

## ***The Tsar's Private Newspaper***

**F**OR twenty-four years—from the time he ascended the throne in 1894 until he was executed—Tsar Nicholas II of Russia spent more than \$40,000 a day for his morning newspaper! Fantastic as this sounds, the editor of the Tsar's huge privately owned newspaper was allowed to print only one copy of the paper daily. And although scores of foreign and literally hundreds of local correspondents supplied great quantities of material for this amazing single-edition journal, scarcely any truth or real news was ever published. Instead, its thousands of words served only to glorify the Tsar for whom it was printed. During his reign, this strange whim cost the Russians \$437,000,000!

—ROBERT M. HYATT