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*A Clean Newspaper for Southern Homes*

## ABDICATING CZAR ASKS FOR UNION

(By International News Service.)

AMSTERDAM, March 17.—Czar Nicholas decided to abdicate the Russian throne only after he had been held up by soldiers and the necessity for such action impressed on him, according to a dispatch printed in *The Frankfurter Zeitung* today. The dispatch states that while the Czar was en route from Moscow to Petrograd a group of revolutionary troops held up his train and compelled him to give up his throne.

(By International News Service.)

PETROGRAD, March 17.—Czar Nicholas today addressed a proclamation to the people. It is headed "To All Our Faithful Subject," and says:

In these days of great struggle against foreign foes, who have been striving for three years to enslave our beloved country, God has desired his visit upon Russia, a new and severe trial. Interior troubles threaten to have a fatal effect on the outcome of the war. The destiny of Russia and the honor of our fatherland make necessary the prosecution of the war at all cost to a triumphant end. The cruel enemy is making his final effort and the time rapidly approaches when our brave army will completely defeat our foes.

In these momentous days in the national life of Russia, we believe there should be closest union of the organization among all the forces of the people, in order to secure a speedy and glorious victory. Because of this, and in accordance with the desire of the Duma, we have considered it best to abdicate the throne of all the Russias and lay aside our supreme power.

Not wishing to be separated from our beloved son, we bequeath our heritage to our brother, Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, and bless his ascension to the throne of Russia. We deliver to our brother the Government in full union with the representatives of the nation who are in the legislative chambers, and taking this step with an inviolable oath in the name of our beloved fatherland.

We call upon our faithful sons of the fatherland to do their sacred and patriotic duty in this painful hour of our nation's trial, and also to aid our brother and the representatives of the nation in bringing prosperity and glory to Russia.

May God aid Russia.