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Entered as Second-Class Matter
at Postoffice Indianapolis**MYSTERY IS
LIFTED FROM
CZAR'S DEATH****Only Few Links Lacking to
Complete Details of
Execution Story.****FAMILY SLAIN BY REDS****Loyal Retainers Risk Lives
to Get True Facts in
Drama of 1918.****This is the first of four articles based
on material supplied by a United Press cor-
respondent into the secret facts of the
execution of Czar Nicholas II and of his
entourage and their children by Bol-
shevists in 1918, the recovery of their
ashes which were removed to France and
the circumstances surrounding their
secret burial there.****BY SAMUEL DASHIELL****United Press Staff Correspondent
PARIS, Feb. 16.—Mystery and
conflict around the story of the
Bolshevik annihilation of the
imperial Romanoff family of Russia
in a blaze of machine gun fire al-
most have been solved after twelve
years.****Only one or two links in the long
chain of episodes—deathless acts
of loyalty, incidents of treachery,
fearless adventures and interna-
tional intrigue—which rose from
the deaths of the imperial family
remain to be disclosed and these
will not be known while a Com-
munist government rules from the
Kremlin and the imperial white
army wanders in exile.****From men and women closest to
the action, came an account which
had as its prelude a crash of gun
fire in the dark cellar of a house at
Ekaterinburg in 1918 and as its
climax the secret burial in France of
the remains of the czar and his
family which had been found and
transported from Soviet territory
under greatest hardships.****Disguised as Peasant****The former minister of justice, M.
Starkovitch, appointed during the
short-lived Koltchak regime, ex-
plained to the United Press how
the investigation was conducted.****The actual investigation was car-
ried out by Judge Sokoloff, a man
of unquestioned probity, who braved
death a hundred times, disguised as
a peasant, to reach Ekaterinburg
about the time of the White army.
Starkovitch said:****"Five days after the murder of
the imperial Russian family white
Russian detachments occupied Eka-
terinburg. Various members of the
judiciary chose Judge Sokoloff to
conduct the investigation of the
murder. More than must be re-
membered here I was an ardent
Socialist. I was not a Monarchist.****"The judicial inquiry showed that
the central Soviet section of
L'Oural, near Ekaterinburg, feared
the approach of the White army of
Koltchak would result in the escape
of the imperial family, probably to
Germany."****Lenin Was Opposed****"It thus was decided that they
should be shot immediately. The
resolution was confirmed by the
regional committee who trans-
mitted the information to Moscow.
Lenin was against the assassination,
fearing eventual complications.****"The order having arrived at
Ekaterinburg, a certain Commu-
nist, Jourkovsky, in charge of the
imperial family in the house where
they were being held, informed the
czar and his wife and children that
the White army was getting so close
Ekaterinburg, a certain Commu-
nist of rioting in the streets, and that
the entire family had better go down
into the cellar for safety.****"As soon as the imperial family,
their servants and one dog had
descended into the cellar, Jourkovsky
shot the czar with his revolver. A
special firing squad had arrived at
the house and the members of the
family were killed by one."****"The Grand Duchess Anastasia
then 16, and the youngest, was
entreated the soldiers not to shoot
her sisters, but the inquiry shows
that she herself was beaten, bay-
oneted and then shot, while the ter-
rified children were lined up and
slain."****Servants Met Same Fate****"The four servants shared the
same fate, and the firing squad did
not even spare the little dog."****"The remains then were moved
to a remote village of Kortiak, near
Faiga, where they were cov-
ered with oil and burned, then cut
to pieces and thrown into an aban-
doned mine pit, where they were
found by Judge Sokoloff."****"Pieces of jewelry, clothing and
other objects, including the ring
finger of the empress with the gold
band battered to prevent recogni-
tion, were carefully gathered up and
subjected to the closest examination,
so that Judge Sokoloff and his
aides were convinced that the
remains were none other than those
of the murdered imperial family."****"The objects were put into four
cases and their shipment out of
Russia, after Ekaterinburg had been
reinvested by Red troops, only could
have been accomplished with the
aid of Allied and so-called neutral
officers and officials."****Next: How Allied Troops Aided
Loyal Russians.****COSGROVE SAYS STATE
WOULD LOSE ON BILL****\$100,000 Is Estimated Cost of
Depository Measure.****Less of \$100,000 in interest on the
state general fund will result from
passage of the state depository in-
terest bill now pending in the sen-
ate. It was predicted today by Wil-
liam P. Cosgrove, chief deputy state
auditor.****The bill, which has passed the
house, would require banks holding
public money on deposit to pay in-
terest quarterly on minimum bal-
ance on deposit for the previous
three months. Interest now is paid
on the average daily balance.****Elope Twice in 90 Days****Twice in the last ninety days, youthful Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Senger, above, of Cleveland, have eloped. Three months ago Senger stopped his flivver in front of the high school attended by his sweetheart, Miss Helen Huff, 16, picked her up and drove her to Indianapolis, where they were married.****When they returned home, the bride's parents sent her to visit friends, and Senger could not find her. Finally she tossed her suitcase out of a window, jumped out after it, and went to join her husband.****NEA****IN THE PICTURE****IN THE PICTURE**</