

NEWS OF FOREIGN CAPITALS

Napoleon's Birth-Place May Soon Give Trouble To French

Paris, May 20.—Corsica, the birth-place of Napoleon is apt to give trouble before long, if the French government be not careful. No doubt, the inhabitants of that island are vindictive and make exacting demands, still, Corsica is not a French colony, but a French department. By the constitution, a Corsican is a Frenchman as much as a Parisian is a Frenchman. Unfortunately, the republic has always kept its arms length the island that gloried in having produced Napoleon Bonaparte. During the Empire the Corsicans were in favor. Under the republic they are enemies. Hence, although the island is rich and there should be enough for every man, woman, and child, dreadful misery exists and the Corsicans are being driven from the island. M. Clamenceau once offered Corsica to anyone who would take it. That was his bluff, for he would accept the gift without hesitation. The republican government must devise some means to check the growth of already there are too many signs of a general crumbling-to-pieces in France, when, if not dealt with in time, will bring about a tremendous

"I have the great satisfaction of knowing that my genius, frequently abused and hissed by the audiences of France and Italy, run no risk of ever being buried beneath dull and heavy plaudits. This personal touch appears to be the most really philosophical part of the Futurist philosophy.

A novel educational scheme for making the masses of the people acquainted with the literature of all countries is about to be carried out in Brussels.

A central library, consisting of the outfit of 10,000 choice volumes, is to be created in Brussels, and any inhabitants of any part of Belgium owning a savings bank book will be entitled to borrow from it and receive by mail and book for a period of two weeks on checking two cents off his savings bank book at the postoffice, his money at the bank serving as a guarantee for payment for books not returned. As there are about 1,500 post-offices in Belgium, this will amount to the creation of a circulating library with 1,500 branches, whose risks will be more than covered by the deposits in the savings banks.

Americans who deplore the prevalence of official red tape in Washington may find some consolation in knowing that we are much worse off here in France. The government department in which the tape is most prominent is undoubtedly the navy, where M. Delcasse is trying his utmost to do away with it. The following little incident will show that the minister was justified when he said the other day, that red tape threatens the safety of the republic. Some time ago the navy yard at Toulon needed two ordinary saucepans for the gallery of a submarine. After making the need officially known, after using reams of paper and pints of ink the order was given to a certain manufacturer to supply the two saucepans, which must fulfill a number of specified requirements. It was particularly emphasized that the bottoms of the cooking vessels must be of the very finest quality and exceptionally strong. The factory made the saucepans and a special commission of technical experts was ordered to examine them, which it did most thoroughly, thereupon the pans were sent, with a long report, to the chemical laboratory of the navy department, which was to test the metal of the bottom of the pans. The chemists scraped the bottoms very carefully and the pans were returned to the commission with a favorable report. The commission then issued a new report to the effect that the saucepans would not have been eminently fit for the gallery of the submarine if the official chemists had not scraped the bottoms so hard that both pans were now leaking, whereupon they were sold as old metal and the same proceedings started over again. In the meantime the crew of the submarine would be starving if the cook had not on his own responsibility bought two ordinary tin saucepans from a Toulon hardware dealer.

M. Henri Detutsh de la Maurthe, the famous musician who takes so great an interest in the science of aviation, and M. Henri Cain, the poet, have started on an interesting mission to Crete. The former is not content to encourage aviation above by offering substantial prizes for the conceived idea of writing a lyrical code, which he has entitled, "I Care," on a poem of Mr. Henri Cain dedicated to the glory of the new science and its heroes. This work will shortly be performed in public.

Meanwhile the musician and the librettist thought they would like to visit the scene of the first "drama" of the air, in which the imprudent wings of Dedale, after having burnt his wings, lost his life by falling into Egean Sea, which cast up his body on the shore of Dolche in Crete, where it was buried by Hercules. The exploring expedition of the two collaborators is made with a view to establishing historical accuracy as to this, the first tragedy of the air.

The arrest of a youth who was caught breaking into a box of medals on the Quai Conti at 12 o'clock in the morning, had a surprising result. The youth was well dressed, and in his possession were found an electric lamp, two small jimmies and a bunch of keys.

Pressed with questions, he made the startling declaration that he was the oldest son of General LeFebvre, commanding the first division of colonial troops. The boy was a pupil at the Buffon College. His parents thought he had left home without informing them. They were, however, greatly surprised when they knew that he was in the lock-up on a charge of attempted burglary.

Inquiries into his habits showed that for over a month he had made nocturnal expeditions unknown to his parents and the servants of the house. In his room was quite a library of detective stories. It is supposed that these had turned his head and led him to imitate the exploits of fantastic burglars.

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 HIGH HEELS,

 Heels first appeared on women's shoes in 1825, but it was the tariff that made them higher.—Charles-ton News and Courier.

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LITTLE CZAR ALEXIS

This picture of little Czar Alexis is interesting, not alone because of its charming pose, but because it was snapped by the child's father, the Czar of all the Russians, at an outing this spring, near the Royal Palace. His Imperial Majesty the Czar, an ardent amateur photographer, who delights in exercising his art, not only upon the beautiful vietas that surround the palace, but upon members of the royal household, especially his children, of whom he is very fond.

The Czarvitch Alexis will reach the age of seven on July 30th, and already preparations are under way for a monster celebration throughout the empire.

German Government Is Now in Trouble Of Its Own Making

(By FREDERICK WERNER.)
 Berlin, May 20.—The German government is in serious trouble and even that part of the press which has hitherto loyally supported its policy now admits that the trouble, in part at least, is of the government's own making.

The budget made by the chancellor of the Empire upon the lines indicated by the coalition between the reactionary clergy and the ultra-conservative large land owners, has proved a complete failure, the taxes having failed to realize anything like the amounts hoped for, and this in spite of the fact that the fiscal year of 1910 has been a very prosperous one for German commerce. The new taxes will never again stand a better chance, they brought all they possibly could bring. All taxes on whiskey, beer, or illumination, matches and checks have realized only a small percentage of what the chancellor had calculated on.

The large deficit thus created is not only fatal to the present reactionary majority in the Reichstag, but it also shows that as a result of the government's reckless policy the purchasing power of the German people has materially decreased. The people simply cannot bear any more burdens, the limit was reached a year ago, and when new taxes were imposed in a mad effort on the part of the government to create a surplus in the treasury, to be used as a convincing election argument this year, the people, unable to refuse to pay the taxes, were forced to reduce their living expenses, which means that the whole nation as of one accord bought less, limiting their purchases to the absolute necessities of life.

The reactionary party now in power is in a hole. They admit this among themselves and consequently they are making the most strenuous efforts to turn the attention of the voters away from the consequences of their selfish policy. This is the only reason why they have persistently been trying to make capital of every insignificant diplomatic affair, as for instance during the time when France was deliberating as to what action to make in Morocco. In reality they did not even dare hope that their bluff would be successful, for the German people have shown plainly enough that they do not want to be mixed up in Moroccan affairs, as long as France keeps within the spirit of the Algeiras treaty, and nobody ever believed that France intended to violate this at a time when its new cabinet is all of every day to maintain orders in the campaign districts.

Having failed here the German conservatives threatened the liberals with the "knife" at the coming elections as they have repeatedly done, for instance, in Prussian local elections, with the disastrous result that they have given the socialists 22 new "Wahlmannen," and created a strongly united liberal "block," which at the coming reichstag elections will do away entirely with the power of the hitherto almighty "blue-black block."

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thoroughly practical, and will not be influenced by theories of a purely utopian character. The great object has been, and will be, to remove abuses, to give every citizen a fair chance, to avert expenditure, which had been extravagant, and to secure liberty for all.

In clerical circles in Rome the coming suit against the fashionable priest, Pater Verdesi, who recently left the church, which will come before the court on Monday is looked forward to with considerable excitement. First, because it is expected that the court proceedings will reveal interesting secrets of the Vatican and Second, because it is the first time the church has allowed a priest to take his grievances before a temporal court in Italy. Pater Verdesi, who is the pet of Roman fashionable society, left the church after accusing the Jesuit Peter Bricarelli, or having violated the secret of the confessional and the papers of some have already published the formal complaint against him written by Peter Bricarelli.

Two alternatives are impossible: The court will either throw out the case because it will be impossible for it to clear up the matter, or Peter Bricarelli may be found guilty because, according to the teachings of the Jesuits every priest must swear that he had heard nothing during a confession, even if this causes him to commit perjury in the eyes of the law.

Father Verdesi declares, however, that he can show full proofs of the truth of his accusation.

Expedition Was Very Successful

London, May 20.—The British expedition in the Northern territories of the Gold Coast, which was sent against the unruly tribes in the Tong Hills, has been successfully concluded. Ten years ago an expedition under the late Sir Donald Stewart failed to subdue these tribes, and since that time they have repeatedly declined to come into touch with the British government.

All friendly methods having ended in failure, an expedition was despatched against them early in March. The country they inhabit, is close to the French border, and is difficult for military operations, owing to the rocky nature of the ground.

The British force, which was under the command of Captain Furnell, consisted of two companies of the Gold Coast Regiment, with six officers and four doctors.

The actual fighting lasted for a week, and the operations were conducted by two columns, commanded by Lieutenants Barker and Elkan. The British casualties were slight, although the natives were armed with poisoned arrows. After operations, when their villages and chief fetish places in the hills had been destroyed, the natives surrendered. They are now rebuilding their compounds in a suitable district, which has been allotted to them.

The acting chief commissioner of the northern territories, Major F. C. M. G., was present at the formal ceremony of the expedition was Captain H. C. Wheeler, the commissioner of the province in which lay the dissatisfied district.

English Ideal For the Opera

Berlin, May 20.—Commenting on the agitation now proceeding in America for opera in English, Herr Wilhelm Klatt, the eminent German musical critic, says that the English language is an ideal one for songs and operas; that it possesses valuable characteristics (for instance, directness) for dramatic expression, and with its broad soft vowels has lyrical possibilities not equalled by the German language.

He refers to the old English songs and the poems of Shelley for proof of the latter, and for the former merely suggests that one need but hear a good actor read lines from Shakespeare.

Herr Klatt speaks enthusiastically about the poems of Walt Whitman, and mentions as a very excellent setting of one of them the "Sedrit" of Friedrich Deltius, which, he says, is alone sufficient to show what an ideal language English is for musical setting.

He further says that German singers who do not pronounce English words properly are largely responsible for the prevailing impression that English is not a good language for music.

Thinness is a Divorce Cause

Berlin, May 20.—That thinness can be a cause for divorce was proved in the case of a German magistrate who sought to obtain separation from his wife, alleging that in order to be able to wear a hobble skirt she had adopted means to reduce her weight by about thirty pounds. To effect this, he stated, his wife had practically ruined her health and spoiled her temper, as she flouted all remonstrances of her husband, consequently, he claimed her actions were good ground for divorce. The court held this view and the magistrate was successful in his suit.

First Citizen Officer Made

Berlin, May 20.—The first officer, not of noble birth, ever appointed to a regiment of cavalry guards in Germany has been attached to the regimental staff of the Curassier Guards at Potsdam, in the person of Lieutenant Rauch. Hitherto the cavalry guards regiments have been regarded as the exclusive sphere of the nobility, and the appointment of an untitled officer to the Curassiers is viewed as a miniature revolution in military life.

Nat'l. Economists Fear Scotland Is Being Depopulated

By PHILLIP EVERETT.
 London, May 20.—National economists here are greatly worried at the indisputable fact that Scotland is becoming depopulated at an alarming rate, a fact which has been made more evident than ever by the census just taken.

There is not the slightest doubt as to the reasons which cause tens of thousands of home-loving industrious Scots to leave the country of their birth to go to other countries where they find the opportunities that are denied them at home, and several Scotch members of parliament were very outspoken on the subject when I approached them in the lobby the other day.

Mr. P. A. Molteno, who is the representative of Dumfriesshire in the house of commons said:

"The decline in the population of Scotland is no surprise to me; I have been calling public attention to it for years past. There are no small farms to be had; there is no ladder by means of which a man can rise indeed, in some districts it is impossible to even get a house.

"Can you wonder, then, that when a Canadian emigration agent comes along and tells these people about a land where they can get a freehold farm on easy terms, they go? In my country—Dumfries—we have some of the finest men in the kingdom, and they are being driven away from their homes, because they cannot get a bit of land to till.

"There is no country in Europe where the land laws are so detrimental to the public good as they are in Scotland. Twelve persons own 3,400,000 acres, which is equal to the whole cultivated area of Belgium. Seventy men own over 9,000,000 acres, which is equal to the cultivated area of Denmark. European economists point to Scotland as the most modern illustration to the ill that a bad land system will inflict upon a people."

Mr. A. C. Morton M. P. for Southlandshire spoke very much in the same vein. He said:

"In the country which I represent, we have 380,000 acres which the Crofters' commission reported in 1895 to be fitted for cultivation. The same commission reported that, in the six crofting counties—Inverness, Ross and Cromarty, Southland, Argyllshire, Caithness, and Orney and Shetland—there were 1,750 acres which might be cultivated.

"But nothing has been done, and the result has been that all the young people have had to clear out. This is shown by the returns of old age pensions paid. The percentage of persons over 70 is higher in Southlandshire than in any other part of Britain. I have no hesitation in saying that 50,000 more people could live there in comfort.

"True, the days are gone when you might trace the track of emigration in the charred thatch of ruins crofts, but a close investigation will reveal something almost as bad. In house after house you will find the old age pensioner or the solitary couple, but no stalwart sons or daughters. Ask where the young people are gone, and you will be told with a shake of the head, that John and Milly and half a dozen more of their children could see no prospect of securing farms of their own in Scotland and have been lured away by the emigration poster which dangles before their eyes the promise of 160 acres in Canada."

In spite of Mr. Keor Hardie's denunciation of all Welshmen, who are preparing to take part in the investiture of the Prince of Wales, reminding them that the first Prince of Wales was the oldest son of the conqueror of the country, everybody in Wales from Lloyd George to the humblest workman at Carnarvon is looking forward to the event with great expectations probably not so much because very much importance is attributed to the ceremony itself, as because of the prosperity which it is hoped will follow in its wake.

The mediaeval ceremony promises to bring to Wales a greater number of wealthy American visitors than ever before and Welshmen feel sure that most of these will be so charmed with the great natural beauties, that they will repeat their visit and include it in their annual round of excursions, and thus give the impulse to a great invasion of wealthy tourists, leaving behind them a trail of golden dollars.

The government is doing everything to make the ceremony of the investiture an imposing one, and the planned naval review will almost be as impressive as the coronation review at Spithead.

It is intended that the whole of the dreadnaught battleships and cruisers in the home fleet shall anchor in Carnarvon Bay, and that torpedo boat destroyers and possibly submarines shall take up positions in the river Seign, which runs under the shadow of the gray castle walls.

These vessels will act as escort to the royal yacht, on which the King and Queen will stay at Holyhead on the night before the investiture of their son.

At a low estimate 150,000 visitors are expected to take part in the celebrations. Nine thousand people will be accommodated with seats on grand stands which are now being erected within the ruins of the old castle and at least 80,000 people will be able to see the presentation of the Prince from Queen Eleanor's Gateway.

Many additional thousands will watch the royal procession through more than two miles of rode between Griffith's Crossing, where the King and Queen and the Prince of Wales will land from the Royal yacht, to the market square, on which the main

portions of the Castle about. A Sunderland vicar has been told by his choir not to join so vigorously in the singing as they claim it is detrimental to the service. The vicar refuses to discuss the matter, which will be raised at a congregational meeting later.

The choir like the vicar personally, but they cannot stand his singing. One day the choir-master said to him plaintively, "You are quite spoiling the boys, sir."

"In what way," asked the astounded vicar.

"You sing too loud," said the choir-master, "keep it down, sir! keep it down!"

The vicar struggled manfully for a few weeks. But one day he forgot, and let himself go, and the choir-master nearly wept.

It seems that the vicar is constantly forgetting himself, so the choir have been forced to send to him an ultimatum.

The efforts of the Admiralty to establish a reserve of 300 trained fishermen at Grimsby to man a fleet of nine-sweeping trawlers for special war service have been a failure.

May 22nd had been fixed as the date for inaugurating the training, the two cruisers had been ordered to accompany the six government trawlers to Grimsby for the training period, but up to the present there are only eleven men enrolled for service, a twelfth being rejected on medical examination for defective eyesight. The volunteers are not sufficient in number to form one complete crew.

In the first instance Grimsby officials receive about 100 applications from fishermen to serve, but since the publication of details of service they have shown no disposition to join, chiefly on grounds that their patriotism is to be secured at too great a personal cost without sufficient compensation for such admitted risky work as sweeping the seas for submarine mines. The annual training, they claim, would cause them to lose their work, possibly for many weeks, owing to the great number of unemployed fishermen ready to take their places, while they would receive less pay than when fishing.

The skippers have absolutely declined to be associated with the scheme, owing to the age limit fixed. The opinion in Grimsby is that it is the interest of the skippers were secured the success of the scheme would be assured.

How dull it is to pause, to make an end, To rust unburnish'd, not to shine in use— As tho' to breathe were life! —Tennyson.



PRINCESS LOUISE

Princess Louise, daughter of the late King Leopold of Belgium, head of that exploitation of the Congo Free State, that cost millions of lives and brought untold wealth to his coffers, who is now suing his estate for over ten million dollars invested by the late sovereign for her in the medieval each fund which was claimed by Belgium as part of the hidden profits from the ill-fated Congo, and turned into the country's treasury. This legal action, which is not taking place before the Brussels Civil Tribunal, is exciting wide European interest, both because of the former prominence of the Princess in European court circles, and the practical destination which the action of the Belgian government has brought upon her. So complicated are the questions involved that it is expected the termination of the suit will not come before fall.



DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH

The Duchess of Marlborough, formerly the first lady in the English empire, but now ostracized in English court circles because of her separation from her husband, the Duke, who will visit America during the first of June to escape the inevitable notoriety which her non-appearance at British court functions during the coronation ceremonies will provoke. It is said, by a prominent society journal that the beautiful Duchess, known best in America as Concha Vanderbilt, will pay a prolonged visit to her mother in Newport, where she will again grace the society functions of New York's four-hundred, during June and July.