forest; lumbering and cutting cordwood the principal industry. Arrived at Petrograd at 6.00 p.m. Were met at station by a delegation of railway officials; also by Ambassador Francis and his staff, who accompanied us to our hotel. This was a large new structure built around a courtyard and known as the "Select", but the "selection" I found to be inferior, in fact, I would not risk my reputation in a similar "joint" in my own country. It is located near the Nikolalvsk station on the Ligouskaya #44. Francis apologised for the character of the place, saying that it had been intended to put us up at the Winter Palace, but that the Root Commission's arrival had prevented; also that the Hotel de l'Europe was overcrowded. Personally, I think he had given little thought to the matter. Stevens and his secretary arrived first and secured the best rooms, allowing the rest of us to shift for ourselves.

June 13th. A beautiful cool day. Went to the American Embassy and had a long conference with Gov. Francis; afterwards lunched with him. Charles R. Crane came in; he was awaiting the arrival of the Root party, of which he is a member. This Commission arrived today.

June 14th. Luncheon at the Embassy to meet N. Nekrasoff, Minister of Ways and Communications in the Provisional Government. Nekrasoff is a fine looking man of about 40; originally from Tomsk, a civil engineer and at one time a professor in the Tomsk University. He later became interested in politics and was elected to the Duma. Upon the formation of the Provisional Government, after the revolution, he was made a member. Speaks French well but only a few words of English. Is a socialist of the moderate type and evidently now more interested in politics than the railway business. As he is the head of the Department with which we were to have our principal dealings, we had sub-