

Press dispatches of the 30th reported that the Potemkine has fired on the city of Odessa the previous evening, and that some of her crew had landed with machine guns and were fighting with the populace behind barricades; also that the battleship Georgi Pobiedonosetz, with the cruiser Griden, had left Sevastopol for Odessa to give battle to the mutinous Potemkine. A few hours later on the same day the American consul at Odessa advised the Washington authorities that the Potemkine had surrendered without firing a shot; but on the 1st she was reported through London news agencies as having been joined by the Georgi Pobiedonosetz, whose crew also had mutinied. This report was more than confirmed by the American ambassador to St. Petersburg who, on the 1st, advised the Washington authorities that three battleships were then flying the red flag of the revolution off Odessa. A hopeless condition for the Czar's government must have been revealed when the remainder of the Black Sea squadron assembled at Sevastopol, upon its return from Odessa, where it had been sent to subdue or sink the Potemkine, for on the 2d, at a council of admirals and captains at Sevastopol, Vice-Admiral Kruger presiding, it was decided, according to press dispatches of that day and since, to ungear the machinery of the squadron and allow the officers and crews to go ashore. This action, together with the fact that the squadron had failed in its Odessa expedition, was regarded as an official recognition of a mutinous condition throughout the fleet. There were also definite reports that the crews of the other vessels had refused to fire on the Potemkine.

On the 2d the Kniaz Potemkine was reported from Odessa as having disappeared seaward the night before. On the 3d, also from Odessa, the surrender of the Georgi Pobiedonosetz by her mutinous crew to the Imperial authorities was circumstantially reported as having occurred. She was reported on the 5th as having rejoined the squadron at Sevastopol, and her mutineers as having been imprisoned at Odessa. The Potemkine was next heard of

at the Roumanian port of Kustenji, where a delegation from her crew delivered a proclamation addressed to the representatives of the Powers in Roumania, formally declaring war on all Russian vessels which refuse to join the mutineers, and pledging respect for neutral territory and foreign shipping. The delegation requested that the proclamation be forwarded to the Powers. Shp was last heard of at Theodosia, on the Crimean coast near the entrance to the Sea of Azov. Here her crew formally made the following proclamation:

The crew of the Kniaz Potemkine notify the foreign Powers that the decisive struggle has begun against the Russian government. We consider it to be our duty to declare that we guarantee the complete inviolability of foreign ships navigating the Black Sea, as well as the inviolability of foreign ports.

The body of Omiltehuk, the sailor whose murder by his superior officer was the immediate occasion of the revolt on the Potemkine (p. 199), was buried with military honors on the 29th. A procession of many thousands of persons followed the body from the harbor to the military cemetery. The coffin, which was covered with the St. Andrew's flag and on which there were many wreaths, was carried by eight sailors. The procession was headed by priests, and neither police nor troops were stationed along the route to the cemetery.

Similar mutinies to that of the Black Sea have likewise been meagerly reported from other parts of Russia during the week. Russian sailors at Libau were said to have risen against the Czar's government on the 29th, and on the 1st this uprising was reported to have been stamped out at the cost of more than 1,000 lives. Another naval revolt was reported on the 3d. This was said to have occurred on the cruiser Minine, at Kronstadt, on the Gulf of Finland, near St. Petersburg, where a strike was in progress. Both the strike and the naval revolt are reported to have been put down.

At Odessa, martial law has been declared, and some 40,000 troops are reported to be in possession of

the city. Business there is at a standstill, and the sea front is cut off by the troops. Over 6,000 strikers are reported to have been killed by the troops, and a considerable part of the business section to have been destroyed or injured by fire. The surrounding country is also reported as disturbed by peasant uprisings. Lodz (p. 199) was reported as ablaze on the 1st, and Warsaw (p. 199) as in open revolution. One St. Petersburg correspondent regards the reported outbreaks as "evidences of a prearranged revolutionary movement." He writes (see Chicago Tribune of 2d):

Behind the mutiny on board the Black Sea warship, the insurrection in the naval yards at Libau and Cronstadt, and in the arms factory at Kolpino; behind the uprising in Warsaw and Lodz; behind the agrarian disturbances in every province; and behind the steady pressure of the zemstvos at Moscow, it is beginning to be realized that there is a clear-headed directing force, emanating from a central revolutionary authority.

Veracious accounts of the situation are evidently held in check by the government as much as possible, and little but guesses and dispatches manifestly inspired by government agents is telegraphed. In consequence, a cloud of mystery hangs about the whole affair.

Russian-Japanese peace envoys.

Official announcement was made through President Roosevelt on the 2d, of the names of the Russian and the Japanese envoys who are to meet at Washington (p. 199) to confer regarding terms of peace between Russia and Japan. For Russia the envoys are Muravieff, formerly minister of justice and now ambassador to Italy, and Rosen, recently appointed ambassador to the United States to succeed Count Cassini; for Japan they are Komura, minister of foreign affairs, and Kogoro Takahira, minister to the United States. In making this announcement by direction of the President, the President's secretary, Mr. Loeb, added the following formal statement:

The President announces that the Russian and Japanese governments have notified him that they have appointed the plenipotentiaries to meet here (Washington) as soon after the

1st of August as possible. It is possible that each side may send one or more additional representatives. The plenipotentiaries of both Russia and Japan will be intrusted with full power to negotiate and conclude a treaty of peace, subject, of course, to ratification by their respective home governments.

A woodworkers' strike.

What is likely to develop into a strike of considerable proportions in the woodworkers' trade began at Chicago on the 3d over a question of wages. The wages agreement heretofore existing between the employers' and the workers' unions in the office and bar fixtures branches of this trade in Chicago expired on the 1st. It had fixed the minimum of wages at 28 cents an hour, which rate has obtained for three years. In contemplation of the expiration of the agreement the workers demanded an increase to 30 cents an hour, but the employers refused an increase on the ground that their profits are small and that the workers' unions assent to rates as low as 25 cents in other cities. A referendum in the workers' union of the affected branches resulted in a full vote with a majority of 3 to 1 for a strike, whereupon the employers declared a lockout. The workmen in these branches number about 2,200. In the two other branches—the planing mill and the sash, door and blind workers—they number about 4,500. It is reported that the latter have signed contracts. The employers' union against which the strike was declared, announced at first that its members would close down and make no effort to employ non-unionists; but some of the members have since intimated that they will try to bring in non-unionists from other cities. In any event they all declare that they will abandon the "closed shop" policy, and that hereafter their establishments will be "open shops."

The Chicago teamsters' strike.

Relative to the strike of teamsters at Chicago (p. 201) nothing important has occurred. Two propositions were to have been brought before the Teamsters' Joint Council on the 5th—namely, (1) Shall a general strike of all teamsters in Chicago be called? and (2) Shall the present strike be

called off?—for the purpose of submitting them to referendum; but this step was postponed pending the result of renewed efforts to raise strike funds.

For placing policemen on the wagons of concerns against which this strike is waged, in order to protect non-union drivers, Mayor Dunne has been criticized by organized workingmen, and on the 2d an attempt to give official sanction to these criticisms was made at the regular meeting of the Federation of Labor, by resolutions of condemnation; but when the resolutions were offered, the meeting voted to lay them on the table.

A new method of fighting the teamsters' strike has been introduced by the employers' union. It is a recent proceeding for injunctions against local express companies which have refused to carry goods for houses involved in the strike. The reason given for their refusal by these companies is that their teamsters would strike rather than carry for those houses, and that they could not afford to fill their places with strike breakers because the wages of strike breakers are too high to leave a profit. Applications for injunctions to compel the local express companies to make these deliveries, regardless of thereby involving themselves in the strike, were made before Judge Holdom, who has granted temporary restraining orders and is now hearing arguments for injunctions.

Labor indictments in Chicago.

Indictments (pp. 151, 168) against a large number of labor leaders were returned by the grand jury at Chicago on the 1st, for conspiracy. Along with these were indictments against two officials of a brick trust for instigating strikes against a rival concern. A general presentment was also made, in the course of which the grand jury declared:

It is the belief of this body that a number of witnesses, some of them moving in high financial circles, who appeared before this body, not only came reluctantly under the call of a summons issued in the name of the court, but that the little evidence given by them was only given to disguise their guilty knowledge at least of the wrong-doing of others, if not

their own. That trusts and combinations have been created and fostered through the medium of unscrupulous men and methods and that many small dealers have thus been forced to the wall or compelled to join forces with the mightier power, evidence before this body has proven. That business men of honor have mistakenly paid tribute to the fostering of blackmail in paying moneys to unworthy men and causes that they might avoid strikes to be settled, is undoubtedly true.

The industrial union convention.

The delegates to the convention at Chicago for the organization of labor on general industrial lines (p. 200) have not yet completed their work of formulating a constitution. They have decided, however, to affiliate with the International Industrial Union, the headquarters of which is at Berlin, Germany, and to adopt May 1st as the international labor day. The name chosen for the new organization is "The Industrial Workers of the World." Among the resolutions reported is one "condemning militarism in all its forms and functions which are jeopardizing our constitutional rights in the struggle between capitalists and laborers," and therefore debaring from membership all persons "joining the militia or occupying positions under the sheriff or police power or who are members of detective agencies or employers' hielings in times of industrial disturbances."

The traction question in Chicago.

Another stage in the movement for municipalizing the traction service of Chicago (p. 200) was reached at the meeting of the City Council on the 5th, when Mayor Dunne in a message submitted proposed plans of procedure for the action of the Council.

Prior to submitting these plans, Mayor Dunne had secured the withdrawal by the Council of proposals (p. 200) made by the Harrison administration for a ten-mile municipal ownership experiment which had been so planned as to make the experiment too costly for any possibility of succeeding either under public or private ownership; he had discontinued a cumbersome and dilatory chancery suit begun by Mayor Harrison to test the title of the traction companies to the streets, and sub-