

### Russia Completely In Hands of Revolutionists

Petrograd, March 15.—The government of the Russian empire has been overthrown by a revolution of far-reaching proportions and Emperor Nicholas has abdicated. The Czar is besieged in his palace of Tsaraco-Selo and a number of the leaders of the reactionary and pro-German party have been either murdered or imprisoned. Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch has been named as regent.

The cities of Petrograd, Moscow, Nijna Novgorod, the three largest in the empire, and other important points are in the hands of the revolutionists. The city of Helsinki, the capital of Finland, is said to be in a state of siege. Many buildings were burned in Petrograd and many persons killed and wounded in the terrible fighting.

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The revolution does not mean that Russia will withdraw from the war, but rather that she will prosecute it more vigorously. Events leading up to the revolution began a week ago with demonstrations of workmen, who quit work as a protest against the shortage of bread. The first two days mounted patrols kept the crowds moving, without resorting to violence. When ordered to fire on the people they refused. Police were substituted and a battle occurred between them and the troops. Regiment after regiment joined the revolters and seized arsenals and other strategic points.

Until Sunday night there was no intimation that the affair would grow to the proportions of a revolution. From then until Tuesday morning almost continuous fighting in the streets and throughout the city occurred, leaving the revolutionists in full control. The Duma are proceeding to reorganize the government.

To-day the city emerged from a week's nightmare of revolution. Planks were pulled down from windows long closed, stores, banks and business establishments of every description reopened their

doors for the resumption of ordinary activities, seemingly as confidence in the new temporary government gained in force. Truck sledges and little sleighs for hire, the most widely appreciated conveniences of Russian cities, began to appear again in the streets, which for six days had been absolutely void of any means of private transportation. Newspapers, with the exception of revolutionary publications, which sprang into life with the success of the revolt had failed to appear. Street car service at noon had not been resumed, but it was believed that night would see partial service.

The only visible signs of the desperate clash of authority which turned the city into a battleground were the charred ruins of the jail, which are still pouring a cloud of smoke skyward and here and there the remains of other police institutions and the homes of a few individuals who were regarded as offenders against the rights of the people.

With the re-opening of bread, sugar, tea and meat shops, queues of women with shopping bags and baskets lined up often to the length of a block to replenish stores exhausted by the long siege. The most phenomenal feature of the revolution has been the swift and orderly transition whereby the control of the city passed from the regime of the old government into the hands of its opponents. Until Sunday disorders in the streets, which never went beyond quiet gatherings or mild demonstrations, could not properly be termed a revolution at all. After thirty-six hours of continuous street fighting the whole area of Petrograd was on Tuesday in the hands of the revolutionists.

Regiments called out to disperse street crowds which were clamoring for bread, refused to fire upon the people, but mutinied, slaying their officers in many cases, and joined the swelling ranks of the insurgents. With the exception of a Finnish regiment, which took possession of the admiralty building on the Neva, and kept up a desultory rifle and machine gun fire, the last regiments to remain loyal to the government had capitulated after a sustained battle on the Morskaya and there was no further resistance to the revolutionists, who controlled the entire city. The police had disappeared from the streets, which were patrolled by automobiles packed with soldiers and students and were wildly cheered by the people as they sped by.

The government was declared to be overthrown by the Duma leaders, who met in the Maveritshsky Palace after the regular session had been adjourned by imperial ukase, and in a telegram to the Emperor the popular representatives declared that a special committee, composed of the leaders of the various

parties in the Duma, would submit lists of names for the new cabinet. Simultaneously it was reported that all the ministers, except M. Protopopoff, had resigned.

The imperial palace at Tsarakoe-Selo is said to be in a state of siege, but thus far no firing has been reported between the guards defending the palace and the revolutionists and troops.

It is stated that General Michael V. Alexieff, former chief of staff, has been offered the military dictatorship.

All the prisons for political offenders were thrown open by the revolutionists, and the prisoners marched out to join their emancipators. The battle spread from one part of the town to another with the rapidity of a thunderstorm, and as the day progressed it became apparent that nothing could stem the tide of revolution, which swept westward from the neighborhood of the Duma and the chief military barracks up the Nevskymorskaya to St. Isaac's Square. The economic and industrial life of the city came to a complete standstill. Street car service was suspended from the beginning of the disorders, and stores were closed.

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The Duma was dissolved by imperial order, effective March 11, the imperial ukase reading as follows:

"The sittings of the Duma are adjourned owing to the extraordinary circumstances until further notice. They will be resumed not later than April."

On Monday, the Duma members, except the Rightists, met in executive session, notwithstanding the dissolution order. The result was a virtually unanimous vote to place the Duma squarely on the side of the revolution and to authorize the executive council of that body to declare the present government overthrown, and organize a provisional government.

President Rodzianko, who presided, sent a telegram to the Emperor, informing him of the developments, and calling on him to listen to the voice of the people.

"The hour has struck," he said, when the will of the people must

prevail." Petrograd, March 15.—The Emperor of Russia has abdicated, and Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, his younger brother, has been named as regent. The Russian ministry, charged with corruption and incompetence, has been swept out of office. Alexander Protopopoff, head of the interior department, is reported to have been killed, and three other ministers, as well as the president of the Imperial Council, are under arrest.

A new national cabinet is announced with Prince Lvoff as president of the council and premier, and the other officers held by the men who are close to the Russian people.

London, March 15.—According to information received here the Russian people have been most distrustful during recent events of the personal influence of Empress Alexandra. She was supposed to exercise the greatest influence over Emperor Nicholas. It is said that her whereabouts are unknown, but it is believed that she is in seclusion. Another report says the Empress is under guard. The Empress Alexandra, before her marriage to the Emperor of Russia, 1884, was the German Princess Alix, of HesseDarmstadt.

London, March 14.—The news from Russia was received here with unmixed joy. There has been no illusion about Russia. Particularly in the last year it had been well understood that the situation there has been the people against the throne.

The people and the army are all for the war and against Germany," has been the word which came from Russia from all channels repeatedly. That the court has been enshrouded in a pro-German atmosphere, and that the Emperor was a weak man under the thumb of his wife and also under the domination of several members of the bureaucracy, some of whom were influenced only by the tradition of the old bureaucracy and others of whom were influenced by and in the pay of German diplomats, also had been reported.

The men now in control of the destinies of the great Empire of western Europe are Russian who are anti-German and pro-Russian to the core.

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### British Versus American Constitution

The deadlock between President Wilson and the United States senate presents opportunity for students in Civics to make a comparison of the British and American constitutions.

The essential difference between our form of government and that of the United States is in the construction of the Executive or Cabinet, which, in the Republic, is entirely separate from the legislative side of the government. The laws are made by one body of men and put in force by another; thus the leaders of the nation are often hampered by a slow and sometimes hostile Congress, and frequently the representatives of the people are forced to see their choicest legislation fall through lack of enforcement by an executive out of sympathy with the scheme of it.

Under our system the Cabinet is but a committee of the commons and directly elected by the people. Its members are the leaders in the House of Commons and have the framing of the legislation that is to be carried out under their departments. Of course there are exceptions to this rule, as when a new party comes to office, but in general the principle holds true as President Wilson himself has said when he was Prof. Wilson at Princeton. "The British Cabinet (and the same is true of the Canadian) is the hyphen that joins, the buckle which fastens the Executive to the Legislative."

In Great Britain and Canada the Premier is the foremost man in the nation—he is the real ruler elected by the people and directly responsible and owes his position to the majority of the representatives of the people.

Suppose that we had had a system of government similar to the United States on the third of August 1914 when the British Cabinet met to consider Germany's attitude to Belgium. Word having come that the Germans had crossed the frontier and there and no reply from Germany to the ultimatum the Cabinet would have passed an order calling parliament to consider the situation and about the time when the bill had reached the House of Lords the Germans would have been in Paris.

### Bapaume Falls To The British

London, March 17, (3 p. m.)—Bapaume, on the Franco-Belgian front, has been captured by the British, Reuter's agency announces.

"Our troops entered Bapaume this morning after stiff fighting," Reuter's correspondent telegraphs. "The place was in flames, the Germans having evidently made all plans for setting fire to it when forced to retreat."

"Our troops are reported to be beyond the town."

London, March 17.—Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters in France wires that the towns of Le Transloy and Achiet-le-Petit also are reported to be in the hands of the British.

### Germany Loses Concessions in China

Peking, March 19.—The Chinese troops have occupied without opposition the German concessions at Tien Tsin and Hankow. The Dutch have taken over the German consulates.

The following troops have arrived safely in England: Balance of the 230th Forestry Battalion; No. 1 Section Skilled Railway Employees, Montreal; drafts for heavy and garrison and field artillery; medical corps; draft infantry; French Canadians, Railway Construction personnel.

Subpoenas have been issued for the 48 officers of the North German Lloyd steamship Kron Princess Cecille. They will have to answer in the court in April for contempt of court for the wilful destruction of the ship's machinery.

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