

Anti-Red Russian



Vonsiatsky, Russian Fascist

Anastase Andreievitch Vonsiatsky, a partisan of the czar, fled the Crimea in the fall of 1920 with the Red Army at his heels. He arrived in Paris, where he met Mrs. Marion Buckingham Ream Stephens, divorced wife of a Chicago lawyer and daughter and heiress of the steel magnate, Norman Bruce Ream, whose fortune was estimated at \$50,000,000.

In the summer of 1921 Vonsiatsky arrived in the United States, got a job as an unskilled worker at the Eddystone, Pa., plant of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, and prepared to learn the business: he hoped to represent the company in Russia after the Soviet government's overthrow. On Feb. 3, 1922, the 43-year-old Mrs. Stephens and the 23-year-old White Russian were married. He gave up his job, became a naturalized citizen, and moved to a large estate at Thompson, Conn. By 1933 Vonsiatsky had founded the Russian National Revolutionary Fascist Party, collected a small arsenal of rifles, and established a monthly in Russian, *The Fascist*. He made connections with the White Russian, pro-Japanese movement in Manchukuo and held conferences with Nazi officials in Germany in 1934. Soon he claimed 20,000 adherents and waited confidently for the Soviet's destruction at the hands of Germany or Japan.

On May 9, FBI agents pounced on Vonsiatsky at his Thompson estate and carted away a truckload of documents. Simultaneously raids were made on branches of his party in San Francisco and Los Angeles. The Russian was not arrested, but information from his files led to other raids in New York.

Special FBI Agent J. Raymond Ylitalo said Vonsiatsky's party was "a military expedition in conjunction with the Japanese and German Governments against the present Russian Government." What the FBI planned for Vonsiatsky himself wasn't disclosed, but it seemed that his Fascist movement had been squelched.