and conventional designs in combinations with ecru. All in plain white. In each pattern there are three and a half yards of 45 inch flouncings, two and a half yards of embroidery insertion and two yards of plain batiste. They are easy to fashion and provide a summer robe of beauty for a very low price.

We Head a Dress Cottons Sale With 29c. to 39c. Silk Mixed Fabrics, 25c. SOME OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE of the summery silk-mixed Fabrics are included in this special group at 25c. a yard. There are the soft, lustrous Pongees, flowered and printed Foulards and others. Much more charm in them than you will usually find for as small a price.

75c. to \$1.50 (27-Inch) Flouncings, 59c. A Record Spring Sale of Embroideries. SO VERY MANY WOMEN prefer to fashion their own summer lingerie gowns and petticoats that this news of an astonishing Sale of handsome 27-inch Flouncings will, in truth, be widely interesting. There are two thousand yards in this special purchase, and in addition to their very high qualities the special width makes them most exceptional value at tomorrow's price, 59c. a yard. All are of fine, sheer Swiss, a good "dress" quality, and there are over a hundred different patterns, including scroll, eyelet, floral, hind and other desirable styles, all with scalloped edges. All are firmly worked and for the most part there are but one or two pieces of a kind, which gives the offering a certain exclusive touch. An opportunity which women cannot well afford to miss and full 75c. to \$1.50 qualities for 59c. a yard. Fifteen hundred yards of fine cambric, nainsook and Swiss Allover Embroideries in the great range of patterns suitable for waists, yokes and sleeves. All well worked and decidedly the best values which have yet been offered at 50c. a yard.

One of the Fine Shantung Pongee Silks Is 58c. Instead of \$1 a Yard. THIS ALL SILK 27-INCH PONGEE is just the Silk for durable summer frocks and waists. Not too rough and not too smooth. In as attractive a range of colorings as can be imagined, including navy blue and black. We count it one of the important features of the winter Silk Sales at 58c. a yard. Here are other special offerings in the Silk Store: \$1.10 Colored 35 Inch Satin Messalines at 79c. | \$1 Guaranteed 35 Inch Black Taffeta at 69c.

25c. and \$1.50 Novelty Lace Bands, 12c. and 19c. EIGHT THOUSAND YARDS, comprising the balance of an unusual purchase, together with an entirely new lot which we received from an importer who sold us his balance of stock for an exceedingly low price. The magnitude of this sale is very large. The range of patterns is astounding. There is nothing of the popular colors missing, and there are many most beautiful combinations. The widths are the most desirable. It is an excellent time to secure the trimming for spring and summer waists and dresses for an extraordinary little price. Special space will be devoted to the offer on the main floor table, where they will be displayed to advantage.

Parlor Suites (Covered to Order) At Just About Cost of Production. THERE ARE FIVE STYLES OF SUITES and we shall show tomorrow a considerable variety of samples of tapestries, velours and plushes for coverings. Select the covering that pleases your fancy and we will have the Suite made up EXPRESSLY FOR YOU at these extraordinarily low prices. \$34 PARLOR SUITES AT \$23. Three pieces, mahogany finished frames, neatly molded, panel back, loose cushion seat. \$60 PARLOR SUITES AT \$40. Three pieces, mahogany finished frames, very massive, panel back, loose cushion seat. \$52 PARLOR SUITES AT \$34. Three pieces, genuine mahogany frames of neat design, loose cushion seat and tufted back. \$85 PARLOR SUITES AT \$58. Five pieces, mahogany finished frames, very massive, of plain design, with plain upholstered seat and tufted back. \$98 PARLOR SUITES AT \$66. Five pieces, mahogany finished frames, neatly carved, with plain upholstered seat and tufted back. Such a Sale should stir wide interest, for every one of these Suites is of admirable character and worthy—just as though it was in our regular stock at full price. It is very rarely indeed that one can find, for example, a SOLID MAHOGANY THREE-PIECE SUITE FOR \$34. The quantity of Suites is limited. It will be well to come promptly if you would be sure of one.

BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS. BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS.

Ask Your Friends who have pianos—what the maker's name is of the one they have and see if they have forgotten when IT IS A WEBER There is always a pride attached to the ownership of a WEBER—with its wonderful Sympathetic Tone it becomes part of the household—it is a shrine where we dream dreams and dull care takes wings. That Wonderful Sympathetic Tone Known the World Over as WEBER Tone is worked out to a wonderful degree in MODEL 11 You are cordially invited to call and inspect this great instrument; let us demonstrate its ideal and Wonderful Tone Quality. Consistent with the grade of materials used and the workmanship employed, prices are moderate. Terms can be arranged to meet your convenience. It is now possible for any one to own a WEBER. Selling Agents in Brooklyn for ALPHONZO SMITH PIANO HOUSE Five Styles—Steinway, WEBER, Steck, Wheelock and Stuyvesant. Priced \$550 and upward Moderate monthly payments accepted. Any Make of Piano Taken In Exchange—Liberal Allowances ALPHONZO SMITH PIANO HOUSE 23-25-27 FLATBUSH AVENUE, NEAR THE SUBWAY STATION. New Pianos Rented, \$4.00 Monthly. TUNING TRUCKING REPAIRING Our EXCHANGE Department is overflowing with choice BARGAINS.