

Bloody Conflict Rages Now in Russia's Capital

Outbreak Began Yesterday When Threatening Striker's Were Fired into and Hundreds Were Slain. Quiet Reigns Today Till Midday, When Conflict Was Renewed.

Emperor Nicholas, Collapsed With Grief, May Issue Manifesto Declaring St. Petersburg in State of Siege. Excitement in Other Russian Cities.

The revolt of striking workmen in St. Petersburg culminated yesterday in a desperate clash with the troops, and the whole day terror reigned in the Russian capital. 1500 are reported killed, though it has not yet got beyond the rumor stage. Some say several thousand were killed yesterday.

Quiet was restored last night, and there was quiet today until about one o'clock, when reports came that the conflict had been resumed. The last reports are that the troops are firing on the workmen.

What the end will be no man can tell. The Emperor is stricken with grief or terror or both, while the soldiers and the mob make terror throughout the Empire.

Emperor Prostrated. St. Petersburg, Jan. 23.—Emperor Nicholas is completely prostrated by grief. He is represented to be almost in a state of collapse over the situation. In the meantime everything awaits his decision. All schools are closed. Every window in Grand Duke Sergius's St. Petersburg palace was broken by the mob during the night.

Quiet at 11 a. m. St. Petersburg, Russia, Jan. 23.—(11 a. m.)—Up to this hour there has been no renewal of disturbances. The city is quiet. Interior minister Sviatopolk-Mirsky telegraphed orders to the chief headquarters of the Workmen Union. This was done by the workmen themselves without police interference.

The Military in Control. St. Petersburg, Jan. 23.—(12:45 p. m.)—The military had complete possession of the city this morning and quiet prevailed everywhere. After the volleys in the Vassili Ostoff quarter at midnight the men abandoned the barricades and retired. Word was passed around by the leaders to remain quiet for the present. During the night snow fell covering the ugly red stains and obliterating all traces of conflict, and with the break of day the city, except for the presence of troops in the streets had resumed its normal appearance. The shops had reopened and general traffic partially resumed. Men appeared at work in several factories and mills including the works of the Russian Westinghouse Company, but the managers, in the majority of cases told them to remain away a few days. In the meantime they would receive pay.

The people generally are nervous and keep indoors. The strikers looking weary and haggard after the excitement of yesterday, collected in sullen little groups awaiting the decision of their leaders regarding the plan of action. They were in an ugly mood and broke out in curses whenever the soldiers marched by. A cordon of troops barred the entrances to the city from the big industrial section. The bridges are still held by the regiments of the guards.

The authorities have advised the factory owners not to admit the men as they had stolen a lot of dynamite bombs and might destroy the property. One of Father Gopon's lieutenants declared that the leaders of the strikers had resolved to preach a gospel of armed resistance and overthrow the autocracy but it did not carry with it a threat of pillage or an attack on property. Newspapers have appeared since Friday except the Moscow messenger. Considerable excitement, associated with no open demonstration is reported. Workmen and social democrats are planning to complete the strike here Wednesday. It is now reported that in addition to the Moscow guard regiment, the Finland and Izmalsky regiments declined to obey orders to fire yesterday.

Excitement Rising. St. Petersburg, Jan. 23.—(3:22 p. m.)—The city this afternoon again resembled an armed camp. Strikers continue to drift toward Palace Square and Cosakoff and police are keeping more and more difficulty in having the crowds moving.

Moscow Quiet at Noon. Moscow, Jan. 23.—All is quiet here at noon.

Conflict Resumed. St. Petersburg, Jan. 23, 5:44 p. m.—Conflicts between the military and the

public have been resumed. On Nevsky prospect the troops are firing on crowds.

Destroying Railroads. St. Petersburg, 4:58 p. m.—It is rumored that the Warsaw railroad station is on fire. Yesterday's report that a portion of the track of the Warsaw and Baltic Railroad had been torn up is confirmed. The Northern Express has not yet left the station.

Locking up Fire Arms in Cellars. St. Petersburg, Jan. 23.—The police have closed all the gunsmith shops, and fire arms and other weapons have been removed from the windows and locked up in cellars.

Last Reports Say No Clash. St. Petersburg, 6:25 p. m., Jan. 23.—No clash between the strikers and troops occurred during the afternoon. There was a report that troops were firing on the crowds in Nevsky Prospect, but it turned out to be incorrect.

Official Denials. St. Petersburg, 6:26 p. m.—The authorities feel easier for the time being. Camp fires burning in all the streets where detachments of soldiers are stationed.

It is now officially denied that a single regiment refused to obey orders yesterday.

Emperor's Manifesto. St. Petersburg, Jan. 23.—It is rumored that Emperor Nicholas will issue a manifesto tomorrow declaring St. Petersburg to be in a state of siege.

Excitement in Moscow. Moscow, Jan. 23.—Moscow is greatly excited over the news from St. Petersburg and workmen are greatly aroused. A general suspension of work is expected January 26. Many shop owners are purchasing arms to protect their property.

Sale of Petroleum Forbidden. St. Petersburg, Jan. 23.—As the day advanced the crowd on Nevsky Prospect increased and the police did not allow them to collect. Squads of Cossacks with lances and carbines patrolled the thoroughfare as a reminder of what would happen at the least disturbance. Sale of petroleum has been forbidden by the police to prevent the possibility of the strikers attempting to destroy the city by fire.

Stocks in St. Petersburg. The situation was reflected on the Bourse in a semi-panic in industrial shares. The government energetically supported imperial 4's and prevented a slump.

Effect on N. Y. Stock Market. New York, Jan. 23.—The New York market is considerably affected by the news of the outbreak yesterday in St. Petersburg. The first prices of leading speculative issues were a point or more lower than Saturday's close. The general tone of the market is weak. There did not seem to be any organized support of the prices. London was a heavy seller here.

New York, (Later) Prices broke with some violence. The first volleys were beaten back by renewed offerings but later support became effective and there were considerable rallies.

The Rumor a Fake. St. Petersburg, Jan. 23.—There is no foundation for the rumor that the Warsaw Railroad station is one fire.

THE SLAUGHTER YESTERDAY.

How the Troops Were Hissed by the Crowds—Report by Eye Witness of the Conflict.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 23, (2:23 a. m.)—The most harrowing scenes of the day occurred around the palace square. The enormous place back of the Winter Palace is surrounded by gardens fronting the admiralty, and by a vast park. A gateway serves as an entrance of the Grand Morskaja, one of the most fashionable streets of the city which crosses the Nevsky prospect. Beyond the semi-circular building is a wide space leading to the Moika canal, and beyond this stands an enormous square building, the headquarters of the St. Petersburg military district. From the Grand Duke Vladimir had issued orders for the whole day's operations.

When the correspondent arrived at the palace square early this morning he found a considerable crowd of demonstrators already lining the railings of the adjacent streets of the boulevard. The square itself presented the appearance of a military encampment. Several companies of the Dalovsky and Preobrajensky Guards had pulled their arms, while the men were sitting around camp fires or stamping on the snow to keep warm. Beyond the infantry stood squadrons of the Chevaliers and the Horse Guards, without their lances, cutra, or the usual gay trappings. The men carried carbines slung across their shoulders, and their sturteps were covered with felt. The air was cold. All the soldiers wore hoods to protect their ears. A whole row of ambulances drawn up near the palace served as a grim reminder of the stern business on hand. Meanwhile pickets were stationed at all the entrances of the palace, and cavalry patrols kept the promenaders moving along the sidewalk. Sleigh traffic continued uninterrupted all the time.

Wanted to See the Czar. The strikers' mangled and held a small office at the corner of the gardens, and poured out constant objections and reproaches at the troops. It was vain that officers requested them to disperse.

"We have come to present our homage and grievances to the Emperor." "Let the Emperor come out and hear us; we do not wish to do harm."

"Long live the Emperor! If he only listens to our grievances we are sure he will be just and merciful." "We cannot longer endure our sufferings. Better die at once and end all!"

Such were the cries repeatedly heard from many strikers.

Many strikers brought their wives and children. "You soldiers are our brothers; you cannot shoot these little ones," they exclaimed. But as the pickets and patrols continued driving off the people the demonstration began to give way, and the bitter insults, in which the Russian vocabulary is particularly rich, became frequent. "We are not enemies, why brutalize us? Will you shame the mother who bore you, who was a Russian like ourselves?" were some of the cries that were heard. Later such expressions as "scoundrels," "mercenaries," "dogs," and worse, were heard.

The Troops Hissed. Every time the troops moved the crowds hissed. Strikers also gathered at the entrance of the Grand Morskaja and of the avenue leading to the Moika canal. The crowd at the latter place swelled to huge proportions, blocking the bridge across the canal. The order came at 1:30 p. m., to clear them off. The colonel commanding the Horse Guards uttered a short, sharp command, the troopers drew their swords and advanced at a quick trot and then broke into a gallop, heading straight for the Moika, where they were lost in a cloud of snow. Shrieks from the wounded resounded. Then came a deadly silence, broken only by the galloping of ambulance horses.

The next 30 minutes passed without incident. Nothing indicated the approach of the horrible butchery which was destined to stain the corner of the admiralty gardens with human blood. The crowd there persisted in refusing to move and continually hurling abuse at the troops, but attempted no violence. Two companies of the Preobrajensky Guards, of which Emperor Nicholas himself was formerly colonel, which had been standing at ease in front of the palace, formed and marched a double-quick towards the park corner.

The Butchery Begins. Events followed with awful swiftness. The commanding officers shouted "Disperse," "Disperse." Many in the crowd turned to flee, but it was too late. The bugle sounded and the men in the front ranks sank to their knees and both companies fired three volleys, the first two with blank cartridges, and the last with ball. Many corpses strewed the sidewalk. Many women were pierced through the back as they were trying to escape. The correspondent, standing behind the troops, saw mangled corpses of persons of all ages and both sexes strewn along the ground. One boy of 13 had his skull pierced and rent by bullets. Great splashes and streams of blood were witnessed as wives, husbands and mothers came up and were carried off with their dead in the sleighs. Meanwhile the crowd had drifted up the Nevsky prospect, yelling "Murderers!" "murderers!" and the square resumed its calm aspect, the troops returning to their stations.

Another Entrance Cleared. It was now the turn for the crowd stationed at the Morskaja entrance to the square, where the Horse Guards repeated the exploit with which they had cleared the Moika, and drove the people pell-mell down the thoroughfare.

From thenceforward the palace square ceased to be the center of interest. The correspondent went to the Grand Morskaja and stood a whole hour near the corner of the Nevsky prospect. The hotels on either side of the Grand Morskaja were crowded, but the doors were locked except to well-known visitors. Fashionable jewelers and other stores were barred. Quite a number of prominent persons stood on the sidewalks watching the developments. Secretary Spencer Eddy, of the American embassy, chatted with Grand Duke Boris, who had driven up in a stylish sleigh drawn by a magnificent trotter. M. Bompard, the French ambassador, drove past with his wife. A couple of squadrons of red-capped hussars trotted by, the officer's gaze the command, "Use the flats of your swords!"

Then the troops moved off and disappeared down the street, the crowds shrieking, "Murderers, dogs," but quickly vanished before them. No troops were visible for as much as half an hour. A crowd quickly formed outside the drug store, and an orator was found for the occasion. Standing on the steps of the drug store, he addressed the impromptu meeting thus: "Comrades! We came humbly and peacefully to meet the Emperor and lay our grievances before him; but the Emperor refuses to see us and instead soldiers were sent to shoot us down. Then all I can say is no Emperor. Down with the Emperor," shouted the crowd.

"We have suffered under the sway of Chinovniks." ("Down with the Chinovniks.")

"We hoped for redress but hope is no longer possible; we can win our rights only by fighting." ("Down with the autocracy" yelled the crowd.) "Our only chance for redress is from representatives of the people." ("Long live the constitutional assembly.") "Then all I have to say is to arms, comrades, to arms."

"To arms," was the thunderous response.

Slaughter at the Gate. There was a very dramatic scene at the Narva gate when Father Gopon in the garden vestments, bearing aloft an

THE LEGISLATURE STARTS WEEK WITH A QUIET SESSION

But Bills, Bills, Bills Still Come With Tireless Energy. One Man Introduces a Bill 60 Pages Long Amplifying the Watts Law.

Wants to Give Heads of Families the Right to Write Prescriptions for Liquor to be Had at Drug-gists. Senator Cox Wants Wives to Obey Husbands.

Special The News. Raleigh, Jan. 23.—In the Senate today Forshee, of Durham, introduced a bill to fix railway passenger fare at 3 cents a mile, abolishing second class fare; also providing a method whereby all orders of the corporation commission shall be enforced, corporations, of course, having the right of appeal to higher courts.

Ward, of Craven, introduced a bill amplifying the Watts act, regulating the liquor business of the State. The bill allows no distilleries in towns of less than 1,500 inhabitants, with no limit as to the size of the town in which saloons shall be run.

There is a provision that in prohibition towns drug stores can issue intoxicants on a certificate of the head of the house. It consists of sixty type-written pages. Webb, of Asheville, introduced a bill to provide a primary election law for Asheville and Buncombe county.

Senator Cox convulsed the Senate with laughter by introducing a ridiculous bill or petition, for making a wife subject to her husband in all things, and to repeal the law requiring the wife's signature to deeds and mortgages.

In the House. In the House Stewart, of Harnett, introduced a bill to prohibit the operation of bucket shops in North Carolina.

Gowder, of Johnston, a bill to encourage purity in art by prohibiting nude or obscene pictures. Stronach, a bill to amend the charter of the Raleigh and Pamlico Sound Railroad.

Both branches of the Legislature were in session less than an hour. A charter was issued to the Ham Grocery Company, of Greensboro, capital \$25,000 authorized, \$6,000 subscribed, by H. T. Ham and others; Piedmont Drug Company, King's Mountain, capital \$8,000 subscribed, F. L. Carpenter and others; A. Teague Mercantile Company, Lowell, Gaston county, capital \$10,000.

\$5,000 MILL SUIT. J. M. Pressly Against Dover Yarn Mills of Pineville Begun in Court.

Before Judge Oliver Allen, in Superior court this afternoon, the case of J. M. Pressly, an operative in the Dover Yarn Mills, against the mills for \$5,000 alleged damages for the loss of a thumb was taken up.

The plaintiff alleges that during the month of February, 1903, while in the employ of the mill he lost a thumb, while working about a portion of the machinery of the mill and for the loss he asks, through his attorneys, Burwell and Cansler, the sum of five thousand dollars.

The Dover Yarn Mills, who are the defendants, are represented by C. W. Tillett, Esq., and the examination of witnesses in the case was started shortly after the opening of the court this afternoon.

The jury in the case returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff this afternoon, allowing him to recover \$105,000.

MR. BROWN INSTALLED. As Pastor of Hopewell Presbyterian Church.

Rev. E. D. Brown was installed pastor of Hopewell Presbyterian Church Saturday morning at 11 o'clock. Rev. P. H. Gwynn, pastor of Steele Creek Church, presided over the installation services, and delivered the charge to the people.

Rev. J. M. Grier, of Huntersville, preached the sermon, and Rev. J. L. Cook, of Paw Creek, delivered the charge to the pastor.

Services preparatory to the communion were held Friday and Saturday, conducted by Rev. P. H. Gwynn.

COTTON MEN GATHER. Outlook Good For Large Gathering at Cotton Convention.

New Orleans, Jan. 23.—Today's arrivals for the cotton convention which begins tomorrow indicate the attendance will be large. President Harvie Jordan, of the Southern Cotton Planters' Association, who will call the convention to order, was among today's arrivals. He was accompanied by President J. Pope Brown, of the Georgia railroad commission. There was a conference today to map out a general plan.

The Spencer Building. Mr. G. C. Huntington left this morning for Spencer where he goes to attend to some matters in connection with the new Y. M. C. A. building that is to be erected at that point.

Mr. Huntington had with him this morning the plans of the new structure. These will be turned over to the contractor as soon as one is named.

R. R. DIFFICULTY SETTLED. All Differences Between Penn. R. R. and Employers Adjusted.

By Associated Press. Philadelphia, Jan. 23.—After a conference between General Manager Atterbury, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and Grand Master Morrissey, Vice-Grandmaster Lee and the board of adjustment of the brotherhood of railroad trainmen, Mr. Morrissey announced today that the differences between the company and the men here had been amicably settled. Concessions are being made by both sides.

MANY NOW AT WORK. Fall River Operatives Commence Work in Large Numbers.

By Associated Press. Fall River, Mass., Jan. 23.—Practically every cotton manufacturing concern in Fall River today reported that more operatives are at work than at any time since last July. The reduction of 12 1-2 per cent in wages goes into effect today at six mills.

Operatives Walk Out. Taunton, Mass., Jan. 23.—The Corr Cotton Mills, of East Taunton, reduced wages 12 1-2 per cent, affecting 400 hands. About 250 of the operatives walked out as a protest.

GIRL NOT OF AGE. Couple From Newton Are Having Their Troubles.

A New's man was looking over the "marriage book" this morning in Mr. Morris McDonald's office in the court house and had just finished tabulating a license when Mr. McDonald stepped up.

"Don't write down that license," he said. "Why?" asked the News man.

"They didn't get it" replied Mr. McDonald with a little twitch in his eye that excited the curiosity of the News man.

"Thinking there was a secret attached to the affair he was pressed further for an explanation. "Well, continued Mr. McDonald, "you see they came here from Newton and there was nothing about their manner that would indicate parental objection so I just came to the conclusion that the girl was not of age and would not issue the license."

"Where are they now?" asked the News man. "O, they have gone out to find witnesses to prove that she is of age."

CHAIRMAN L. D. WARNER. Head of Y. M. C. A. in America Expected Here Sunday Next.

Chairman L. D. Warner, of the International Committee in the United States, and the head of the Y. M. C. A. movement in America, is expected to be in the city the latter part of the present week, and on Sunday, with several other officers of the Association, high in the ranks of the work, to take part in a great meeting for men, and to be present at an institute to be held Saturday for the benefit of the directors and others, who are interested in Y. M. C. A. work.

The local officials of the Association already have in hand preparations for the meetings to be held here, and they expect to have a great gathering of men next Sunday, at which it is likely that the officials of the International Committee will make short addresses.

The institute will be held on Saturday at 11 o'clock and the Sunday program is still under advisement, but promises to be an important occasion in the ranks of the Association workers in the city.

MRS. WITHERSPOON ILL. Mother of Mrs. Geo. E. Wilson Very Ill at Her Home in South Carolina.

A telegram was received this morning by Mr. Geo. E. Wilson, stating that Mrs. Wilson's mother, Mrs. Hamilton Witherspoon, was very ill at her home in South Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson will leave tonight for Colo Strawn, Sumter county, the home of Mrs. Witherspoon, to be with her while her illness lasts.

The message did not state the nature of Mrs. Witherspoon's illness, only bringing the brief information that she was very ill.

Mrs. Witherspoon has visited in the city on numerous occasions, and is well known to a large circle of friends here, who will be pained to learn of her unexpected illness. Mrs. Witherspoon visited Charlotte last summer.

SOME TELLING FACTS. What Prohibition is Doing For Charlotte.

From all sources it is learned that our merchants had a splendid trade Saturday. The meat markets, the grocery stores and in fact all trading places report an exceedingly good day.

Alderman Bates tells The News that last week was a record-breaker at his store. His customers purchased in larger quantities and paid up their back accounts better than for many moons.

The real estate men say they are having very little trouble collecting their rents. In fact one real estate man says that rent collections are better than was ever known at this time of the year.

All of which the above parties claim is directly due to the absence of the open saloon in Charlotte.

Death of Infant. Ora May, the three weeks old child of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. B. Lawing, died this morning at an early hour and will be buried at 10 o'clock tomorrow from the home on North McDowell street the funeral services being conducted by Rev. L. A. Falls, pastor of Brevard Street church, and the interment being in Elmwood.

The pall bearers will be Fred Hall, Rhom Curles, Charles O'Daniel and Walker Elam. The parents have the sympathy of many friends in their bereavement.

Mr. David H. Batham is ill at his home on South Myers street.

SMOOT RESUMES HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE COMMITTEE

Prefers Not to Testify as to Endowment Oath Because He Took a Vow, Not an Oath That it Should Be Held Sacred and Has Kept it all His Life.

Representative Baker Gets Excited in the House Over the News From Russia and Wants to Adjourn. A Member Has Convulsions.

By Associated Press. Washington, Jan. 23.—Senator Smoot resumed his testimony before the Senate committee on privileges and elections today. He said he much preferred not to testify concerning the endowment ceremonies, and continued: "I made a vow, not an oath, with my God, not with any man, not with the President of the Church or with a living soul, but I did make a vow that I would keep these endowment ceremonies sacred, and not reveal them to anybody, and I have kept that all my life."

He said the church had not proceeded against President Smith for living in polygamy. In voting to sustain President Smith at the conference last October, Mr. Smoot said he did not sustain Mr. Smith except as President of the Church. Regarding polygamy, he said: "After the manifesto was issued, there was a disposition among all classes to tolerate the old conditions, as the easiest and quickest way to put a stop to the practice of polygamy. I believe the question will be solved by the people of Utah just as soon as death removes these polygamists."

In the House. A resolution was adopted by the House today authorizing the managers of the House in the Swayze impeachment case to employ a clerk and other assistants, and to incur whatever expense may be necessary in the preparation and conduct of the case.

The minor bill was being considered when Mr. Baker, of New York, in an excited manner jumped up and moved that the House adjourn. "In order that we may express our indescribable horror at the wanton massacre that has taken place in Russia!" The only vote recorded in favor of adjournment was that of Mr. Baker.

Representative Pearce, of Maryland, was struck with nervous convulsion on the floor of the House, and was carried to the cloak room and attended by Dr. Godfrey Hunter, a member from Kentucky. Owing to the confusion and excitement a recess of ten minutes was taken.

PREACHER AGAINST BILL. Rev. J. A. B. Fry On Reduction of School Money For Negroes.

During the morning sermon at Trinity Methodist church Sunday, the pastor, Rev. J. A. B. Fry, took occasion to refer to the proposed measure before the state legislature to place the appropriations of school money for white and colored schools in the State on a basis of taxes paid and not on a per capita basis as is the present law.

The minister said that he hoped that the measure would not be adopted; that there were obligations on the strong and those who have resources which they must fulfill towards the weak, and that the passage of such a law as the one proposed would not meet with his endorsement.

Steel Creek Farmers Meet. A meeting of the farmers and cotton growers of Steel Creek was held Saturday and delegates to the county meeting to be held here after the New Orleans meeting, were elected as follows:

A. A. Porter, Dr. John Knox, J. Frank Neely, W. A. Grier, W. B. Choate.

Much enthusiasm was displayed at the meeting and the farmers expressed themselves as being heartily in favor of the movement now on for betterment of the conditions of the cotton growers.

A Beautiful Composition. The music at the Second Presbyterian church yesterday morning was exceedingly beautiful.

Prof. Zehm is not only a very gifted organist, but is a composer also, and the anthem yesterday morning, an arrangement of "The Lord is My Shepherd," was his composition, one of the prettiest arrangements ever heard in the city. As an offertory the quartette sang with exquisite effect, an arrangement of Handel's Largo.

With genuine sorrow the News chronicles the extreme illness of Mr. Hugh K. Reid, of Sharon, who has been confined to his bed for several days with pneumonia. The report of his condition today is quite unfavorable, and his family and many friends are very apprehensive about him.

Card of Thanks. I desire through The News to thank my many friends and neighbors for kindness shown me in my late bereavement—the death of my husband and daughter. Mrs. Lucy Porter.

Mrs. A. L. Smith returned from a visit to relatives and friends in Concord.