a hotbed of Germans and German sympathizers, hence the attack upon it. It is a fine hotel of the "Ritz" type and is beautifully located at the end of the Morskaia and on the cathedral square; it is now used as a "Military" hotel and is not open to the general public.

In the evening we dined with the Root Commission at the Winter Palace and had a long conference over Russian matters. The Root party are quartered in the south end of the palace where a dining room has been improvised for them. The meals are good; we had also the old-time zakouska, including vodka and wines. It seems that the kitchen arrangements are limited; also much of the building is used for hospital and other official purposes, so it was not found practicable to take care of both commissions there. I dined and lunched a number of times at the palace during the Root party's stay and in this way managed to get civilized meals at intervals. Senator Root seems to be standing the strain of the trip well and I enjoyed frequent talks with him. Bertron and McCormick are lodged in a suite of enormous rooms on the top floor at the north end of the building and have to walk an endless distance and through the hospital section to reach their rooms.

June 21st. Note: all dates are according to our calendar; the Russian ("old style") calendar is 13 days later, i.e. this is June 8th, "old style".

We dined at the Donon restaurant with General Poole and Major Banting of the "British Military Equipment Section in Russia"; also with Capt. Riggs, who has just returned from Vladivostok. The Englishmen were keenly interested in our mission and were especially anxious that we should bring pressure to bear upon the Railway Ministry to hurry the completion of the