

# THE RUSSIAN STRIKE HAS COMMENCED

## If It Succeeds St. Petersburg Will Again be Isolated From the Outside World.

### Want a Constituent Assembly, Universal Suffrage, Release of Labor Leaders, etc.

#### Belgian Socialists Issue an Appeal on Behalf of Their Russian Brethren.

St. Petersburg cable despatch says: The first gun in the battle which may determine the fate of Premier Witte's experiment with moderate constitutionalism, and introduce either reaction or a complete revolution, were fired yesterday at Moscow, where the general strike was successfully inaugurated.

The leaders of the government of the proletariat last night were making their last preparations here for a general onslaught, which will be on at noon today. The Workers' Council has been existing continuously since 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, receiving reports and issuing final orders. The leaders profess to be greatly encouraged at the news from Moscow and the reports from district meetings which were held in all sections of St. Petersburg yesterday, declaring that now there is no question about the tie-up will be complete. They admit that many of the St. Petersburg workmen, especially the married men, would prefer to continue at work, but they are counting on the great majority favoring the strike to swing the scales into line and not to cease the strike until the demands for a constituent assembly, universal suffrage, the release of the arrested leaders of the proletariat and the peasantry, etc., are granted.

The editors of the Radical papers are determined to print the manifesto in its original form, and consequently the editors are taking infinite precautions to prevent the confiscation of the issues by the police.

The first test of the railroad strike will occur on the departure of the Berlin train from here at noon today. M. Neumecheff, Minister of Communications, will make a determined effort to keep the foreign communications open and the workmen are equally resolved to show their power.

Indications are multiplying that the Government's grim warning to the proletariat to take the law into their own hands if the railroad strike is called will bear fruit.

At the meetings of various Liberal and revolutionary organizations held last night the sentiment as a rule was in favor of the strike.

In response to a number of requests from editors of local papers who were expecting their employees to strike, the Workers' Council has decided to abstain from the radical organs to appear. In Moscow, however, all the newspapers will be compelled to cease publication.

The physicians' union decided last night that the dictates of humanity required the members to attend all sick persons, but it was resolved to devote all fees received to the strike fund and to boycott all doctors not doing so.

#### SOCIALIST APPEAL.

##### Asks All Socialists to Celebrate Jan. 22, and Take Up Collections.

Brussels, Belgium, cable: The International Socialist Bureau has issued a manifesto to the Socialists of the world, as follows:

"The revolution in Russia advances from aspiration to realization. In this struggle the Russian proletariat should have the moral and material assistance of our brothers throughout the world. Our comrades in the United States request the International Bureau to invite the affiliated organizations to solemnly commemorate Jan. 22.

"The workers of the world will recall the struggle which the Russian proletariat was then carrying on, and therefore the order is hereby given that all affiliated groups organize meetings and collections for Jan. 22 next, or the night of the Sunday preceding. Let the orators refer to the heroic efforts of our Russian brothers, and let the collections from all countries aid those who are battling against imperialism and for liberty.

"Down with the autocracy. Long life with socialism."

The document is signed by all the international delegates.

### MURDERER BENNETT.

#### REV. MR. HARVEY GIVES OUT HIS WARNING TO YOUNG PEOPLE.

Copies of Letters Written to the Indians of the Reserve and to His Mother—The Letter a Very Affectionate Epistle—His Body Buried at the Reserve.

Brantford despatch: In Brant Avenue Church on Sunday evening the pastor, Rev. W. H. Harvey, took for his subject the promise made by the Saviour to the penitent thief on the cross: "This day shalt thou be with me in Paradise." Mr. Harvey intimated that the topic had been suggested to him by the events of the past week, and he disclosed his discourse with the following reference to Bennett:

"Let us think of him with Christian kindness. Let us remember that, like ourselves, he was born with the stamp of the divine upon him. Let us not forget the adverse circumstances of his early days. Let us not forget that the redemption of man for any of us, and much for him as for any of us, and let us not forget that when a dying robber, being executed for his crime, in the latest moment of his life, turned his clouding, closing eyes in penitence to the cross of Christ, that Christ received him and saved him. Have we not reason then to believe that when Joe Bennett came feeling the same need, with the same faith and in the same penitent spirit, in his latest days to the same atoning Christ, that Christ received him, too? Believe he did. I believe although his life was lost his soul was saved. His dying message which I was to deliver to-night was this: Tell all the young people to let all evil things alone, tell them especially to leave whiskey alone, and to seek God early."

### DR. OSLER ON DEATH BED VISIONS.

#### As a Rule Men Die as They Live, Uninfluenced by Thought of a Future Life.

New York, Dec. 25.—A Baltimore despatch to the American says: Dr. William Osler, now of England, in his latest book says that "death bed" visions, believed by thousands, of which there are scores of supposed authentic records, is plain nonsense.

Moreover, he supports his declaration by 500 death-bed observations of his own, which he thinks prove absolutely that such reported visions are untrue. In all such cases there were suffering, fear, and other emotion, but no thought of a future. His observation is a startling contribution to a subject which has always keenly interested scientists, clergy-

men and physicians, and it is certain to provoke general discussion. Dr. Osler says: "As a rule, man dies as he has lived, uninfluenced practically by thought of a future life. I have careful records of about 500 death beds, studied particularly with reference to the modes of death and the sensation of dying. Ninety suffered bodily pain and distress of some sort or another; eleven distress of some sort or another; two positive terror; two expressed spiritual exaltation. The great majority gave no sign one way or the other; like their birth, their death was a sleep and a forgetting. The preacher was right in this matter, man hath no pre-eminence over the beast—as one dieth, so dieth the other."

It is now 15 minutes to 7 o'clock this morning, and only two hours when the time set for my death. Remember, mother, what I have said to you yesterday. God is with me. I feel it in my heart. I know he has pardoned my sins, he has taken me as I was. I have given myself to him. Oh, what a grand thing to be ready to bid 'fraid. I am hurry to go. Dear mother, give your self to him, he will guide you in future and protect you from harm. love my little Fred. love every body you love and love you. I am against you. trust in God he is with you always love your enemy, as I told you, forgive them who done wrong to you. please tell my boy Fred papa is gone home to see Grand Father. tell him to be a good boy obey your love you, tell John and Isaac to be good to you, I hope and trust and pray that they will love you here after. there is only four of you in the family left. love one another here after. We are only here for a short time to live this sinful world. get ready to meet God. we know not what time our death should come. May God Bless you. Mother hope and trust to meet you in heaven, so good by. Mother and Fred and John and Isaac and mother. From the only son you got. Joseph Bennett give the boy kiss for me mother.

P. S. W. H. Harvey gave a Bible now I will leave it to you and Fred. I teach the boy the way to God. Good by.

My little boy Fred I want you to be a good boy. love your ma. obey her you will meet me in heaven and Grand father good by Fred my boy.

The funeral of Bennett, the Indian who was hanged on Friday morning in the local jail, was interred at the cemetery at Thomas school on the Reserve on Sunday afternoon. The funeral took place from the residence of his mother. The attendance was large, representatives being present from all parts of the reservation. At the grave an Indian ceremony took place which took the form of a slow dance and chanting of some weird songs around the grave.

### PHILLIPS GIVES HIS TESTIMONY.

#### WAS TO GET STOCK FROM LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY.

Money of the Insolvent Company Tied Up in the Toronto Life Insurance Company, the Southern Power and Light, and the List Piano Company—A New Development.

Toronto despatch: Mr. W. H. Cross, the Government Auditor, has decided, with the approval of the Attorney-General, to conduct a searching investigation into the affairs of the Toronto Loan Company. This decision was taken after the morning of Mr. Phillips yesterday morning. The investigation will be conducted under oath, and will begin on Tuesday next. Subpoenas will probably be issued to-day. There is no intention in this action of the Government to liquidate the company, the proceedings will be in the office of the company on Roncesvalles avenue. The admission by Mr. Phillips of an understanding with the Southern Light & Power Company, that he should receive a block of stock in the company, is the main point in the case. It appears that common stock in the Southern Light & Power Company was allotted to Mr. Phillips for his part in floating the company's bonds, such common stock was regarded as Mr. C. A. Masten, of Masten, Starr & Spence, is acting for Mr. Cross.

Mr. Phillips stated that he had told the liquidator of all the assets of the company. He had no information of individuals, or of other companies. He had been connected for twelve years with it, two years as manager of the company before becoming President. He would have to look up the names of the first directors, and the assets in 1893. The assets were first mortgage loans originally. The date and circumstances of the purchase of the Roncesvalles property he would have to look up. He had nothing to do with passing the Act allowing investments in real estate. The National Magazine was his own personal property. No money of the company had been put in it. The printing press belonged to the Toronto Loan Insurance Co. and was bought by it for cash from the York Loan Co. He had no manufacturing industries in connection with the company. There was no barrel factory. They were not interested in the Lee Grocery Co. The York Loan had advanced no money to it, nor for the skating rink.

Mr. Phillips was desired to inform himself of the exact relation of the subsidiary companies to the York Loan Company. The directors' salaries were fixed by themselves. His own salary had varied from time to time, having been as low as \$15 a week. It was \$60 at the present time; the Vice-President's was \$30. There was positive no commission had been paid on the purchase of debentures. The Southern Light & Power Company's bonds were bought at par. They had been an agreement to buy them at 90, but they were bought at par.

No Interest in Piano Co.

He did not know the directors of the List Piano Company. The York Loan Company was not interested in that company in any way. The only connection was through the agents, who had his permission to sell for it, as they had been selling for other piano companies.

It was no benefit to the company, except as it helped to support the agents. There was no arrangement, except that he had given permission to Mr. Burt. Mr. George R. Burt, of the piano company, was no relative of Mr. E. J. Burt, of the life insurance company, and the names had been confused. The loan made to the piano company had been made on the security of their goods and machinery.

At the head office of Parkdale yesterday the staff was as busy as ever, over a thousand pass books, having been taken in over the counter. Mr. Home Smith stated that the books of the company were found to be in very good shape.

The New York syndicate which was reported to have made an offer to the company for its Parkdale real estate is ready to renew its offer, which was based on a valuation of current rates and a cash purchase.

An order has been made by Mr. Neal McLean, the official referee, that shareholders of the company need make no further payments until there is a further direction by the court.

### FOLLOWED POLES.

#### THREE LITTLE GIRL TRAMPS SET OFF TO LONDON.

They Had an Unkind Father and a Truant Mother, and Were Going to Try to Find Her in the World's Greatest City.

London, Dec. 25.—Three weary little girls were found wandering hand in hand in High street, Colnbrook, and some villagers asking them where they were going, the children began to cry, and said they had lost their way to London.

They told a pathetic story. "We have run away from home at Maidenhead because father beats us, and we are going to find our mother in London. We started from Maidenhead early this morning without food or money, and have walked all day, following the telegraph poles to London. We are so tired and hungry, but we want our mother."

A kind villager led the three little mites into his house, and gave them food. The children ate ravenously, but, having finished their meal wanted to go on to London to find their mother.

Placing the little ones in his cart the villager drove them to the Eton Workhouse, where he told the master the circumstances of the case. They were put to bed, and the Maidenhead police communicated with.

Next morning their car called at the workhouse and took the children back to Maidenhead.

### A STRANGE ACCIDENT.

#### "L" TRAINS COLLIDE RUNNING ON PARALLEL TRACKS.

One Train Switched to the Other's Track—Point of Collision Thirty Feet in the Air—One Man Killed and Forty Are Injured.

New York, Dec. 25.—In one of the most extraordinary accidents known to American railroading, two heavily-crowded passenger trains came together on the elevated tracks of the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad at 6:30 o'clock to-night near 110th street. The train of J. W. Knapp, of New Rochelle, was killed and forty other persons were more or less seriously injured. Both of the colliding trains were north-bound, and had left the Grand Central Station of 42nd street within a few minutes after each other.

One was a Stamford local on the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, which company uses the Central tracks. The other train was the Poughkeepsie express on the Central. Rushing along parallel tracks, the two trains suddenly came to together. The local was switched from the third track on to the fourth, and in an instant the engine of the express had crashed into the day coach following the smoking car of the local.

The tracks at the point of the collision are about 30 feet in the air. This made the work of rescue difficult and hazardous, and lent material to the horror of the passengers. Many persons climbed to the elevated structure to assist the wounded, whose cries could plainly be heard in the street.

J. D. Horn, engineer of the express train, was arrested to-night on the technical charge of manslaughter, and later was released on bail.

### "SCOTTY" SLAIN.

#### Man Who Made Record Trip Across Continent Assassinated.

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—Walter Scott, of Death Valley, who gained notoriety by his record-breaking railroad ride across the continent, is reported shot by a mysterious assassin near his mine on Funeral Mountains.

# WOMEN SAVED BY HELP OF PRISONERS.

## Carried From Burning Cells on Blackwell's Island by the Convicts Doing Time There.

### Female Prisoners Became Frantic When the Smoke Began to Choke Them.

New York, Dec. 25.—Men forgot that they were convicts and remembered only that they were men on Blackwell's Island early this morning, when the male prisoners, marshalled by their keepers into a fire-fighting and life-saving corps, bore from the flaming floors of the women's wards, 594 frantic women, and from the hospital beds 50 more.

Starting in the sewing room of the workhouse and from a cause which the fire not yet been definitely decided, the fire had reached a fierce blaze at 2 o'clock, when it was discovered. The fire engine on the island proved inadequate and a call for help was sent to the city department.

Seven engines were sent over, but were not sufficient to save the women's workhouse from destruction.

On the top floor of this building were cells for the women, and every one occupied by the prisoners when the fire occurred. These women became frantic

with fright and were soon choking with the dense smoke that filled all rooms and their cells. That most of them did not perish is due to the recent installation of a system by which in emergency every cell in a tier can be opened simultaneously with all the others.

When the extent and danger of the blaze became apparent the warden marshalled his regular fighting force of employees and soon were at work. The flames spread so fast, however, that this force proved hopelessly inadequate.

Then it was decided to trust to the male prisoners' sense of manhood, and they bore the test well. The warden released from their cells and marshalled into small bodies, they entered the burning building and went at the work of fire-fighting and rescue with utter disregard of the danger to themselves. The flames were crackling all about them, and they plunged through the densest smoke when they brought out in their arms the last of the women prisoners. The fire was confined to the women's workhouse.

### HUMMEL'S TROUBLE.

#### SENTENCED TO ONE YEAR'S IMPRISONMENT AND \$500 FINE.

Prominent New York Lawyer Said to Have Been a Menace to the Public for Twenty Years is Convicted of Conspiracy.

New York, Dec. 25.—Justice Rogers sentenced Hummel to one year's imprisonment in the penitentiary, and \$500 fine. This is the maximum penalty. Hummel was one of the most widely known of New York's lawyers. He had been connected with a number of the most notorious cases of the city for many years ago as an office boy.

The charge upon which he was convicted was conspiracy in the Dodge-Morse divorce litigation, in which he sought to show that Mrs. Morse's divorce from Dodge was invalid. The objective of this was to upset her marriage to Morse, who is a very wealthy banker and owner of steamship companies.

Mr. Stranchfield, counsel for Hummel, asked Justice Rogers to pass sentence at once. He conferred with Mr. Jerome, who after the conference made the motion for immediate sentence. When Hummel heard the sentence of the Judge he flushed slightly, and, turning to one of the court attendants, he said: "That no one gets away with my case."

Immediately after sentence Hummel was taken to the Tombs preparatory to being taken to the penitentiary. "Disbeliever" Attorney Jerome appeared in court and moved that sentence be passed at once. He said that Hummel had been a menace to the public for twenty years.

In his cell an hour later Hummel said to reporters: "It would be such a shocking bad taste for me to say anything, but I can't help but feel that I have been unjustly convicted, chiefly due to vindictiveness. Notwithstanding what Mr. Jerome said about my being a menace to the community for twenty years, I am behind the bars with a clear conscience, strange as it may seem to some people. I expect to spend the night in the Tombs. Proceedings, however, are under way so that I will get an early hearing tomorrow before some Judge, whose name I cannot give you for the present."

An indictment for subornation of perjury is still pending against Hummel, in connection with which he is under \$2,500 bonds.

Hummel was released from the Tombs at 10 o'clock under \$10,000 bail on a writ of reasonable doubt secured from Judge Woodward, of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn.

### A CARNEGIE PENSIONER.

#### Andrew Campbell, of Victoria, B. C., Receives Aid From the Millionaire.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 25.—Andrew Campbell, a local Scotsman, who was annuity of \$300 from the millionaire. The Victorian was in need, and his eyesight was failing, when Dr. G. L. Milne, that he appeal to his millionaire fellow-townsmen. Dr. Milne wrote to Mr. Carnegie, and after investigation the Scottish-American millionaire made arrangements that Campbell be paid \$25 a month for life.

### PREMATURE EXPLOSION.

#### A. CLOUTIER MAY BE FATALY INJURED.

Three Other Men Receive Severe Cuts and Bruises From Flying Stones—Blasting Accident in a Montreal Quarry.

Montreal, Dec. 25.—One man was perhaps fatally injured, and three others severely hurt, while blasting with dynamite at a city quarry in the east end of this afternoon. They had drilled four holes and had set fuses in them, when suddenly the foreman shouted for them to get out of the way. It seems that the fuse in one hole had burned sooner than expected, and as a result the men were taken by surprise. Three of them were taken by surprise. Three of them were taken by surprise. Three of them were taken by surprise.

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### A DOMESTIC TRAGEDY.

#### Buffalo Man Shoots His Wife and Himself.

Buffalo, Dec. 25.—Driven to desperation by the refusal of his wife to live with him ever since the day they were married, William McCoy, a seaman on the lakes, went to his wife's home on 384 Swan street, to-night, talked with her for about fifteen minutes and then fired four shots at her. Two of the shots went wild, but one bullet hit the woman near the heart, and another entered one of her limbs. Death followed in a few minutes. Without waiting to learn whether his wife's wounds were fatal, McCoy put a bullet into his own heart and fell dead.

### MARQUIS ITO WILL BE COREA'S FRIEND

#### Admiral Togo Tells His Men to Tie Their Helmet Strings Tighter.

London, Dec. 21.—The correspondent of the Daily Telegraph at Tokio sends an interview with the Marquis Ito, who said it was his sincere desire to maintain the dignity of the imperial household of Corea and to promote the happiness of the Corea people.

"I am going to personally face the task of seeing that the provisions of the new treaty are faithfully carried out," said the marquis. "We cannot suddenly institute great reforms, and must wait for national progress and development. Centuries of neglect have rendered the education of the people very imperfect and difficult to reform. Rapid and drastic measures will only increase the constant misunderstanding of Japanese motives. It would be easy to subdue and

awake Corea, but if we desire to promote the lasting happiness of Corea we must not force her against her will. On the contrary, we must cultivate the closest friendship, and so foster a wish for voluntary compliance with our desires.

"Henceforth I will be adviser to Corea, and will do my utmost to assist her."

Togo's Advice.

Tokio, Dec. 25.—Field Marshal Yamagata has been appointed President of the Privy Council.

Admiral Togo, now President of the general staff of the navy, in his farewell address to the officers and men of the combined Japanese fleet, which was dissolved yesterday, warned them to be in constant readiness for emergencies. He concluded with the words: "Victors, tie your helmet strings tighter."