

BRILLIANT CEREMONY AT OPENING OF THE NEW RUSSIAN PARLIAMENT

Emperor's Speech Disappoints the Members

DID NOT MENTION AMNESTY

Lower House will Prepare a Reply to Speech from the Throne

Impressive Ceremony Was Held at the Winter Palace, and Was Surrounded With Great Pomp and Dignity—The Emperor's Message Was Less a Throne Speech Than a Greeting and It Required Only Three Minutes in its Delivery—Constitutional Democratic Leaders Prevented Precipitate Action on the Subject of Amnesty by Members of the Lower House. Count Witte a Lonely Figure—Scene at the Tauride Palace in Striking Contrast With That at the Winter Palace.

St. Petersburg, May 10.—Without a single hitch, and with only a minor incident to mar the memorable day, the Russian parliament was inaugurated today. The weather was superb, and the stage management of the impressive ceremony at the winter palace, when Emperor Nicholas, surrounded by courtiers and all the pomp and panoply of power, delivered the speech from the throne to the members of the two houses, was perfect. Such a spectacle, perhaps, never before has been witnessed on the earth's stage.

The message in reality was less a throne speech than a greeting, and required only three minutes for delivery. Upon entering the chamber the emperor halted in the center of the hall, and the metropolitan antonius advanced to meet him and held out the cross, which his majesty reverently kissed. Then bending forward the emperor clasped the hands of the metropolitan, raised it to his lips and kissed it, the metropolitan returning the salutation.

The empresses, who had in the meantime advanced and taken their places on either side of the emperor, greeted the sacred emblem, and the representative of the church in a similar manner. The emperor was dressed in the simple blue uniform of a colonel of the Preobrajensky regiment of the guards, with half length boots, and his only decorations were the scarlet ribbon of the Alexander Nevsky Order across his breast, and the diamond star of the St. Andrew order.

The empresses were clad in court costume, the ancient Russian dress, composed of a flowing, long trained robe over a white silk skirt, and wearing on their heads the Koboshnik, or high Russian head dress, embroidered with pearls and diamonds. The train of the dowager empress was white and heavily edged with dark fur, as a token of her widowhood. That of the empress was embroidered with gold. The empress wore diamonds and the dowager empress pearls.

All eyes turned on the emperor who bore himself proudly erect, joining in the te deum by crossing himself and making frequent responses. The empresses kept their eyes straight to the front during the long religious ceremony, glancing neither at the members of the parliament on their right nor at the courtiers on their left, scarcely moving a muscle, though the heaving bosom and flushed face of the young empress showed that she was far from being at ease.

At the closing of the te deum the clergy retired, chanting, towards the palace chapel, and the empresses moved up the hall and ascended the dais on the right of the throne, while the grand dukes moved forward and occupied the three lower steps on the same side. The metropolitan, the emperor's private chaplain, the members of the holy synod, the master of the imperial household, and the special aid de camp, took their places at the foot of the throne, to the left, the emperor himself remaining alone in the center of the hall during the transformation.

When all those participating in the ceremony had taken their new places, there was a slight pause, and then the emperor walked slowly twenty paces to the dais, ascended the throne, seated himself in the imperial chair, and an aide de camp stepped forward and presented him with the draft of his address.

His majesty rose and looked down upon the wonderful scene, delivered his message to the Russian millions. The emperor spoke with a firm, steady voice, which was heard distinctly in every corner of the hall, emphasizing deliberately every word.

Such a hush fell on the assembly during the reading that the snap of camera shutters was sharply audible.

The emperor's speech was as follows:—
"The Supreme Providence which gave me the care of our fatherland moved me to call to my assistance in legislative work elected representatives of the people. In the expectation of a brilliant future for Russia I greet in your persons the best men from the empire, whom I ordered my believed subjects to choose from among themselves.

"A difficult work lies before you. I trust that love for your fatherland and your earnest desire to serve it will inspire and unite you.

"I shall inviolate the constitutions which I have granted with the firm assurance that you will give your strength to the service of your country, and especially to the needs of the peasantry, which are so close to my heart, and to the education of the people and their economical welfare, remembering that to the dignity and prosperity of the state not only freedom, but order founded upon justice, is necessary.

"I desire from my heart to see my people happy and hand down to my son an empire secure, well organized and enlightened.

"May God bless the work that lies before me in unity with the council of the empire and the imperial duma. May this day be the day of the moral revival of Russia and the day for the renewal of its highest forces.

"Approach with solemnity the labors for which I call you, and you will be worthy of the responsibilities put upon you by the emperor and people.

"May God assist us."

Emperor Nicholas read slowly. The admirable and even cordial tone of the sovereign in renewing his pledges and asking the co-operation of parliament for the regeneration of the country was only negatively satisfactory. Courtiers and spectators other than members of the national parliament lead the cheering, but the members were ominously silent, expressing neither approval or disapproval.

What rankled most was the failure of the emperor to mention amnesty and later when the members assembled in the tauride palace, away from the spell of the throne room, many of them were with difficulty restrained from precipitating matters by offering resolutions on the subject. The constitutional democratic leaders, however, who dominated everything, were anxious not to weaken the reply, while the lower house will prepare a reply to the speech from the throne, in which issues with the crown will be joined, and succeeded in staying off premature action.

The emperor and empresses after leaving the palace entered a launch, passed down the river, boarded the imperial yacht Alexandra and returned to Peterhof.

The crowds on the banks of the river and islands heartily cheered the imperial party. There was no other incident.

A pathetic figure in the scene at the palace was that of Count Witte, of whom the correspondent of the Associated Press caught a glimpse, during the ceremony, pacing the corridor, entirely alone. Later he entered the throne hall clad in the gold and black uniform of a secretary of state, one of the highest dignitaries of the court which still remains to him, and with the ribbon of Alexander Nevsky Order on his breast. He took his place in the ranks of the old bureaucracy. Former Interior Minister Durmovo was there chatting animatedly and earnestly with his companions, but Witte seemed to find a cold welcome from everyone.

Finally he wandered away and stood apart until the imperial pageant approached.

The scene around the tauride palace was in striking contrast with that at the winter palace. Each, indeed, was typical and told an eloquent story. At the tauride palace, tens of thousands of people were acclaiming their representatives; at the winter palace legions of military and courtiers by the hundreds cheered for the emperor. Nevertheless the proceedings of the lower house were not spectacular; in fact they were most tame in comparison with those at the winter palace.

The only genuine flashes of fire which showed the real temper of the members of the house, were when Professor Mouroussoff who had been elected president of the lower house invited government officials and clerks to leave the hall, and when Ivan Petrunkevitch in a few eloquent words from the rostrum told the auditors that the first thought of the parliament should be for those who have suffered in the cause of liberty, who now filled the prisons and whose arms were stretched out in hope and confidence to the people's representatives. More enthusiastic cheering than that which greeted this appeal never was heard in a political convention in the United States.

The constitutional and amnesty were the keystones of President Mouroussoff's speech.

By the irony of fate Ivan Petrunkevitch, whose first mention of the word constitution twelve years ago, was dismissed by Emperor Nicholas II, as a foolish dream, today stood in the front rank of the members of the representative chamber, while Emperor Nicholas

has put his final seal upon the Russian parliament and begged the representatives of the people to co-operate with him in working for the welfare of the country.

The lower house of the parliament adjourned until tomorrow in order not to interfere with the opening exercises of the council of the empire and also to permit the committee of the constitutional democrats to consider the reply to the speech from the throne.

Dispatches received here from all parts of Russia indicate that the opening of the parliament was celebrated everywhere.

So far as known the only disorder reported occurred near the winter palace between an officer and a party of roughs who declined to make way for him. Finally one of the roughs struck the officer in the face whereupon the latter drew his sword and cut down his assailant. The officer was arrested. The man is not mortally wounded.

TO BUY IN THE OPEN MARKET

Shells and Projectiles for the Navy Department Will be Purchased by Bids and Proposals—Consideration of the Naval Appropriation Bill.

Washington, May 10.—Shells and projectiles for the navy department, will after June 30th, 1906, be purchased by the bureau of ordnance, in the open market, instead of as is now the practice in secret markets from firms engaged in the manufacture of these articles. This change in existing conditions was brought about through the efforts of the chairman of the appropriations committee, Mr. Tawney, of Minnesota, who offered an amendment to the naval appropriation bill, which the house had under consideration today, directing that the secretary of the navy should advertise for proposals for shells and projectiles so that all firms engaged in the business of their manufacture may have an opportunity to compete.

Much time was spent today in considering the question of enlistments in the navy and the failure of recruiting officers to properly enforce the law as to minors.

An amendment offered by Mr. Kellner, of Massachusetts, was adopted prohibiting naval officers from enlisting seamen, ordinary seamen or apprentices, unless their application is accompanied by a certificate of birth and written evidence other than the applicants own statement that he is of the age required by naval regulations.

The debate on this amendment extended over much of the session and at times grew decidedly animated and a bit acrimonious.

After defeating amendments designed to enlarge the Washington, (D. C.) navy yard, and the yard at Pensacola, Fla., the house at 5:15 adjourned until noon tomorrow, having completed but a few pages of the naval appropriation bill.

15TH METROPOLITAN HANDICAP

Four Year Old Gelding "Grapple" Wins in One Minute and Thirty-nine Seconds.

New York, May 10.—Twenty-two horses of medium class went to the post today in the fifteenth metropolitan handicap, and after a journey over the main course at Belmont Park in one minute and thirty-nine seconds, John A. Drake's four year old gelding, Grapple, by Woolsthorpe-Embrace, flashed under the wire a winner by three-quarters of a length. Second was F. R. Hitchcock's four year old Dandelion, a head in front of James McLaughlin's Oxford. Israfael, second choice in the betting, was fourth, and Roseben, the public favorite was fifth. Roseben led into the stretch, but died away in the last furlong. The betting against the winner was 8 to 1 and he was heavily played. Against the second horse, Dandelion, there was 6 to 1 for the place, while Oxford was not seriously considered at 20, 10 and 5. Israfael was always held at five to one, while the now twice dethroned idol, Roseben, went back to a point in the betting from 3 to 1 to 7 to 2. The Metropolitan was worth nearly \$14,000 this year, of which the second horse received \$2,000 and third \$1,000. Only one favorite won during the day, Hylas, at 7 to 5 in New York always steeple chase.

MRS. JEFFERSON DAVIS ILL

Suffering From Serious Attack of the Grippe, Which it is Feared Will Prove Fatal.

New York, May 10.—Mrs. Jefferson Davis, widow of the president of the Southern Confederacy, is dangerously ill of the grippe in her apartments in the Hotel Girard in West 44th street, this city, today. As Mrs. Davis is nearly 80 years old, it is feared that the attack may be fatal.

Her daughter, Mrs. J. Addison Hayes, has been summoned from her home in Colorado Springs. Mrs. Davis has been living at the Girard for several years and is frequently visited by her daughter. Dr. Robert H. Wylie, who is attending Mrs. Davis, said today that she is suffering from an attack of the grippe and as she is about 80 years it appears serious.

Life is too Short

To keep house during this hot weather with a red hot stove—Cook with Gas.

Malaria Makes Pale Blood.

The Old Standard Green's Tasteless Chill Tonic, drives out malaria and builds up the system. Sold by all dealers for 27 years. Price 50 cents.

INVESTIGATE STANDARD OIL

Hearing Before the Inter-State Commerce Committee

CONGRESS ORDERED INQUIRY

Charges of Corruption and Dishonesty Made Against the Company—Starting Facts of Bribery and Dishonesty Testified to by E. M. Wilhoit, a Former Agent of the Company.

Chicago, May 10.—Corruption of railroad employees and agents of independent oil companies, dishonest methods of procuring land leases, the giving of short measures, and the selling of three kinds of oil out of the same tank, were charged against the Standard Oil Company at today's hearing before the interstate commerce commission. The inquiry is held under an order of congress, and today's session was along the lines followed some time ago in Kansas City.

The principal witness of the day was E. M. Wilhoit, of Springfield, Mo., formerly for 10 years agent of the Standard Oil Company at Topeka, Kas. He made the charges of bribery and dishonesty against the company, and said that the "risco road discriminated in favor of the Standard Oil Company. Other witnesses for the day were H. C. Doran, of Fremont, Ohio, E. P. Ripley, president of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad, and M. Maxon, a former agent of the Standard Oil Company in Illinois.

Wilhoit, in the course of his testimony, said that while in the employ of the Standard Oil Company, he had, in the following out of instructions of his superior officers, bribed clerks in the offices of railroads and employees of independent oil concerns to obtain information of the details of the business done by the rivals of the Standard Oil Company. He declared that agents of the Standard Oil Company are held personally responsible for all oil sold in their territory by independent companies, and that drivers of tank wagons are expected to keep up their stock by selling 205 to 208 gallons from a wagon load of 200 gallons.

He said that the actual tests of the products of the Standard Oil Company to determine the quality are carefully guarded, and that when it was found necessary to cut the price to meet the figures of a competitor a cheaper quality of oil was substituted and guaranteed to be of a higher grade than it really was.

Mr. Wilhoit said that frequently three grades of oil were sold from the same tank by agents of the Standard Oil Company.

The hearing was conducted by Attorneys J. F. Marchand, F. S. Monett, for the government and Commissioner Clements, Cockrell and Prouty heard the evidence. John S. Miller and A. G. Erry appeared for the Standard Oil Company. Commissioner Clements at the commencement of the hearing announced that it was held in pursuance of a resolution passed by congress and that the present session was a continuation of the investigation conducted some time ago at Kansas City.

BASEBALL

VIRGINIA LEAGUE.

At Richmond: Richmond, 5; Norfolk, 6. (11 innings, game called on account of darkness).

At Portsmouth: Lynchburg, 6; Portsmouth, 3.

At Danville: Danville, 6; Roanoke, 3.

SOUTH ATLANTIC.

At Charleston: Charleston, 4; Savannah, 2.

At Jacksonville: Jacksonville, 4; Augusta, 5.

At Columbia: Columbia, 3; Macon, 2; (12 innings).

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

At New Orleans: New Orleans, 4; Atlanta, 3.

At Little Rock: Little Rock, 1; Nashville, 3.

At Shreveport: Shreveport, 5; Birmingham, 0.

At Memphis: Memphis, 11; Montgomery, 3.

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

At New York: New York-Washington—postponed on account cold weather and wet grounds.

At Cleveland: Cleveland, 15; Chicago, 1.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

At St. Louis: St. Louis, 5; Chicago, 8.

At New York: New York-Brooklyn, cold weather.

At Philadelphia: Philadelphia, 2; Boston, 1.

Found Dead in Bath Tub of Greensboro Hotel.

Greensboro, N. C., May 10.—S. M. Spangler, a well known commercial traveler, with headquarters in Baltimore, Md., was found dead in a bath tub in the Hotel Benbow about 10 o'clock this morning. Spangler retired early last night and was to all appearances in his usual health. Before going to his room he wrote a letter to his wife in Baltimore. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict that Spangler's death was due to accidental drowning, indirectly caused by heart failure.

SEIZURE OF FISHING VESSELS

Written Report From Consul Thompson at Progresso Concerning the Action of the Mexican Gunboat Vera Cruz.

Washington, May 10.—The promised mail report concerning the seizure of American fishing vessels off the Yucatan coast by a Mexican gunboat has reached the state department from Edward Thompson, the American consul at Progresso, to which port the seized vessels were taken.

The report makes it evident that American consul acted with energy and speed in behalf of the captured fishermen. His statement of the facts also indicates that more vessels were seized than were reported through the press dispatches. In substance he says:

"On the evening of the 18th instant, the American fishing smacks Silas Stearns, Mamadano, master, of Pensacola, and D. L. Tafton, Lundbard, master of Mobile, were captured by the Mexican gunboat Vera Cruz off the Alacran reef, northeast of Yucatan, charged with illegal fishing in Mexican waters. The crews were taken with seized vessels, and a large lot of fish in the ice bumpers to Progresso, arriving there at 8 p. m. on Friday the 19th ultimo. The crews were taken to the jail where they were held without communication with any one, according to the Mexican law until the district had taken the depositions, etc. As soon as they were at liberty I took charge of them, saw that they were duly and comfortably cared for, housed and fed.

"Meanwhile I had duly advised the American minister at Mexico City and am now engaged in ascertaining all possible details, noting names and addresses of the witnesses, etc., in case the cases are to be appealed and carried to Washington. The captains of the two vessels are sure they were beyond the legal limit and the passengers on a Norwegian steamer confirm this statement at least as to the Stearns. The captains state that they have been fishing in a like manner in these waters for nearly ten years."

Under date of April 24th the consul reported that a third vessel, the schooner Lizzie B. Adams, Charles H. Spurling, master, of Galveston, Texas, had just been brought into Progresso having been seized by the Mexican gunboat Vera Cruz. She had in her bunkers about 3,500 fish. The captain, a very intelligent and educated man, stated that he was absolutely certain that the seizure was made when his vessel was clearly outside of the legal limits. Copies of these reports have been forwarded to Senators Mallory of Florida and Culberson, of Texas.

THE JAMESTOWN EXPOSITION

There Will be No Delay in the Opening—President Roosevelt Will Make an Address.

Washington, May 10.—President Roosevelt will attend the formal opening of the Jamestown exposition next year and will deliver an address on that occasion. The invitation was extended to the President today by Henry St. George Tucker, president of the exposition company. C. Brooks Johnson and Lieutenant Governor J. Taylor Ellyson, of Virginia, the president accepted the invitation, saying that he had had the deepest interest in the exposition since the inception of the project.

The opening of the exposition will take place on April 26th, 1907, and assurance was given by President Tucker that there would be no delay.

"The report recently circulated," said President Tucker, "that the exposition would not be opened on schedule time has no foundation. The acceptance by the president of our invitation for the 26th of next April ought to dispose of any talk of postponement."

The date of the opening is an anniversary of the first landing of the English at Cape Henry. The celebration on the occasion of the opening of the exposition will be brilliant and historic.

STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Address at Wrightsville Will be Delivered by Hon. Hannis Taylor—Content Over "Glenwood" Land.

(Special to The Messenger.)
Raleigh, N. C., May 10.—Ed Chambers Smith, Esq., of this city, chairman of the special committee of the North Carolina Bar Association says the annual address at the meeting at Wrightsville June 7th will be delivered by Hon. Hannis Taylor of Washington, D. C.

The contest between the Raleigh and Pamlico Sound railway and the syndicate which was developing the new suburb "Glenwood" here, grows very interesting, indeed. The Glenwood Company has outlined through the property by great placards, set upon poles, these giving the statement that the right of way is at the point marked by each placard such a width. There are a score of these placards and many people have been attracted by them to walk over the property. As was first stated in this correspondence the railway says the route thus chosen is the only one possible, unless at enormous cost, and that it will effect a saving of \$60,000 as compared with a route through a meadow.

Virginia State Society of the Cincinnati Richmond, Va., May 10.—The Virginia State Society of the Cincinnati met in annual session here today and was addressed by Hon. Alfred Ethelbert Smith, of the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati, his theme being "The Past an Inspiration for the Present."

HIT AT THE TRUSTS

Penalty Against Shippers Who Secure Rebates

AMENDMENT TO RATE BILL

Many Changes to Improve Administrative Features

Penalty of Fine and Imprisonment Will be Imposed Against Shippers Who Secure Rebates—Government Business to Have Preference Over All Other Traffic in Time of War. Many Changes Made at the Instance of the Inter-State Commerce Commission—Text of the McCumber Amendment.

Washington, May 10.—The senate today completed the consideration of the second section of the railroad rate bill, and just before adjournment listened to the reading of sections 3 and 4 without considering any amendments offered to them. The purpose of this reading was to bring the consideration of the bill up to the point of taking up the Allison compromise amendments, which will be done tomorrow.

A number of very important changes were made in the second section, including a provision restoring the imprisonment penalty act of 1887, and an amendment suggested by Senator McCumber imposing a penalty, of fine and imprisonment, against the shippers who secure rebates from transportation companies. The latter amendment was incorporated for the avowed purpose of hitting the trusts. Another amendment adopted was offered by Senator Warren. It gives the government business a preference over all other traffic in time of war. A long series of changes were also made at the instance of the interstate commerce commission.

Many of these were verbal and all were intended to improve the administrative features of the law. There was continuous debate throughout the day, and there was complaint that senators manifested a disposition to increase the time allowed under the 15-minute rule, by speaking on amendments to amendments, and also by speaking in the time of other senators.

Senator Tillman stated privately when the senate adjourned that if these practices continue he would make an effort tomorrow to have the speeches limited to five minutes duration. The senate sat until 6 o'clock, and then adjourned to meet at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Following is the text of the McCumber amendment:

"Any person, corporation, or company who shall deliver property for interstate transportation to any common carrier, subject to the provisions of this act, or for whom, as consignor or consignee any such carrier shall transport property, who shall knowingly and willfully, by employee, agent, officer or otherwise, directly or indirectly, by or through any means or advice whatsoever, receive or accept from such common carrier any sum of money, or any other valuable consideration as a rebate or offset against the regular charges for transportation of such property, as fixed by the schedules of rates provided for in this act, shall be deemed guilty of a fraud which is hereby declared to be a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, in any court of the United States of competent jurisdiction within the district where such offense was committed, in addition to any other penalties provided by this act, be subjected to a fine equal to three times the sum of money so received or accepted, and three times the value of any other consideration so received or accepted, to be ascertained by the trial court, and in the trial for such offense, all such rebates or other considerations so received or accepted for a period of six years prior to the commencement of the action may be received as evidence, and the said fine shall be three times the total amount of money or three times the total value of such considerations so received or accepted, as the case may be; provided that the foregoing penalties shall not apply to rebates or considerations received prior to the passage and approval of this act."

Death of Mrs. A. B. Williams.

(Special to The Messenger.)
Fayetteville, N. C., May 10.—Mrs. A. B. Williams, widow of the late Captain A. B. Williams, who was before marriage Miss Attie Whitford, of Bladen county, died this afternoon, leaving four sons, John D. Arthur, Ambrose and George, and four girls, Eliza, Fannie, Mamie and Jane. She was a member of the Presbyterian church and a woman of fine character.