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FREEDOM FOR RUSSIA.

Decree of Czar will Forever End Rule of Absolutism—Free Press and Free Speech and Right of Suffrage Granted.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 30.—The following imperial manifesto was issued to-night:

"We, Nicholas the Second, by the grace of God emperor and autocrat of all the Russians, grand duke of Finland, &c., declare to all our faithful subjects that the troubles and agitation in our capitals and in numerous other places fill our hearts with excessive pain and sorrow.

"The happiness of the Russian sovereign is indissolubly bound up with the happiness of our people, and the sorrow of our people is the sorrow of the sovereign.

"From the present disorders may arise great national disruption. They menace the integrity and unity of our empire.

"The supreme duty imposed upon us by our sovereign office requires us to efface ourselves and to use all the force and reason at our command to hasten in securing the unity and co-ordination of the power of the central government and to assure the success of measures for pacification in all circles of public life which are essential to the well being of our people.

"We, therefore, direct our government to carry out our inflexible will in the following manner:

"First, to extend to the population the immutable foundations of civic liberty, based on the real inviolability of person, freedom of conscience, speech, union and association.

"Second, without suspending the already ordered elections to the state douma, to invite the participation in the douma, so far as the limited time before the convocation of the douma will permit, of those classes of the population now completely deprived of electoral rights, leaving the ultimate development of the principle of the electoral right in general to the newly established legislative order of things.

"Third, to establish as an unchangeable rule that no law shall be enforced without the approval of the state douma, and that it shall be possible for the elected of the people to exercise real participation in the supervision of the legality of the acts of the authorities appointed by us.

"We appeal to all faithful sons of Russia to remember their duty toward the fatherland, to aid in terminating these unprecedented troubles, and to apply their force, in co-operation with us, to the restoration of calm and peace upon our natal soil.

"Given at Peterhof, October 30, in the eleventh year of our reign. "Nicholas."

The Fall of Czardom.

Czardom has fallen. That is the purport of the news from Russia. The Czar himself has not fallen. Perhaps he has actually risen to a higher and nobler status. He has not abdicated his throne, but he has abdicated his autocracy. Henceforth he would reign as a constitutional sovereign, with a responsible Ministry and an elective Parliament. So much, at least, it is apparently safe to say, without waiting for the precise text of the imperial mandate which was signed yesterday. For, even if that instrument were not a complete surrender to the popular demand, it would be impossible now to turn back a revolution which has gone so far. In yielding at all at this crisis autocracy has potentially yielded altogether. We said in January last that, no matter how long the final transformation might by some means be deferred, it was bound to come, and meantime, from that date, things could never again be as they had been. They have not been as they were before Father Gapon led his flock to the Winter Palace.

And now the end has come. The "Russian system" founded two centuries ago is at an end, and the autocratic Czar consents to become a constitutional Emperor.

This epoch making change, the greatest Europe has known in a full generation and one of the greatest it has known for centuries, is distinctly a triumph of the people. No revolution in history was ever more so. There have been great changes when one monarch has overthrown another or when some great popular leader has swayed a government. Not so has it been in Russia. We were commenting only the other day upon the apparent lack of leadership in the revolution. There has been no Bismarck, no "Man on Horseback," no Danton, no Mirabeau. There has been only the multitudinous mass of the Russian people, moving blindly but with unerring instinct; at first as slowly as a glacier, at last with the fury of an avalanche. In prophecy of the last comparable occurrence in Europe before this, John Hay wrote:

The people will come to their own at last.

God is not mocked forever!

The Russian People have indeed come to their own at last. How they will deal with it the world waits to see with hopeful expectation. It is first to be seen whether the tardy concessions extorted from the hesitating Czar will be accepted by the people in good faith, so that he will be retained upon the throne.

There have been those of late who have clamored that the throne itself must go, and many have feared that any concessions now made would be too late to prevent an anti-dynastic movement of irresistible force. Yet there is ground to think that a conservative second thought will impel even the Radicals to pause before taking that extreme plunge, and to accept in good faith the Emperor's grant of constitutional liberty. Then it will remain to be seen to what effect the Russian people will make use of their newly gained power. It has been a commonplace that the Russians are wholly unprepared and unfitted for democratic institutions. Yet it must be remembered that in their local village administration, and even in provincial affairs, they have long been accustomed to a large measure of self-government. It would not be difficult or fanciful to trace a material resemblance between the village assemblies of Russia and those town meetings which were the preparatory schools of American republicanism; and it may be that even the hitherto hapless moujik will tomorrow rise up, not unworthy of his newly gained dignity.

Leaderless the revolution has been. But, now that it is practically effected, a leader is offered to it whom it will do well to accept. In making the Treaty of Portsmouth Count Witte did service enough and won fame enough to fill the measure of a life. Yet today he is called to a more arduous work, to a more important service, and, if he succeeds, to a higher glory. No man can envy him the tremendous responsibilities he is assuming. If, however, there is a man in Russia able to assume them and to discharge them aright, he is that man. Yesterday he won an unexampled victory in persuading the Autocrat to abdicate his autocracy without the further popular compulsion which was prepared and impending. Today his task is to win and to hold the confidence of the people and their assent to and co-operation in the scheme of constitutional government which he has devised. A fortnight ago Count Witte declared that the Czar's greatest desire was to become a constitutional sovereign, and that his ideal was Edward VII. If now, as at once the mentor of the Czar and the mediator between him and the people and also the leader of the people, he can bring to pass the fulfilment of that high desire, he will perform a service and achieve a renown unsurpassed in all the history of the Russian Empire.—New York Tribune

BULLISH COTTON REPORT.

Weather Bureau Reports Damaging Rains in Large Area.

Washington, Oct. 31.—The weekly cotton region weather crop bulletin issued today by the Weather Bureau, says:

"In districts where the proportion of ungathered cotton is greatest, the weather conditions of the week ending October 30 were not favorable. Wet weather over a large part of the central and western districts of the cotton belt during the fore part of the week delayed cotton picking and caused injury to open cotton in northern Texas, Oklahoma and Indian Territories, Arkansas, the northern portions of Mississippi and Alabama and western Tennessee. As a whole the week was cool. Frosts occurred in the central and western districts, causing considerable damage in Tennessee, northern Mississippi and Oklahoma and Indian Territories, but practically none in Texas. In the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida the weather conditions were favorable. Picking is from one half to two thirds completed in Oklahoma and Indian Territories, Arkansas, and northwestern Mississippi; a much larger proportion of the crop has been gathered in other sections, picking being practically completed in the more southernly districts.

Foreign Crop Prospects.

Conditions of foreign crops, as published yesterday in Broomhall's Liverpool "Corn Trade News":

United Kingdom—Beneficial rains have fallen.

France—The weather is favorable for seeding. Supplies of good wheat are very small.

Germany—The weather is cold and unfavorable, and seeding is very backward. Offerings are very small.

Hungary—Conditions are less favorable, and it is stated that some land is still unseeded. Offerings are small.

Romania—Seeding is making fair progress. The corn crop is better than expected and a semi-official forecast makes the probable yield 64,000,000 bushels, compared with 72,000,000 bushels, an average crop. Supplies are liberal.

Russia—Crop conditions are favorable. Southwestern stations hold good quantities of wheat. The central statistical preliminary estimate of the yield of winter wheat and rye in the seventy-two governments is as follows: Winter wheat, 219,200,000 bushels, against 204,800,000 bushels a year ago. Rye, 670,400,000 bushels, against 920,000,000 bushels a year ago.—New York Tribune.

New Liberal Organ Interests London.

London, Oct. 30.—All London's political world is greatly excited over the coming of the new daily, The Tribune, which is to represent, not the Radical, but the Liberal party, but strangely enough not a word of disparagement or discouragement has been uttered in any quarter. The Tribune is, in fact, looked forward to eagerly by all.

The man who is to launch the paper, Mr. Thomasson, is only thirty-one years of age. His father was a humble Lancashire cotton spinner, who rose from sheer ability and hard work to power and wealth. He left \$15,000,000 to his son.

Young Thomasson does not intend to interfere with his editors. He has told his friends that he wishes to be the proprietor, nothing more.

"I Thank the Lord"

cried Hannah Plant, of Little Rock, Ark., "for the relief I got from Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It cured my fearful running sores, which nothing else would heal, and from which I had suffered for 5 years." It is a marvelous healer for cuts, burns and wounds. Guaranteed at Hood Bros. Drug store; 25c.

GENERAL NEWS.

President Roosevelt was 47 years old last Friday.

A heavy snow fell in western Missouri and in most of Kansas Monday.

The yellow fever record in New Orleans Tuesday was three new cases and two deaths, making the totals 3,396 cases and 446 deaths.

In a battle between insurgents in the Philippines last week United States troops killed Datto Ali and eleven of his followers. Three American soldiers were killed.

A horrible tragedy occurred in King and Queen county, Va., Saturday, when W. D. Coker, formerly of South Carolina, murdered his neighbor, R. E. Gresset and then returned home, killed his own wife and two children and committed suicide.

At least eighteen persons were killed and twenty-five others injured Sunday in the wreck of one of the fastest regular trains on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway. The train was derailed 1 mile east of Sheffield, Mo., 6 miles from the business center of Kansas City.

In different cities in Russia Tuesday disorder continued and numbers of people were killed or wounded; in St. Petersburg 200,000 strikers paraded and threatened to release political prisoners from jail, desisting only upon a statement by Count Witte that an amnesty proclamation is being prepared.

President Roosevelt arrived in Washington Tuesday from his Southern tour and upon landing from the steamer Dolphin was paid the usual honors; he declares that he greatly enjoyed his trip and the sea voyage as well; while on the cruiser West Virginia he made a speech to the officers and men and one of the boilers was named for him after he shoveled some coal into it.

The astonishing feat of receiving wireless telegraph messages for a distance of 1,100 miles was accomplished Saturday when the navy yard at Washington caught messages from the cruiser West Virginia which was speeding with President Roosevelt to Hampton Roads. The cruiser was in the Gulf when Washington "got in touch" with her. Mrs. Roosevelt sent wireless congratulations upon his 47th birthday.

Practically a revolution was effected in Russia Monday when the Czar surrendered his autocratic power and consented to Witte's demands for a government fashioned after that of Great Britain; the franchise was widely extended, and there is to be a parliament elected by the people and a cabinet responsible only to parliament; a free press, free speech, right of assembly and the habeas corpus are some of the rights surrendered to the people.

In the presence of 5,000 persons, with elaborate ceremony, a statue of J. Sterling Morton, secretary of agriculture in the last Cleveland cabinet, and founder of Arbor day, was unveiled at Morton Park, Nebraska City, Saturday. Among those present were Grover Cleveland, Adlai E. Stevenson, Governor Mickey, Hilary A. Herbert, David K. Francis and others associated with Mr. Morton during his term of office. Sterling Morton, a grand son of the secretary, drew aside the curtain which exposed the statue to view. There were six addresses, principal of which was that of Mr. Cleveland, which was a touching eulogy of his former cabinet officer and personal friend.

A Disastrous Calamity.

It is a disastrous calamity, when you lose your health, because indigestion and constipation have sapped it away. Prompt relief can be had in Dr. King's New Life Pills. They build up your digestive organs, and cure headache, dizziness, colic, constipation, etc. Guaranteed at Hood Bros. Drug store; 25c.

BAPTISTS WILL MEET.

Third Annual Session of Johnston County Baptist Association will be Held in Benson Church Next Week.

Benson, N. C., Nov. 2.—The third annual session of the Johnston County Baptist Association will convene in the Baptist church at this place next Thursday morning, November 9, at 11 o'clock. Rev. C. W. Blanchard, of Clayton, will preach the introductory sermon.

The Association was organized two years ago at Selma with 30 churches. At the session at Clayton last year three new churches were admitted into the body and it is expected that one or more will seek admission here next week.

Among the leaders of the Baptist work in the State the following will probably be present: Rev. Livingston Johnston, Corresponding Secretary of the Baptist State Convention; Mr. J. W. Bailey, editor of the Biblical Recorder; Rev. Hight C. Moore, Sunday School Secretary; Rev. M. L. Kesler, Manager of the Thomasville Orphanage, and others.

The people of the town and community are expecting a good attendance and are making preparations to entertain all who come.

The following is the program that has been arranged for the session:

THURSDAY.

11:00 a. m.—Introductory Sermon.
2:00 p. m.—Organization.
Aged Minister's Relief.
Woman's work.
7:00 p. m.—Home Missions.
Miscellaneous.

FRIDAY.

9:30 a. m.—Devotional Services.
10:00 a. m.—Report of Executive Committee.
11:00 a. m.—State Missions.
2:00 p. m.—Orphanage.
Temperance.
7:00 p. m.—Foreign Missions.
Miscellaneous.

SATURDAY.

10:00 a. m.—Sunday School Mass Meeting.
10:00 a. m.—Sermon.
Farewell.
Meeting of Woman's Central Committee will be arranged for Friday at 2:00 p. m.

The following are the chairmen of the standing committees for this session:

State Missions—J. M. Beaty.
Home Missions—J. W. Suttle.
Foreign Missions—C. W. Blanchard.
Orphanage—F. T. Booker.
Education—J. P. Canaday.
Periodicals—A. A. Pippin.
Ministerial Relief—R. W. Horrell.
Sunday Schools—R. A. Merritt.
Woman's Work—B. Townsend.
Temperance—C. W. Carter.

Pointed Paragraphs.

Imagination doth make cowards of us all.

Civilized men make liquor and liquor makes savages.

Marriage opens a man's eyes and his pocket-book simultaneously.

Anything that is unnecessary is dear, no matter how cheap it may be.

Cowardice is a nightmare that troubles some men when they are awake.

No literary critic is justified in abusing a book—until after he has read it.

A dead man is of much use in the world as a lazy one—and he takes up less room.

Some merchants could sell a good deal more than they do—by filling up their measures.

The average woman would rather have a husband who tells her all he hears than a house with seventeen closets.—Chicago News.

In Pensacola Tuesday there were nine new cases of yellow fever and one death.

CLAYTON NOTES.

The revival at the M. E. church has closed. Rev. G. W. Fisher was assisted by Rev. Dr. Reid, of Raleigh.

More cotton and better cotton is coming to our town now and it's bringing a fancy price now and then.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Thurston will soon move to their handsome new residence, which is very nearly completed.

Clayton Buggy Co. recently received a solid car of one make buggies. This shows whether Clayton does the business.

Last week Yelir was so busy selling clothing and shoes that he forgot THE HERALD letter entirely. The readers will have to forgive him.

Mr. T. D. Blackwood has succeeded Mr. John L. Johnson in the jewelry business here. Mr. Johnson has moved to his farm in the country.

Mr. S. Tom Stephenson has sold his grocery business to Mr. Herman Medlin. Mr. Medlin will be glad to have a share of the public patronage.

The handsome new furniture and fixtures for Clayton's up-to-date drug store are here and are being installed. It's one of the prettiest drug stores in the State.

Mrs. W. I. Hardesty, mother of Mrs. R. H. Gower near here, left Monday for San Francisco, Cal., to visit her son, Dr. Irvin Hardesty, Professor of Anatomy in the University of California.

Quite a number of "young Americans" have made their appearance since our last issue. Among the happy fathers are Messrs. John R. Pool, Joe T. Barnes, Jim M. Barbour and Hal O. Ellis.

Messrs. J. Paul Gulley and Harvey Creech have opened an oyster saloon on Main street and will now be prepared to serve the public with fresh oysters in all the latest styles on short notice.

Mr. J. Dan'l Eason and family have moved to our town. Mr. Eason will leave in a few days for western markets to purchase a big lot of fine stock and new buggies. Mr. Eason intends to do the livery business right.

On account of his very extensive and ever increasing office practice, Dr. Young finds it necessary to have regular office hours. He has decided to have the hours from 11 a. m. to 1 p. m. and 7 p. m. to 9 p. m.

Mr. Ed. L. Jones, of Atlanta, Ga., spent a few days here last week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Jones. He left the latter part of the week for a visit to his brother in Portsmouth, Va., accompanied by his parents.

The vast freight business done here seems to give the agents more than they care to do. Mr. Massey resigned on account of the volume of work. Now we hear that his successor has resigned for the same reason. The freight receipts here for the month of September were in the neighborhood of \$7,000.

Our town is in gloom over the death of our very highly esteemed townsman, Mr. D. L. Barnes, which sad event occurred on last Friday evening about 7 o'clock. Mr. Barnes had suffered for a long time with cancer of the face, but bore his sufferings quietly and unflinchingly. We sympathize with the bereaved family in their deep loss.

Oct. 31. Yelir.

Youth is a period of building up in habits, hopes, and faiths. Not an hour but is trembling with destinies; not a moment once passed, of which the appointed work can ever be done again, or the neglected blow struck on the cold iron.—John Ruskin.

—He—There's one thing I will say you make quite as well as your mother used to make. She—What's that, Fred? He—Trouble—Stray Stories.