

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., June 19, 1903.

King and Queen of Servia Killed in Their Palace.

His Brother, Her Sister and Three Ministers Slain. The Result of Revolution, Troops Break into the Palace Thursday Night and Shot. The Tragedy not Expected to Disturb Political Tranquillity of Europe—The Dead King the Last of the Obrenovitch Dynasty, Unpopular Since His Marriage With Queen Draga.

A military revolution broke out in Belgrade, Servia, on last Thursday night. The troops, who revolted under the leadership of Mayor Angkovich, surrounded the palace, assassinated King Alexander, Queen Draga, the latter's sister, the king's brother, Nikodem, Premier Markovitch, Ministers Petrovitch and Tudorovich, General Pavlovitch the former minister of war, and some of the royal guard.

Prince Karageorgevitch was proclaimed king.

A new government was formed and the following proclamation was issued:

To the Servian People Thursday night the king and Queen were shot. In this grave and fateful moment friends of the Fatherland have combined to form a new government. While the government makes this announcement to the people it is convinced that the Servian people will gather round it and lend it their aid to maintain order and security throughout the land.

The government hereby makes known that from to-day the constitution of April 6th, 1901, comes in force. A meeting of the national representatives, dissolved by the proclamation of March 24th, is summoned to meet in Belgrade June 15th.

(Signed) Jovan Avakumovic, premier; Ljubomir Kalievich, foreign minister; Stojan Protic, minister of the interior; George Genshies, minister of commerce; General Jovan Alanzakovic, minister of war; Vojislav Velikovic, minister of finance; Colonel Alexander Machin, minister of public works; Ljubomir Sohiokovic, minister of justice.

The streets are thronged with people, whose actions seem to approve the coup d'etat. M. Protic, the new minister of the interior, was loudly cheered as he drove to the ministry. M. Avakumovic, the new premier, belongs to the Independent Liberal party.

The people received the news of the assassinations, which were perpetrated between 10:30 o'clock Thursday night and 2 o'clock Friday morning, quietly.

The bodies of the king and queen remain in the palace.

As the morning advanced the excitement in the streets grew steadily. In spite of the pouring rain, thousands of people gathered in the vicinity of the palace. Everywhere troops of all arms were posted, and field guns were placed in positions to quickly deal with any opposition to the newly formed government. The soldiers discarded their cockades bearing the late King Alexander's cipher and substituted for it flowers, green twigs and leaves.

Reports from places outside Belgrade indicate that the country accepts the disappearance of the Obrenovitch dynasty without regret.

According to the best available information obtainable from the mass of contradictions, the crime was carried out by members of the Sixth infantry, under the command of Colonel Machin and Mischich. The former is a brother-in-law of the late Queen Draga, and is minister of public works in the new cabinet. The soldiers appear to have fought their way into the palace, shooting down the aide-de-camp on duty. Colonel Naumovic. Some of the other persons killed were surprised in their houses, simultaneously with the attack on the palace.

KING SHOT A COLONEL.

A dispatch from Semlin, Hungary, to the "National Zeitung," an interesting version of the events of Belgrade. It says: "A party of officers proceeded to the palace by previous arrangement with General Ljubasivkovic, and called upon King Alexander to abdicate in favor of Prince Peter Karageorgevitch. The king refused, and shot Colonel Naumovic, who made the proposal."

"The other officers thereupon summoned the war minister, General Pavlovitch, and the interior minister, the minister of the interior, and shot the king and queen and Petrovich, one of the king's aide-de-camps, and other royal officers. The leader of the actual assault was Lieutenant Colonel Mischich, who himself murdered the queen."

"The immediate cause of the revolution was the return to Belgrade of Lieutenant Lungievitch, brother of the queen, and a supposed candidate for the throne."

"The obsequies of the king and queen will be held June 14th. A festival illumination of Belgrade is projected for this evening. The dispatch concludes with stating that intense joy prevails at Belgrade."

LAST OF OBRENOVITCH DYNASTY.

A private telegram from Belgrade, Servia, states the army Thursday night proclaimed Peter Karageorgevitch to be king of Servia.

"The troops immediately surrounded the Kouak and forced their way into the royal palace, where they assassinated King Alexander and Queen Draga."

"It is rumored that all of King Alexander's ministers also were murdered. This is stated to have occurred between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock Thursday morning."

"A further telegram from the same source says: "The career of the Obrenovitch dynasty was closed in the early hours of that morning, the same day of the year which Prince Michael was murdered thirty-five years ago in the park of Topshidder, near Belgrade. To-day a requiem mass was being sung in memory of Prince Michael, and now the last of his race, together with all connected with the dynasty by his unfortunate marriage, lies in a bier in the palace at Belgrade."

"The people of Belgrade have been flocking to the streets since 3 o'clock Thursday morning, discussing the tragedy, but without outbursts. A strong detachment of troops is encamped about the palace of the newly proclaimed king, who was a pretender to the throne for many years. He was born in Belgrade in 1846 and was married in 1883 to Princess Zorka, daughter of prince Nicholas of Montenegro. She died in 1890."

"The Cologne 'Gazette' prints a dispatch from Belgrade, which says a story is current there that the late King Alexander was recently considering effecting a separation from Queen Draga, and that the latter, becoming aware of this, planned preventive measures."

Some high military officers, Thursday night, the dispatch adds, entered the palace and tried to carry off the queen by force,

but encountered strong resistance on the part of the queen's partisans, and in a struggle which followed the king and queen and their respective supporters were killed. All entry to the palace is prohibited, and a strong cordon of troops surrounds the royal residence.

The ministers who shared the fate of the sovereign were the leading spirits of the Obrenovitch party. The murder removes the only men capable of making a real stand against the Karageorgevitch, who have now no serious opposition in Servia.

SENSATION IN PARIS.

The startling announcement of the assassination of the king and queen of Servia caused a deep sensation here, particularly in government circles. The foreign office received early advices from the French minister at Belgrade, and the recent suspension of the latest of the revolutions which have disatisfied with the tendency of King Alexander to eliminate the Radical element from the government, and by the constant rumors of his intention to appoint Queen Draga's brother, Lunjevitch, heir apparent. In addition to this the queen was disliked by the people, who were also intensely outraged at the recent suspension of the constitution. The minister did not anticipate that the changes would result in internecine strife, or in any real danger to the country. He pointed out that the Karageorge was not a prince. He was a rich swine owner. The father of the new king was made a prince in 1842. The tragedy of the palace at Belgrade, making the latest of the revolutions which have convulsed Servia from time to time during the past century, is not regarded in diplomatic circles, in London as likely to lead to civil war. Stress is laid on the unpopularity of King Alexander since his marriage to Queen Draga. King Alexander's successor, Peter Karageorgevitch, is a son-in-law of the Prince of Montenegro, and is regarded as being most acceptable to the people.

MANY CAUSES FOR REVOLT.

The Servian minister said there were many causes leading to the revolution. A large section of the people were greatly disatisfied with the tendency of King Alexander to eliminate the Radical element from the government, and by the constant rumors of his intention to appoint Queen Draga's brother, Lunjevitch, heir apparent. In addition to this the queen was disliked by the people, who were also intensely outraged at the recent suspension of the constitution. The minister did not anticipate that the changes would result in internecine strife, or in any real danger to the country. He pointed out that the Karageorge was not a prince. He was a rich swine owner. The father of the new king was made a prince in 1842. The tragedy of the palace at Belgrade, making the latest of the revolutions which have convulsed Servia from time to time during the past century, is not regarded in diplomatic circles, in London as likely to lead to civil war. Stress is laid on the unpopularity of King Alexander since his marriage to Queen Draga. King Alexander's successor, Peter Karageorgevitch, is a son-in-law of the Prince of Montenegro, and is regarded as being most acceptable to the people.

The universal anxiety of the governments of Europe for peace is advanced as a reason why the Servian situation is not likely to lead to complications. Should, however, these unexpected arise, official circles think an Austro-Hungarian army will immediately march into Servia and restore order. This eventuality, however, is considered improbable.

SKETCH OF ALEXANDER I.

Alexander I. King of Servia, was born August 14th, 1876, and has reigned since 1894. When the regency established on the abdication of King Milan, his father, was constitutionally terminated by the eighteenth birthday of Alexander, the heir to the throne. He was the sixth ruler of the dynasty founded by Milos Torodorovic Obrenovic, the leader of the Servians in the long war which terminated in 1820 with the partial independence of Servia from the Turks, who had ruled that country for 370 years. Milor Obrenovic had been a swineherd in his youth, but was a man of great personal force, and being recognized by the sultan as hereditary prince succeeded in establishing a dynasty which has ruled, however, with great difficulty, plots and conspiracies, assassinations of ministers, heirs or princes, sudden abdications and senations of all sorts being of almost annual record. By the treaty of Berlin in 1878 the complete independence of Servia from Turkey was finally acknowledged, and in 1889 a constitution was proclaimed under which the legislative authority is exercised by an assembly called the Skupshtina, nominally by the advice and direction of the king. This assembly is elected by the people and in turn elects half of the sixteen members of the council of state.

Left His Nurse \$50,000.

Philip E. Melanson, a professional nurse, of Brooklyn, N. Y., will receive \$50,000 under the will of William J. Hovey, a New York and Boston millionaire, who died in New York May 26th.

Melanson, who is 28 years old, attended Mr. Hovey during a serious attack of rheumatism of the heart two years ago. The millionaire told Melanson that he would never regret pulling him through his illness.

Being in attendance on D. E. Wesson, the millionaire revolver manufacturer, at the Wesson home, in Springfield, Mass., Melanson did not know of Hovey's death until he read a three-line newspaper dispatch recently stating that he was a beneficiary under Hovey's will.

He has been summoned to Boston to confer with the executor of the will. He does not expect any contest. The millionaire left no near relatives besides his widow, who lives in Beacon street in Boston, and Arthur Hovey, a nephew, of Rochester, N. Y. Melanson says that a few years ago a wealthy patient gave him a three-story tenement house on Washington street in Brooklyn valued at \$9,000.

As the time Melanson attended Hovey Mrs. Hovey was also ill, and on Melanson's recommendation, Miss Maud Murray, a Boston professional nurse, was engaged to care for her.

Miss Murray will receive a handsome remembrance for her attentions to the millionaire's wife. Melanson at one time kept company with Miss Murray, who, he says, recently married a Boston man.

Stricken at His Bride's Bier.

Popular Young Physician May Follow Wife to the Great.

NORRISTOWN, June 13.—Stricken at the bier of his bride, Dr. Harry McClain, of Six Mile Run, Bedford county, is in a critical condition.

Dr. McClain and Miss Martha Buckley were married at the bride's home here two months ago. He had graduated a year ago at Jefferson Medical college. They went to Six Mile Run to live, and on Thursday Mrs. McClain died after two days' illness of diphtheria.

Her remains were brought here Friday night for interment in the family lot. The heart-broken husband accompanied the casket, and on his arrival he was so ill that medical assistance was summoned and the physician pronounced his illness malignant diphtheria. The Buckley house is quarantined, and he is in a critical condition. One lone cab, with the parents of the bride, followed her remains to the cemetery Saturday afternoon.

Bank Checks.

Rules Relating to Their Issue, Acceptance and Payment.

Bank checks possess many advantages for the conduct of business, and are used to a proportionately great extent. They are in many ways better for the payment of money, and are payable in the order in which they are presented. As given in the usual course of business, they do not constitute payment of the indebtedness for which they are given until paid. Nor will the concurrent receipting of the debts for which they are not given change this. If they are not paid on proper presentation, resort may be had to the original claimant. The rule is different in this respect as to the certified checks. So the having of the checks certified constitutes payment as to the persons drawing them.

Checks should be dated. If not dated at all, and they do not contain any statement as to whom they are to be paid, they are never payable. They may be ante-dated, as well as dated on the day of delivery. By being antedated they may be made to cover prior transactions, and in a measure determine the relative rights of the parties to them, provided that no fraud is intended or done. Postdating in the main determines the date of payment.

When postdated as to fall due on Sunday, they are payable on the following Monday. Checks postdated or maturing on legal holidays should be presented the day following. When postdated checks are paid before the dates mentioned, the money paid on them can be recovered. If blanks are left for the date, the holders of checks are thereby authorized to insert the date of delivery, but no other dates, and if they insert any other date it makes the checks void. Changing the date of checks without consent of the drawers will do the same.

The presumption is that when checks are drawn, funds will be provided at the banks on which they are drawn to meet them, but presentation for payment must be made within a reasonable time. If not so presented the holders will be charged with any consequent loss. When persons receiving checks and the banks on which they are drawn are in the same place, they should be presented the same day, or, at the latest, the day after they are received. After duly presenting checks, it is also the duty of the holder, if they are not paid, to notify the drawers before the close of the next secular day following the presentation and dishonor. No particular form of notice is required. It may be written or verbal. The principal case in which losses occur from failure to use due diligence in the collection of checks is where the banks on which they are drawn fail in the meantime. If the banks continue solvent, the drawers will remain liable to pay their checks for months at least after they are drawn. Presentation and notice of dishonor will also be dispensed with where there are no funds to pay checks, and where the banks on which they are drawn suspend payment before they can be presented, using proper diligence. After receiving checks they must be presented for payment, unless such presentation would be useless before the original claims can be sued on, for, by accepting checks, there is an implied agreement to use that method of procuring the money for which they are drawn.

When checks are negotiable and pass by indorsement or delivery, the same degree of diligence will be required of each person to whom they are indorsed, in order to hold those indorsing them, as required of original payee to hold original drawers of checks. But by putting checks in circulation the liability of the drawers cannot be prolonged. They must be presented within the same time by indorsees as by payees.

WORST OF ALL EXPERIENCES.—Can anything be worse than to feel that every minute will be your last? Such was the experience of Mrs. S. H. Newton, Decatur, Ala. "For three years" she writes, "I endured insufferable pain from indigestion, stomach and bowel trouble. Death seemed inevitable when doctors and all remedies failed. At length I was induced to try Electric Bitters and the result was miraculous. I improved at once and now I'm completely recovered. For L. R. Kidney, Stomach and Bowel troubles Electric Bitters is the only medicine. Only 50c. It's guaranteed by Green's Druggist."

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Medical.

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