

Today in History, Dec. 18

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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Painting "Arrest of a Propagandist" (1892) by Ilya Repin.

137 years ago, on Dec. 18, 1876, the first socialist-revolutionary demonstration in Russia was held on St. Petersburg's Kazan Square, in support of the Narodniki movement which called for land and liberty. Police tried to disperse the 400 students and laborers who attended the event, arresting more than 30 protesters, 10 of whom were later sentenced to exile in Siberia.

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