

CURRENT HISTORY

Hungary recovered quickly from her recent financial panic, which was one of the worst ever experienced in the country. Although currency has not yet returned to the level of last week, and the shock to the people has not yet passed, the worst is over now that a loan is promised. Even the members of Parliament who were not in favor of the loan received the news of the final decision of the Reparation Committee with enthusiasm, because it meant the breaking of a tension which had become unbearable.

Count Bethlen, the Foreign Minister, is glad to have Mr. Harding, an American, for financial controller. He says that the new controller is now on his way to Europe and probably to Hungary. Mr. Harding was accepted some time ago by the Hungarian sub-committee and will make an appointment with the Financial Committee immediately after landing.

The expert's committee, which, headed by General Dawes, has been at work on the economic problems of Germany have selected the following points as worthy of attention:

1. Germany is the world's best equipped industrial organization.
2. Germany has practically no domestic debts.
3. The Germans as a whole are paying less taxes than the English, French, or Americans.

4. Germany, if she took upon herself the whole reparations bill, would have a smaller debt than if she had won the war without indemnities.

On the other hand, however, the committee noted the following points:

1. Germany is on the verge of financial chaos and needs a loan to aid her in attaining a position in which she can pay her reparations.
2. Germany must have stable money.
3. Germany has good crops but bad distribution.
4. Germany has exported capital to the amount of \$5,000,000,000 but at present has only 2,000,000,000 abroad.
5. Germany has not a proper realization of her position.
6. Germany's tax system is too hard on small incomes and too easy on large ones.

Germany's railroad system is one of the best in the world, and, because of the present value of the mark, it owes no debts. These are generally the points which will form the basis for the expert's report.

Vigorous opposition to the Johnson immigration bill was instituted Monday when twenty members of the New York State Democrat delegation in the House drew up a declaration accusing the bill of deliberately favoring the Mordic races and of treating unfairly the Southern and Eastern Europeans. The Johnson bill proposes to use as a base for immigration laws the number of people from each country residing in the United States in 1890, instead of the present basis of 1910. The law now in effect expires at the end of this year and many members of Congress believe some new plan to be necessary. The New York Democrats do not oppose a new law, but insist that the 1910 census remain the basis. They declare that Southern and Eastern European people are not inferior to the Mordic races, and that no discrimination should be made in favor of the latter.

Attorney General Daugherty, in an open letter to Senator Willis, admits buying Sinclair oil stocks both before and after entering the Cabinet, but denied making any

misuse of information which had come to him officially. Last fall he sold all his Sinclair holdings. He again stated his willingness to present all the facts to any inquiry the Senate might desire.

Daugherty also answered charges of failure to prosecute former Secretary Fall, Edward L. Doheny, H. F. Sinclair, and Charles R. Forbes, by saying that the action against the first three was, at his suggestion, turned over to special government counsel and that proceedings against Mr. Forbes had already been begun by a Chicago grand jury. He reiterated his ignorance of the oil negotiations and urged the Senate to conduct immediate enquiry into his department.

MISS HALL VISITS THE EPISCOPALIANS

The Episcopalians of Salem College have been especially fortunate in having Miss Agnes Hall as their guest for this week-end. Miss Hall is a member of the staff of the National Council of the Episcopal Church, and, as Secretary for Women Students, her work extends over a wide area. She is known and loved by girls in colleges in all parts of the United States. Her experiences have been many and varied, dealing sometimes with large numbers of girls gathered together for social purposes, at others with a small group who meet for worship in old, unused rooms.

Miss Hall is particularly interested in conferences and in summer work for college girls. She has aroused much interest in a conference to be held at the University of the South sometime during the last of March. The Episcopalians of Salem, who hope soon to be organized into a unit are making plans to send a delegate to this convention. Miss Hall also spoke enthusiastically about the conference at Blue Ridge, the one which is above all others particularly dear to Salem girls.

All of those who were so fortunate as to meet Miss Hall felt that they had gained a great deal, and sincerely hoped that this new-found friend would soon return.

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INTERESTING TALK ON BALLADS FRIDAY

The Friday morning Chapel service was most inopportunistly cut short by the striking of the clock just when Miss Maud Minnish had begun a talk on ballads. A few moments were stolen from class time to allow Mrs. McCanless to sing "The Cradle Song," a lullaby native to Western North Carolina. Miss Minnish had begun to outline the types of ballads starting with those of England and Scotland and had expressed her opinion as to their origin with one man rather than with a community, when she was forced to stop.

Miss Minnish was invited to Winston-Salem to speak to the Woman's Club and Thursday Morning Music Club, and was asked by Miss Doughton to talk to her English class, who are now studying ballads. Miss Minnish has made an extensive study of ballads and songs in the mountains of North Carolina. Miss Minnish is a native mountaineer, and from childhood has been interested in the subject on which she speaks. Left an orphan at an early age, under the care of an unlettered mountain woman whom she taught to read and write, she would listen to the old songs over and over until she had memorized them. In this way, she and her sister learned forty old ballads, her sister playing them on the harp. Miss Minnish now has a collection of ninety-four original ballads, found in Caldwell county. Professor Kittredge has bought this collection from her and is now publishing them with the Harvard press. She also sings for Victrola records, which will soon be on sale.

The lullaby sung by Mrs. McCanless consists of seven stanzas, of which she only sang three. No source has yet been traced for this beautiful song, so Miss Minnish calls it her own Western North Carolina lullaby. Miss Minnish first heard it sung by a beautiful mountain woman, who was putting her baby to sleep. Upon being questioned as to its source, the woman answered, "My maw, she taught it to me, an' I taught it to my kids. The kids liked it."

In this way, traveling among the mountain people and hearing the ballads sung by them, just as they heard it from their ancestors, Miss Minnish has made her wonderful collection and has done an inestimable service in preserving these songs for future generations.

EXCHANGES

ANATOLE FRANCE

Anatole France, who is reported critically ill in dispatches from Paris, is an eminent French novelist, who also has done notable work as a critic and historian. His real name is Jacques Anatole Thibault, and he was born in Paris 80 years ago. It was when he was 24 years old that his first work, a study of Alfred de Vigny, was published. It was followed in 1873 by a volume of verse, which attracted much favorable attention. But it was in prose that France was to shine more than in verse. A skeptic in religion and science, doubting all things, his opinions and doubts he put forth through the characters he created. He has a style that is simple and direct and the real character of the man is reflected in his works. Anatole France was admitted to the French Academy in 1896. Critics have pronounced him the most graceful writer of modern France.

—Exchange.

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DID YOU KNOW?

The average crop of oranges and lemons in Italy is 3,776,575,500.

There is a race of shepherds at the village of Gomen, in the peak of Leveriffe, who are able to converse at a distance of two or three miles by intelligible whistling.

There are no less than 28 bones in one hand and wrist, and about as many in a foot and an ankle. The bones of the hand and feet are equal in number to one-half of all the bones in the human body.

It would take all the Lancashire cotton mills 400 years to spin a thread long enough to reach the nearest star at the present rate of production of about 155,000,000 miles per day.

According to a German biologist the two sides of the face are never alike. In two out of five the eyes are out of line; one eye is stronger than the other in seven persons out of ten, and the right ear is generally higher than the left.

The number of newspapers published in all countries is estimated at 41,000.

Hundreds of fish are still alive in the Royal Aquarium in St. Petersburg, which were placed there from 100 to 150 years ago.

—Exchange.

WOMEN BECOMING TALLER

Statistics compiled from measurements taken at various American colleges show that women are growing taller, larger, and more healthy. According to these statistics the average woman is now half an inch taller than her sister of twenty-five years ago. This increase in height and strength is accountable for by athletics, freedom in dress, more attention to hygiene, and activity in the open air.

—Exchange.

JOKES

You Tell 'Em  
Teacher — "Johnny, what is velocity?"  
Johnny — "Velocity is what a fellow lets go of a bee with."

Plain Teedle  
There was a young man named Teedle,  
Who wouldn't accept his degree;  
He said, "It's bad enough to be Teedle,  
Without being Teedle D. D."

The Cat's Whiskers  
A schoolboy wrote an essay on cats. The chapter on different breeds supplies the following information: "Cats that's made for little boys and girls to maul and tease is called Maltese cats. Some cats is known by their queer purrs; these are called Pursian cats. Cats with bad tempers is called Angorrie cats. Cats with deep feelin's is called Feline cats."

Father—How is it, young man, that I find you kissing my daughter?  
How is it, I ask you?  
Sofa Squeezer—Oh, great! Great!

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