

CZAR'S REFORM UKASE

IMPERIAL MANIFESTO JUST ISSUED CONTAINS SOME VERY LIBERAL PROMISES.

MANY SUBJECTS COVERED IN EDICT

QUESTION OF A CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY PRINCIPAL ONE LEFT UNTOUCHED.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—Emperor Nicholas' long cherished reform ukase has been issued. The document makes decidedly liberal promises under a number of heads.

The ukase promises a full and equitable enforcement of existing laws; assures the zemstvos of the fullest possible measure of self-government and the enforcement of the laws now existing in their behalf; promulgates a scheme of workmen's insurance; extends the liberty of the press and promises a full legal trial of all persons accused.

It deals with practically all the subjects brought to the emperor's attention by the memorial of the congress of the zemstvos presidents held here last month. While not specifically pledging the government to carry out the various reforms in their entirety as demanded by the memorial, the manifesto promises that each shall be referred to the council of ministers with orders to report promptly on the fullest measures of relief which can be accorded on the various subjects.

The question not touched by the ukase is that of the constitutional assembly. Neither is the Jewish religion specifically mentioned, though freedom for all creeds or sects, whether Christian or otherwise, is among the subjects which will be dealt with. In brief the subjects which will be referred to committees of the council of ministers for early report are:

First—A just and equitable enforcement of existing laws, with a view of securing the harmonious administration of all the courts.

Promises Made in Manifesto. Second—Zemstvo organization with a view to giving the widest latitude and autonomy to the various zemstvos, calling additional zemstvo representatives where required and creating smaller zemstvo units capable of dealing directly with the local needs of the peasants.

Third—Equality of all citizens before the law, this touching the much mooted question of peasant equality before the law.

Fourth—Arranging a scheme of workmen's insurance for the benefit and participation of factory workers throughout the empire.

Fifth—To secure citizens against arbitrary arrest and to accord immunity from harsh action of the police except in the cases of persons known to be conspiring to commit overt acts against the stability of the state.

Sixth—The religious freedom of all subjects of the empire without respect of creed or manner of worship.

Seventh—For rescinding all unnecessary repressive laws, leaving in force only those designed for the participation of peasants and for the benefit generally of subjects of the empire.

Eighth—To accord the fullest possible measure of liberty to the press and the removal as far as possible of various restrictive laws.

DEMAND RESTITUTION.

Russians Want Ammunition Seized by the Chinese.

Peking, Dec. 28.—The Russian officials here have demanded of the Chinese foreign office the restitution of the 3,000,000 rounds of ammunition, apparently destined for Port Arthur, seized by the Chinese authorities at Fengtai, near here, four days ago. The Russians assert that the ammunition was intended only for the legation guard.

It is learned at the foreign office that the Chinese intend taking a strong stand in view of the frequent attempts to smuggle arms and ammunition. The boxes of wool containing the cartridges seized at Fengtai were consigned to a European resident of Peking, who is now at Tientsin taking part in the investigation into the affair.

CONFIDENCE IN MIRSKY.

Moscow Zemstvo Passes Resolution of Congratulation.

Moscow, Dec. 28.—At the meeting of the Moscow zemstvo, in the presence of a great audience, resolutions of confidence and congratulation were passed on the appointment of Prince Peter Sviatopolk-Mirsky as minister of the interior and the prospect of closer relations and mutual confidence between the government and the people. The zemstvo then voted \$150,000 for the construction of schoolhouses to mark its satisfaction.

It is reported that Chief of Police Treppoff, who took an active part in the suppression of the recent student demonstrations, is about to resign and proceed to the front.

Where there is much pretension much has been borrowed. Nature never pretends.—Lavater.

ABSURD TO HIDE DEFECTS.

St. Petersburg Paper Criticizes Condition of Navy.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—In an outspoken article in reply to a recent letter of Admiral Biersleff, which appealed to the Russians not to openly criticize the condition of the navy, the Russ declares the time is past for silence in view of the fact that the "old system of concealing facts is responsible for the loss of 150,000,000 roubles' worth of warships and has covered us with shame and grief. It would be absurd to hide the defects that can still be repaired in the ships which remain at Cronstadt and Libau. We have already criminally wasted enough time."

The Russ enumerated the defects in the ships still in Russian waters, averring that the "peculiarities of structure of several of the vessels destined for the Far East make the voyage dangerous and the torpedo boats are in such a shocking condition that it is a matter of surprise that the authorities accepted their delivery. Torpedo boats intended to reinforce Vice Admiral Rojestvensky must clearly not be dispatched with the numerous defects which have been proved to exist in them." In conclusion the Russ says:

"Even if Admiral Rojestvensky is a clever leader and his 12,000 comrades are heroic sailors every one knows that we have imposed on them an almost superhuman task in consequence of our not being furnished with a true account of the gravity of the events which have occurred since the fatal night of Feb. 8."

CONTAIN LITTLE OF VALUE.

Receiver Locates Mrs. Chadwick's Trunk and Satchel.

Cleveland, Dec. 28.—Contrary to expectations the inquiry in connection with the Chadwick receivership case was not resumed during the day. Receiver Looser stated that nothing more would be done in the matter for several days.

"We have definitely located the trunk and satchel that were taken from the Holland House in New York," said Mr. Looser, "and they will be brought here within a day or two. Aside from wearing apparel there is, I understand, little of value in either the trunk or the satchel."

Continuing Mr. Looser said: "I had intended to examine Henry Wuerst, the Elyria (O.) jeweler, who holds about \$20,000 worth of Mrs. Chadwick's jewels as security for a loan. Wuerst has made a full statement of just what he holds, however, and has expressed his willingness to surrender them whenever the loan is made good. The jewels will be appraised later, but my impression is that they are worth no more than the sum advanced by Wuerst to Mrs. Chadwick."

MUCH LIQUOR CONFISCATED.

Naval Academy Midshipmen Planned on Celebrating Holidays.

Annapolis, Md., Dec. 28.—The naval academy authorities discovered that preparations for the drinking of a large amount of intoxicants during the holidays had been made by some of the midshipmen, the liquor to be obtained through some of the academy attendants. Watchmen were placed at the gates to inspect persons coming in and were successful in finding a considerable quantity of liquor, which was confiscated. A quantity of it was smuggled in, however, and several banquets were interrupted in different quarters. As a result the prison ship Santee is full of offending midshipmen and three have been recommended for dismissal by Commandant Badger.

STOCKHOLDERS CALLED ON.

Subject to Double Liability in Oberlin Bank Failure.

Cleveland, Dec. 28.—Acting upon instructions issued by the controller of the currency Receiver Robert Lyon of the closed Citizens' National bank of Oberlin has notified the stockholders of the latter concern that they must stand double liability on their stock. It is estimated that about \$60,000 will be secured by the receiver in this manner. Some of the stockholders, it is understood, have already paid their double liability.

SUICIDES IN UNDERTAKERS.

Chicago Banker Buys Coffin and Ends His Life.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Buying a coffin ostensibly for a friend Leroy K. Nesbitt, a banker, committed suicide in an undertaking establishment. Scribbled on a card in the banker's pocket was a note saying: "I am tired of being a cripple." Nesbitt had a shriveled leg and had spent thousands of dollars in a vain attempt to effect a cure.

BRIEF BITS OF NEWS.

Hugh A. Jamieson, one of the most prominent business men of Pennsylvania, is dead at Warren, Pa.

Rev. Father T. F. Lillis of Kansas City has been consecrated bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Leavenworth, Kan.

By the burning of the house of Mr. La Freniere near Calendar, Ont., his four children perished before assistance could reach them.

A proposal is now before the emperor of China to send the students of the navy college to the British admiral at Shanghai for a course of instruction.

A large number of delegates, representing every section of the country, have arrived at Memphis to take part in the forty-third general convention of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

CHICAGO'S BIG SUBWAY

COMPANY CONTROLLED BY LARGEST RAILROAD AND FINANCIAL INTERESTS.

WELL KNOWN MEN IN DIRECTORATE

UNDERGROUND TRANSFER OF MERCHANDISE FROM STORES TO FREIGHTHOUSES.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—The Chicago Subway company, owned and controlled by the largest railroad and financial interests of the country, made announcement during the day that among the prominent men in the directorate of the Illinois Tunnel company, the operating company, will be the following:

A. J. Earling, president Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway; E. P. Ripley, president Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway; George H. Harris, president Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railway; S. M. Felton, president Chicago and Alton railway; J. Kruttschnitt, director of maintenance and ways Southern Pacific and Union Pacific railways; B. L. Winchell, president Rock Island railway; A. C. Bird, vice president Gould lines; F. D. Underwood, president of the Erie railway; Benjamin Thomas, president of the Chicago and Western Indiana; P. A. Valentine, vice president Armour & Co.; Albert G. Wheeler, president Illinois Tunnel company.

Announcement of the representation of other railroad interests in the tunnel company's board will be made in a few days. Among the additional directors will be representatives of the Vanderbilt lines, Pennsylvania railway and the Chicago and Northwestern railway.

The Chicago Subway company owns the stock of the Illinois Tunnel company, the Illinois Telephone Construction company and the Chicago Warehouse and Terminal company. The tunnel company will operate the tunnels constructed in Chicago for the transfer of all freight, merchandise, mail, newspapers and packages between business houses and the railroad stations. The Illinois Telephone Construction company not only does the construction work of the tunnel company but will also enter into contracts for the handling of excavations and deliver building material for new buildings through the tunnels and will also do in Chicago similar work to what the Realty company does in New York. The Chicago Warehouse and Terminal company will handle all the warehouse and terminal business in connection with the tunnel business.

FREIGHT RATE QUESTION.

President and Attorney General Discuss the Subject.

Washington, Dec. 28.—President Roosevelt embraced the opportunity during the day to take up with the members of the cabinet many questions of detail in departmental administration, but will also enter into conference with the cabinet longer than usual. At the conclusion of the meeting the members of the cabinet said in response to inquiries that little business of serious importance was considered. After other members of the cabinet had left the executive offices Attorney General Moody discussed with the president some phases of the railroad freight rate question. Both the president and the attorney general recently have devoted much time to that problem. The latter is giving particular attention to the legal side of the question so that he may be prepared to advise with the president on the subject and with such members of congress as may wish to consult him. It is understood not to be the intention of the president and the attorney general to prepare and press the consideration in congress of an "administrative measure" dealing with the railroad freight problem. Such a bill, it is thought, "would be destined to defeat." Both the president and the attorney general, it is said, are proceeding on the assumption that the committees of congress are amply able to prepare their own measures, although the president in conversation with senators and representatives has presented clearly his own ideas. The attorney general, too, has discussed the subject with members of congress.

JAPANESE FORCE SURPRISED.

One Hundred Killed and Fifteen Others Captured.

Mukden, Dec. 28.—Volunteers who crossed the Shakhe river on Thursday surprised a force of the enemy killing about 100 and taking 15 prisoners. The Russians' losses were trifling.

Number of Persons Injured.

Indianapolis, Dec. 28.—High winds are prevailing throughout Indiana. Much damage to wires is being done. In Brown county the storm is the most destructive in years. At Elkinsville a schoolhouse was unroofed and several children were injured. Barns were blown down and several head of stock killed. A four-story brick wall of the recently burned Central chair factory was blown down, injuring two men.

FIRST IN MANY MONTHS.

South Greatly Benefitted by Heavy Rainfall.

Louisville, Dec. 28.—The South has received during the last thirty-six hours the first soaking rain in many months. In the territory from the Ohio river to the Gulf and from Texas over into Georgia the springlike weather of the past few days has been preceded by lightning and followed by high winds. In several places a cold wave has sent the mercury scurrying to the bulb, a fall of 9 degrees in one hour being recorded at Nashville.

In Kentucky the rain was general, the local weather bureau recording a precipitation of 2 inches. A fall in temperature of 40 degrees is forecast. Mountain streams are filling up and crops will be greatly benefited. A boating stage in the Ohio seems assured and many places suffering from a shortage of coal will soon have their wants supplied.

There was a miniature cloudburst at Hill City, a suburb of Chattanooga, but no serious damage was done.

A steady, hard rain fell at New Orleans and reports of heavy precipitation have been received from Montgomery, Knoxville, Nashville and Memphis. The telegraph companies are moving business under difficulties, wires being down in many localities.

ALL TRAFFIC INTERRUPTED.

Sleet Storm Accompanied by Dense Fog in New York.

New York, Dec. 28.—Rain and sleet, with a rising temperature, following the recent heavy snow storms, have greatly impeded traffic in and about New York. Telegraphic communication has been considerably handicapped and nearly all through trains from the West and North are delayed owing to slippery rails.

In addition to the delay caused by the sleet storm the congested traffic of the upper harbor and the North and East rivers, crowded with ferriesboats, was hampered by a dense fog. The unpleasant conditions in the harbor were increased by ice. No serious accidents were reported.

Philadelphia, Dec. 28.—Traffic of every sort was badly hampered during the early hours by a dense fog which settled over the city and vicinity during the night.

JUMPS TO HER DEATH.

Young Woman Probably Detained Against Her Will.

New York, Dec. 28.—A woman twenty-one years old, known as Cecil Hall, killed herself instantly by jumping from the third story window of a house near Broadway, in West Forty-sixth street.

Her act created a commotion in the neighborhood, where it was declared that the girl was screaming for help when she was seen to fling herself in a nude condition headforemost from the window.

Coroner Schoier took charge of the matter and immediately gave it as his opinion that the girl was not a suicide but had been detained against her will and was attempting to escape. Later he modified his statement somewhat, pending further investigation. The woman's clothing was found scattered about the room from which she leaped.

PASSENGERS SHAKEN UP.

Train Filled With Mystic Shriners in Collision.

Baltimore, Dec. 28.—A collision occurred in the yards of the Pennsylvania road at the Union station between the Northern Central Harrisburg express train, en route from Washington, and an empty express train of the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Annapolis railway. On the Harrisburg express were a large number of Mystic Shriners of that city and other passengers, including Admiral Schley.

George Ungleb, engineer of the Harrisburg express, was hurt internally. Several other railway employees were less seriously injured, but all were badly shaken up.

CHAT WITH GIRL KILLS FOUR.

Man Converses With Another's Sweetheart and Fight Follows.

Huntington, W. Va., Dec. 28.—As a result of a quarrel over a man talking with another man's sweetheart without asking the latter's permission four men are dead following a general shooting affray and two are seriously injured at Grangers, Logan county.

The dead are: John and Marvin Hart, aged twenty-three and twenty-six, respectively; Martin Johnson and Luther Dascom. William Riley and Henry Tuberville are injured, the latter probably fatally.

PAY AMERICAN CREDITORS.

Monterey and Mexican Road Must Settle \$2,000,000 Claims.

Monterey, Mex., Dec. 28.—Colonel J. A. Robertson of this city has been advised that his case, which for years has been pending in the courts of the City of Mexico against the receivers of the Monterey and Mexican Gulf railway, has been decided in his favor by the federal supreme court. The Belgian company will have to pay the claims of American creditors. About \$2,000,000 is involved.

Fatal Explosion in Steel Plant.

Pittsburg, Dec. 28.—John Guy, foreman of bricklayers, was burned to death and five others seriously injured in an explosion in furnace J of the Edgar Thomson plant of the Carnegie Steel company at Braddock.

LARGE AREA COVERED

STORM OF WIND, RAIN AND SNOW PREVAILS OVER ALMOST ENTIRE COUNTRY.

BLIZZARD GENERAL IN THE WEST

RAILROAD TRAFFIC IS IMPEDED AND WIRE COMMUNICATION INTERRUPTED.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Reports to the weather bureau say the storm that reached the Oregon coast Saturday morning moved southeastward to the Texas coast, thence northeastward into the Middle Mississippi valley. In the last twenty-four hours it has increased greatly in intensity and forms the most severe wind and rain storm of the season throughout the Middle and Lower Mississippi valley, Tennessee and the East Gulf states. Heavy downpours of rain, accompanied by thunder storms and high shifting winds, have occurred in the Lower Mississippi valley, Tennessee and the Lower Ohio valley, and rain, sleet and snow in the Upper and Middle portions of the Mississippi valley and the west portion of the lake region. Rain, snow or sleet has fallen at practically every station west of the Mississippi, while a cold wave prevails between the Mississippi and the Rocky mountains. The Mississippi valley disturbance will move northeastward during the next thirty-six hours.

IN THE NORTHWEST.

Traffic Blocked by Worst Blizzard of the Season.

St. Paul, Dec. 28.—A snow storm, accompanied by a high wind, prevails throughout the entire Northwest. On the prairies the storm is particularly severe and railroad traffic is greatly interfered with, some coast trains, already overdue here, being twenty-four hours late. Trains from the East are also hard hit and local street car service is seriously impeded. Wire communication is interrupted in all directions.

Des Moines, Dec. 28.—A blizzard, blowing across the state with unusual ferocity, piling snowdrifts high, breaking down telegraph and telephone wires and delaying railway traffic, prevailed in Iowa during the day. In Des Moines street car service was suspended early in the day. The storm grew in severity as the day progressed.

COWBOYS TO BE GUESTS.

President Invites Former Hosts to Breakfast.

Denver, Dec. 28.—The cowboys of Hugo served to President Roosevelt a cowboy breakfast in May, 1903, when the chief executive was on his Western tour. In return the president has sent an invitation to take breakfast with him in the White House to some of those who participated. Judge C. M. Miles of Hugo and John Keppel, the cowboy cook, who looked after the proposition of the breakfast which the president so much relished, will go to Washington, starting on Jan. 29, and will enjoy Mr. Roosevelt's hospitality as representatives of the cowboys of Colorado.

PROMOTER ENDS HIS LIFE.

Made Desperate by Failure of a Fuel Corporation.

New York, Dec. 28.—Made desperate by the failure of the American Fuel corporation, of which he was the secretary, George S. Evans, a broker and promoter, ended his life in a hotel in Jersey City by shooting himself in the head.

PERSECUTING BULGARIANS.

Turks Resume Excesses and Serious Trouble May Occur.

Sofia, Dec. 28.—Reports from Adrianople indicate a recurrence of persecution excesses by the Turks against the Bulgarians. The Bulgarian government has notified the foreign representatives of the excesses and requested that they communicate with their respective governments, calling attention to the possible consequences and notifying them that Bulgaria declines to accept the responsibility.

Wisconsin Woman Suicides.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—A young woman who committed suicide at the Mercy hospital shortly after she had given birth to a son has been identified as Mrs. Jennie Beal of Burlington, Wis. The identification was made by John L. Graham of Warren, Ill., a cousin of the dead woman.

Murderer Given Life Sentence.

Fort Huron, Mich., Dec. 28.—George Bearns, who murdered Mrs. Abel Brown at her home on a farm near Berville last Friday, has pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced by Judge Law to life imprisonment in Marquette prison.

ONE KILLED AND TWO WOUNDED.

Fatal Fight at a Christmas Tree Entertainment.

Williamson, W. Va., Dec. 28.—A Christmas tree entertainment at a church in Nolan, near here, was brought to a sudden close by a fight in which one man was instantly killed and two others seriously wounded. Everett Thompson was shot dead by Mike Duncan.

NOT PART OF UNITED STATES.

Laws of This Country Not Applicable to Canal Zone.

Washington, Dec. 28.—In an opinion rendered by Frank L. Campbell, assistant attorney general for the interior department, it is held that the laws of the United States are not applicable to the Panama canal zone. The canal zone is described in the opinion as not being an organized territory of the United States and the assistant attorney general holds that there is no provision in the treaty with Panama or the laws or regulations making the laws of the United States generally applicable.

OFFICIALS SEEKING CORROBORATION OF THE DODGE CONFESSION.

New York, Dec. 28.—District Attorney Jerome and his assistants are working hard to obtain corroborative evidence in connection with the confession of Charles F. Dodge, who was brought here from Texas on a charge of perjury which grew out of the Morse-Dodge divorce entanglement. This confession, according to current report, involves a conspiracy on the part of men well known here to defeat the ends of justice but the district attorney is understood to take the position that corroboration of the statement is a necessity before any court or jury because Dodge admits that he committed perjury in the case.