

NEWS OF FOREIGN CAPITALS

Peace Of Christmas Has Settled Down Over Germany

Debates and Personal Quarrels Buried Temporarily—Persistent Rumors of Cabinet Changes Have Not Materialized.

By FREDERICK WERNER.

BERLIN, Dec. 23.—The peace of Christmas has settled down over Germany, and all quarrels, from the heated debates on the Moroccan agreement to the quarrels between the Kaiser and the Reichstag, are buried under the snow of a quiet holiday season.

The peace party, which is not confined to army men, but includes many clerical aristocrats, and others, has been able to prevent the military from upsetting the equilibrium of the Balkans by attacking the Turkish mainland. Others declare roundly that war between Austria and Italy is inevitable in the near future, and urge that the present is a good opportunity to take the initiative while Italy is engaged elsewhere. It is reminded that Italy is still the ally of Austria, they repeat the reports about Italian officers in Tripoli declaring that the next campaign will be "against an old enemy."

The peace party represented by Count von Arenalthal includes, fortunately, the mass of the population and the aged emperor, who by his firm action added one more—and by no means the least—to his historic services in the cause of European peace. The danger for the time being, however, one cannot help asking: "For how long?" The press of the war party says that Count von Arenalthal cannot maintain his position long in the face of open hostility to the heir-presumptive.

Only Apparent Unity in Turkey. Despite the outward unity of all political parties in Turkey precipitated by the war, subterranean activity has not yet subsided in Constantinople, and disintegrating forces are at work in some parts of the empire. Albania, in particular, is in an advanced stage of ferment, for, despite assurances to the contrary, the government never touched the firm ground of a final settlement there.

Unless extraordinary and effective measures be speedily adopted by the Porte, another rising will add to Turkey's domestic troubles. The promises by which the central government conciliated the insurgent chiefs have not been redeemed. The villages ruthlessly destroyed, during the military expedition have not been rebuilt; the funds which the cabinet undertook to apply to relieving the needs of the inhabitants who had lost their substance have not been distributed; about 10,000 Albanians are in actual want of food, and smouldering discontent is being fanned by despair.

The Albanian leaders are furious with the Porte for its bad faith, and the government, alive to the probable results of its questionable attitude, is now arousing the fierce wrath of the Albanian Moslems by distributing arms to their Catholic compatriots, and thus endeavoring to sow discord among the religious elements of the population. But the Albanians, being really one do not allow religious creeds to divide them.

Four hundred prominent Albanians have forwarded a memorandum to Constantinople, requesting their representatives there to inform the government that unless it changes its policy and applies measures of relief immediately, they will quit the country in a body and take refuge in a neighboring state. Their representative has made numerous communications on the subject to the government, which persists in taking no notice. He professes to believe that another Albanian insurrection is brewing.

German people realize that it was a blessing in disguise, for had the general been permitted to remain in power there would undoubtedly have been war between Austria and Italy and where would the Triple Alliance have been then?

The powerful warlike party led by Baron Conrad and other high officers and personages, with the pulsant support of the heir-presumptive behind them, wished to mass troops on the Italian frontier in a manner which Italy would regard as provocative. Some members of this party, which is not confined to army men, but includes many clerical aristocrats, and others, has been able to prevent the military from upsetting the equilibrium of the Balkans by attacking the Turkish mainland. Others declare roundly that war between Austria and Italy is inevitable in the near future, and urge that the present is a good opportunity to take the initiative while Italy is engaged elsewhere. It is reminded that Italy is still the ally of Austria, they repeat the reports about Italian officers in Tripoli declaring that the next campaign will be "against an old enemy."

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ROYAL CHILDREN OF EUROPE WHO ARE HANGING UP THEIR STOCKINGS.

Royal children of Europe who are today hanging up their stockings in preparation for the visit of Santa Claus. At the top are Queen Victoria Eugenie of Spain and her children, with an inset of Princess Marie, daughter of the Crown Prince and Princess of Roumania. At the bottom, from left to right are: the Czarvitch of Russia, Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany's eldest grandson, Prince Wilhelm of Prussia, and the Crown Prince of Belgium and his little sister the Princess Marie Jose.

England Fears A German Invasion During Holiday

By PHILLIP EVERETT.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Almost on the eve of Christmas the people of England are ordinarily thinking only of Turkey and plum pudding, especially when no general election is in sight, but although we are outwardly very calm today, there are, however, quite a few of us who are worried and who will live in state of fear until the holidays have passed without a German invasion somewhere on our long exposed coast.

The danger, in of course, purely imaginary, but ever since the alleged German spy, Captain Grant, was caught at Portsmouth a couple of weeks ago and it was revealed in court that Germany had been anxious to find out how many men and how large supplies of coal there would be in our naval ports, during Christmas week, any number of people, scared by the sensational press, have become quite convinced that the Kaiser intends to pay us an unwelcome visit during the holidays and the government is being roundly denounced because it has granted furloughs to a very large percentage of officers and men from the various home defence squadrons scattered along our coasts.

These fears are of course absurd, for not only would it be impossible for Germany to mobilize her army and navy without the knowledge of England, which maintains a host of spies in every German seaport, but from a very reliable source at the imperial court in Berlin much upsets at the manner in which the majority of the German newspapers commented on Sir Edward Grey's speech on Anglo-German relations. Personally the Kaiser is exceedingly anxious to be at peace with England, not only on humanitarian but diplomatic grounds.

"Please forget," he is reported to have said to an intimate friend on one occasion, "that my friendship for England is a personal one. My relationship to the British Royal Family would alone suffice to make me wish that my people and the English people should be friends with one another."

It is the extreme nervousness of the masses, both here and in Germany, due to the machinations of the politicians and a certain lack of friendship of England and Germany for the governments of both countries take a very hopeful view of the situation and Sir Edward Grey was right when he said a few days ago in a speech:

"There are some friends of mine who are always tapping the barometer every five minutes to see if it is rising—a very natural impulse. We have had a period of indifference when after a period of indifferent weather we have a longing for an improvement, but what I believe to be really desirable now is that we should have a few weeks, of diplomatic repose.

"If we can devote ourselves during the next few weeks to our usual Christmas enjoyments, and our internal political questions, and not tap the barometer too often I think there is every hope that when we next begin to examine it we may find the sky is clearing and the barometer is rising."

In the meantime the conservatives, who had nothing but praise for the secretary of foreign affairs at the time of his speech, are beginning to change their tune. In a recent political article Mr. Philip Snowden writes:

"The only possible way of averting a great European war is to bring about a better understanding with Germany. This is clearly impossible so long as Sir Edward Grey is at the head of the foreign office.

"His own increasing suspicion of Germany disqualifies him from undertaking the work of bringing about better relations between her and ourselves. No unprejudiced person can read the narrative of what happened between Germany and our foreign office in regard to Morocco without being impressed by the candor of the German government, and by the unfounded suspicion that fills the mind of Sir Edward Grey and influences all his actions."

Concessions in Cable Rates. Mr. Samuel, the British postmaster general who some months ago said that he fully endorsed the words of Lord Roseberry, that if British statesmen want to bind the empire means together their first and main means must be by the cheapest means of communication, has not fulfilled the expectations, which he held out to the imperial conference in the June succeeding, in reducing cable rates both for press messages and for private messages nearly by half. The further concession, which has been made by the American Western Union Company on its own initiative, is very much appreciated here.

Successor to Rabbi Adler. The Jews here have not yet been able to agree on a suitable successor to the late Chief Rabbi Dr. Adler. Since the office became vacant various differences of opinion have arisen, which in one respect may be attributable to the general unrest in ecclesiastical matters.

There are, in the Jewish community, three distinct parties—the Orthodox, the Reform, and the Extremes. The policies represented by each division have come under review in the selection of a chief Rabbi, and this has led, again, to the formation of what has been called two camps among the honorarium officers who will finally decide the appointment.

The first camp, the Orthodox, are for selecting the new Rabbi as soon as the differences are settled, in the hope that a little change as possible will be introduced.

The other camp stand for reform and the speedy settlement of the appointment. They believe that the time has arrived when the Jewish Synagogue must submit to the new thought that is more or less moulding all religious societies.

In this dilemma many Jews feel that

the cause of their faith is being injured, and this feeling is growing that some compromise ought to be arrived at in order to bring the main question to an end.

Artistic Taste of King's Sons. King George's sons, all seem to have inherited a good share of the artistic instincts of their great uncles and uncles, Queen Victoria's sons and daughters, for they are all fond of music. The Prince of Wales, performs in a boyish way, light, tinny melodies on the piano, but so far he has shown no predilection for classic music. Most of the light operas of the moment he can play from cover to cover. Recently he bought a banjo, and has made some progress with it. Prince Albert plays the violin extremely well—he is quite the musician of the family and has a music-room all to himself. On his last birthday his great-uncle, the Dawager Duchess of Saxe-Coburg, presented him with a very fine violin which belonged to the late Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. Princess Mary is later to learn the harp, which is Queen Mary's favorite instrument, although she does not herself play it.

"Such a graceful and womanly instrument," the Queen has defined it.

No Jewels for Queen's Daughter. The Queen has let it be understood that she does not wish anybody to make her daughter Christmas presents of jewels, as she does not wish her to wear gems until she is seventeen. The little Princess has, it is true, one string of perfectly matched pearls, a gift from her mother, but these she wears only on state occasions. A string of gold beads, a ribbon from which depends a simple little cross or a charm, are the only ornaments permitted for the King's only daughter.

White leather has always been a mark of the Royal Family, and when their Majesties and their children were at Cowes for the regatta, the Prince of Wales bought a little locket under the bias of which was pressed a piece of the magic shrub, and this Princess Mary wears oftener than any other ornament. It appears that the Princess is pining for earrings more than for anything else, evidently having inherited Queen Mary's great penchant for these ornaments.

Scheme for Postal Improvements. The government is soon to be asked to approve a remarkable scheme for improving postal conditions in London. A departmental commission, appointed some time ago by the board of trade, has recommended that an underground electric railway, six and a half miles long, shall be constructed through the center of London from East to West, beginning at Whitechapel and ending at Paddington station where most American and Canadian mails arrive.

English Review Accuses Americans Of Being Hypocritical, Sentimental, And Cruel, And Lacking In A Much-Boasted Liberty

LONDON, Dec. 23.—According to Filson Young, who has written an article in the English Review, Americans are hypocritical, sentimental, cruel, and they lack one thing that they think they have—liberty.

Here are a few of his wise remarks in that organ of England's cultured classes:

"The traveler from the Old World finds that whatever other good things may flourish in America, whatever fine institutions may have reared themselves on her soil, and whatever splendid and noble harvests may be ripening in her wide seed fields, the thing that he knows as liberty does not exist there.

"You hear a great deal about 'culture' in America, and every American who has made money is laudably anxious to acquire culture also; and he goes out to get it in the same spirit that he goes out to get money—that is to get as much of it as possible in as short a time as possible. He treats it as though it were a produce, something that could be bought or acquired rapidly by anyone concentrating himself on the enterprise. But of course it eludes him.

"The difference between so-called American 'culture' and true refinement or cultivation is the difference between a pine board that has had a coat of varnish applied to it and a piece of old mahogany that has been rubbed and polished through years of use and care until it wears an almost indestructible brilliancy.

"The time of literature in America is not yet. There are many American characteristics that seem to me likely to produce a real foundation for literature; but these are probably eras; the love of ritual, the love of ritual the love of the dramatic sense, which is highly developed in the Americans, although their theatre is beneath contempt.

"Boston, of which they are so proud, is spoiled by a distressing and evenish self-consciousness that makes even genuine scholarship repellant.

"The American is always talking of speed and quickness; but he will waste five minutes in talking you that he has so many things to do that he has not a minute to spare.

"The ordinary English business man gets to his office between nine and ten, takes an hour and a half for luncheon, and probably leaves before five; and he will have done more business in that day than his American counterpart in New York, who is at his office at eight in the morning, rushes out and swallows a quick lunch in twenty minutes and perhaps does not leave his office till six or seven in the evening. If the amount of talk were any less, if the amount of doing it, were done, or of quickness in doing it, then indeed the American would have the palm. I cannot find that quickness is an American characteristic. What is mistaken for quickness is a kind of nervous fidgets. It was America that invented that triumph in the achievement of two opposite things at once—the rocking chair. So restless and nervous is the American that even a beat pin.

when he is resting he wants to be moving.

American women are notoriously among the most assiduous and successful in the pursuit of those feminine arts by which the person is rendered alluring and provocative. This innate vein of hardness can be traced in the typical American countenance, even in the women. The face of a typical beautiful American woman, and American women at their best are very lovely, is often marred by a line of hardness in the mouth, which may be assumed to indicate some wonderful virtue of character, but indeed does nothing of the kind; it simply indicates hardness and a potentiality for cruelty which is at least a talent characteristic in most Americans.

"If we analyse the worst among the characteristics which I have called American, we find hypocrisy, sentimentality, cruelty, and boastfulness; and they are all qualities which in the individual are characteristic of immaturity. And America is in truth very like a child at the awkward age.

"The Americans are childish in everything, in their simplicity of heart, in the gusto with which they address themselves to life, in their adherence to artificial and imposed standards of conduct, in their tendency to talk too much, and too much about themselves, in their profound and admirable curiosity, in their whole-hearted desire to imitate or acquire what they admire in other people, and, at the same time, in their innate distrust of people who do not think exactly as they do."

Paris, Dec. 23.—An ingenious trick played by a German Company on two confiding tourists has been revealed in the "Paris Journal" by a traveler who has just returned after spending several months in Lapland. This line advertises trips to the North Sea with all the usual accompaniments of midnight rams, white bears, and Arctic life. Occasionally the steamship approaches the coast of Lapland and touches at certain points to allow the tourists to visit a Lapp village. If Lapp villages existed on the shore this would be all right enough, but as a matter of fact, they are always to be found at the end of a day or two's laborious journey in the interior.

This difficulty, however, has been surmounted by the enterprising Hamburg company who had a neat village built in orthodox style, and in order not to disturb the natives it imported a group of Italian gondoliers, who, being out of work in winter, were dressed approximately and made to figure as Lapps for the benefit of the tourists in search of local color.

SINISTER CLOUD HOVERS OVER LABOR WORLD

LONDON, Dec. 23.—A sinister cloud is still hovering over the labor world and the discontent and malice brewing among the railroadmen menace the peace and prosperity of the country. Although the threatened railroad strike about Christmas is averted for the time being no one is optimistic enough to assert that permanent peace has been restored and the latent resolution passed by a number of enthusiastic workers to the effect that strikers should be armed is, to say the least, very disquieting.

At crowded meetings of members of the Bradford branches of the Amalgamated Society of Railroad Servants the resolution which was enthusiastically received was as follows:

"That this meeting having every respect for constitutional authority, and believing that such authority is competent to deal with all alleged violations of the law, considers that the formation of a volunteer police force organized and controlled by the capitalist classes outside and above the law of the land, and openly supported by railroad companies, is a menace to our liberties and must be repolutely met by the organizations of the men in the direction of taking steps to put them on an equal footing and to that end recommends the formation of a trade union physical protection league, whose objects shall be the training and equipment of selected trade unionists in order that our organizations may be in a position to meet on equal terms the bullies of organized capital."

When you sit on a fellow you can't very well blame him for sticking like a beat pin.

INGUIRY INTO CONDITION OF CONGO NATIVES

BRUSSELS, Dec. 23.—The committee of the chamber of deputies has ordered to be printed the bill introduced by M. Vandervelde, the socialist leader, together with M. Royer, and M. J. Wauwermans, providing for a parliamentary inquiry into the condition of the natives and the enforcement of reforms in the Belgian Congo.

The "Peuple" published a statement made by M. Vandervelde in support of the measure. It declares that the facts he recites are of the utmost gravity and bound to cause a profound reaction, and announces its intention of publishing a special supplement with documentary proofs of accusation that have been made.

The following are some of the allegations set forth by M. Vandervelde:

"Several Roman Catholic missions, notably at Lubumburu, are evading the prohibition against the manufacture of alcoholic liquors of the possession of distillery apparatus in the part of Congo situated beyond the M'Pouba."

"That, in order to cover up grave delinquencies alleged against a missionary and admitted by him, M. Royer,

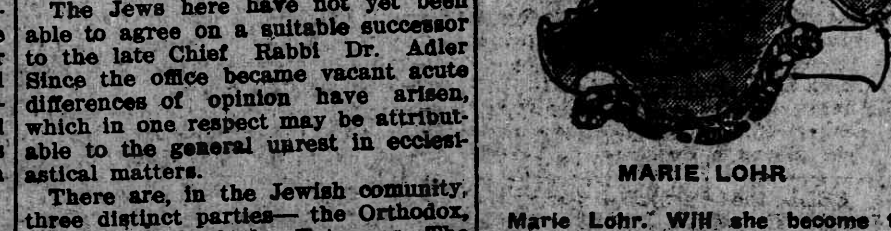
TEN YEARS HARD LABOR FOR HURLING SHOE AT OFFICER

PARIS, Dec. 23.—A private of the 6th Dragons named Motte was sentenced to ten years' hard labor by a court-martial at Lille, for hurling a shoe at the regimental doctor. The offense was committed in hospital.

Another private named Beuzbeck, who was in the next bed to Motte, in hospital, was called as a witness.

When asked to state what he knew, Beuzbeck expressed his opinion of the doctor and the officers of the regiment in strong language, took off his regimental cap, and threw it at the colonel's head.

"He was the man who was sentenced to death by the court-martial."



MARIE LOHR

London, Dec. 23.—London society says that Marie Lohr will never fulfill her contract with the Leiblars to appear on the American stage next year and point the finger of selection at Lord Howard de Walden as the cause of her rumored breach of contract. Miss Lohr herself, however, says that all rumors of her engagement to the English Lord are false and that she wishes them denied in the most emphatic terms.

Despite this statement friends of Lord de Walden persist in stating that the actress will never see the shores of America unless she decides to include this country in her wedding tour as Lady de Walden.