

WHAT HAPPENED DURING THE YEAR 1909

Reviews of the World for a Twelvemonth With Many Political and Commercial Upheavals; Spirit of Unrest Everywhere

NEW PILOTS AT THE WHEEL WHO HAVE ARRIVED IN 1909

President of the United States: WILLIAM H. TAFT following Theo. Roosevelt.
 Sultan of Turkey: MOHAMMED V succeeding Abdul Hamid II.
 Shah of Persia: AKBAR MEHRA succeeding Mohammed Ali.
 President of Brazil: PRICANHA succeeding Afonso Pena.
 President of Venezuela: VICENTE GOMEZ succeeding Cipriano Castro.
 President of Colombia: RAMON VALENZUELA succeeding Rafael Reyes.
 President of Costa Rica: RICARDO JIMENEZ succeeding J. Felix Viquez.
 Chancellor of Germany: BETHMANN-HOLLEWEG succeeding Prince von Buelow.
 Premier of France: ABRIEUX succeeding Georges Clemenceau.
 Premier of Spain: SIGISMUNDO MORET succeeding Antonio Maura.
 Premier of Greece: MIKIS MICHALAKIS succeeding M. Rallis.
 Governor of Minnesota: A. G. EBERHART succeeding J. A. Johnson.
 U. S. Secretary of State: PHILANDER C. KNOX succeeding Elihu Root.
 U. S. Secretary of Treasury: FRANKLIN M. McVEIGH succeeding Cortelyou.
 U. S. Secretary of War: J. M. DICKINSON succeeding Luis E. Wright.
 U. S. Attorney-General: G. W. WICKERHAM succeeding C. J. Bonaparte.
 U. S. Postmaster-General: F. H. HITCHCOCK succeeding G. von L. Meyer.
 U. S. Secretary of Interior: R. A. BALLINGER succeeding J. R. Garfield.
 U. S. Secretary of Commerce: CHARLES NAGEL succeeding Oscar Straus.
 United States Treasurer: LEE MCELJUNG succeeding Charles H. Treat.
 Governor of Minnesota: A. G. EBERHART succeeding J. A. Johnson.
 Governor of Georgia: JOSEPH M. BROWN succeeding Hoke Smith.
 Governor of New Mexico: WILLIAM J. MILLS succeeding George Curry.
 Governor of Porto Rico: GEORGE D. COLTON succeeding Regis H. Post.
 Governor of the Philippines: CAMERON FORBES succeeding Gen. James Smith.
 Governor of Alaska: FALTER succeeding Whitford Hoggart.
 Director of the Census: E. DANA DURAND succeeding S. N. D. North.
 Not yet "at the wheel" but surely far from least, though mentioned last, is the baby hearse to the throne of the Netherlands, who arrived on the scene the last day of April—JULIANA LOUISE EMMA MARIE WILHELMINE.

BY WARWICK JAMES PRICE

18 1899 to be known to history as such another "Wonderful Year" as 1897? In it to go down in the chronicles of time as a twelve-month of upheaval and revolt? It was ushered in with Serbia and Austria growling at each other across a jealous border, with the new regime in far away China making an unpromising beginning in power by banishing Yuan Shih-kai from the throne, and it went out with Nicaragua misbehaving far beyond even the usual, and with such a political revolution in England as portends such a constitutional struggle between classes and masses as the tight little island has not seen since Reform's stormy days of 1832.

Actual war has roiled marked several of the months, even if the much-talked-of Anglo-German conflict has failed to materialize. In April, close following the settlements, by which a dollar-and-cents return was made to Turkey by Austria and Russia for the loss of her provinces of Bosnia, Herzegovina and Bulgaria, Constantinople, for a sixth time in her troubled history, was again made the scene of siege and capture. In a last and characteristic attempt to oust his Young Turk rulers from their recently won power, Abdul Hamid, tricky to the end, stirred the city garrison to revolt. The move but availed him a scanty shell circle, however; Enver Bey and his fellows swept the narrow streets of rebels and the throne of a word-breaking monarch — "a biting dog for nearly four score years of cowardly rule." Quite 400 lives were demanded by the fighting and the executions, which followed, and not less than 200,000 were killed.

A month later came a rupture between Spain and Morocco, which, in the half year which has followed, has brought Mars riding rough-shod through the Rif country hills to the seas, where, in view of the Franco-German pact of February, the world had ferson only peace and quiet. The fighting has raged in and around Melilla with all the stubborn bravery characteristic of the Moorish tribesman, and the end is not yet.

In the Cockpit of Europe

THROUGHOUT the Balkan region the passing weeks have maintained a situation properly described as mercurial. Ferdinand of Bulgaria has been recognized in his self-assumed Caesarship by the Powers; Tiennessé diplomat von Aehrenthal, actually representing Germany as well as Austrian interests, has won a distinct victory in the Serbian-Bosnian controversy over the opposing forces of England, France and Russia (the Kaiser's self rattling the saber in the sheath to bring Jawolky and St. Petersburg into line), and Belgrade's crown Prince, George, having signed the man, has renounced his rights to the uneasy Serbian throne.

Chronic revolutionists as they are, fighting as readily and more gladly than breathing, the Albanians close their year in the field against their Turkish overlords; heavy fighting has taken place, some 25,000 men, all told, are with the crescent colors or behind the mountain fortresses which oppose its advance, and down at the other end of the ancient kingdom which has so much to tell at the bare mention of "Attica" or "Sparta," suspicious little Crete has played well forward in the news. She has demanded release from Turkish domination with Greece (Athens warmly indorsing the suggestion), but Constantino objected in her most emphatic negative, and the four protecting powers sided with Constantinople. Today their warships lie in Suda Bay (though the land garisons were withdrawn in July) to enforce the statu quo—which, in some of these days so sure to yield to that union between peninsula and sea which racial and religious, historic and geographic communities of interest all suggest.

This temporary glossing over of the situation was prompt to give trouble to Greece herself. A "Military League" sprang into being in midsommer, attacking the generation-old political corruption which had come absolutely to control the country's single legislative body and forcing the resignation of the demagogue Premier Rallis. Mivronichalis has taken his place, the royal offices have been deprived their military sinecures, and national housecleaning is actively afoot, with large promise of ultimate success—in very spite of the farcical "Second Battle of Salamis" which the wasp-like torpedo boats of the hotbed Thessalon brought onto the boards in late October.

New Hands at the Wheel

WILL it all result in a new King (the Duke of Abruzzi, for instance) seated on the throne from which George has resigned, if not ruled,

for more than 40 years? Europe hopes not, yet such a move would add but one more name to those which 1909 has written on the list of newcomers into power.

There was Reshad Effendi, half-brother to the now-called Turkish Sultan, who, as Mohammed V, was girt with the sword of the Caliphate in May. There was the boy-Shah, seated perforce on the splendid throne of Persia in August. There were the new presidents, Pricanha in Brazil, Valenzuela in Colombia (vice Reyes "Re-



BRITANNIA (TO CANADA AND AUSTRALIA)—"HERE COMES YOUR NEWEST COUSIN. WELCOME HER!"

tired"), Jimenes in Costa Rica, a U. S. own Great Pacificator here at home, Joe Cannon, to be sure, has yielded to no successor up to date, but the new Cabinet brings Knox, of Pennsylvania; MacVeagh, of Illinois; Dickinson, of Tennessee; Wickersham, of New York; Hitchcock, of Massachusetts; Ballinger, of Washington, and Nagel, of Missouri, to sit at the table of the Chief Executive's "Official Family," with Meyer and Wilson holding over from the time of the present-day African hunter.

Cabinet reversals on the Continent have come with almost every month of the 12, but the big ones have fallen in France and Germany (in England it is a matter for 1910, not '09, to decide), where Briand has taken the portfolio which Clemenceau threw aside with characteristic pique, and where Von Bethmann-Hollweg has braved the future as successor to Prince von Buelow.

For Governors and such, G. D. Colton has followed R. H. Post in Porto Rico, Cameron Forbes has taken hold at Manila, and Walter Clark succeeds Hoggart in our northern ward, Alaska; Minnesota, which lost that splendid son, J. A. Johnson, as the Summer was passing, sees A. O. Eberhart installed in his place; ex-Chief Justice Mills has assumed the government of New Mexico, and "Joe" Brown, with becoming Jeffersonian simplicity, has walked to his inauguration at Atlanta. To which brief and incomplete list should be added the names of Lee McClung, who is today's Federal Treasurer, and Dana Durand, who will look after the coming census figures (there was a little difference of opinion between Secretary Nagel and Mr. North, and the Secretary maintained his ground).

Diplomatically speaking, Oscar Straus goes out to Constantinople, as Leishman moves west to Rome. Kerens goes to Vienna, Ide to Madrid, and Rockhill to St. Petersburg. Calhoun has followed the last named at Pekin. Charles Crane got pretty well along on the outbound road, but a cog slipped somewhere! "The closed mouth is a part of the open door," commented somebody tersely, and Mr. Crane is back in Chicago.

The Gorgeous East

A BRIEF half dozen years ago this sort of thing would have mattered little, the gorgeous east was written in small letters far down the record then, but we have changed all that. Happenings on the other side of the Pacific now loom large, and we have real interest in knowing that Great Britain has gobbled up another 15,000 square miles of the Siamese peninsula, that China has gotten the best of Japan in the Pratas Island disputes, has been wrosted in the more important debate regarding Manchuria railway rights, and is getting ready to build a \$100,000,000 navy; Prince Su has been named first Admiral, and yards and docks are already under construction.

The brutal assassination of Ito by a Korean "patriot" however it shocked us here for the Prince was undoubtedly one of the great statesmen of his time, fit companion for Bismarck and Cavour and Gladstone, may not have directly affected our interests in the peninsula which is seemingly to play the tragic role of an Asiatic Poland, but we were primarily affected in that matter of the Pekin railway loan, for the completion of the Hankow and Szechuen line. There we have achieved a victory so real, in its bearings on our future influence in the Flowery Kingdom, that only the future can justly appraise it. London, Paris and

power sites in general, but something more or less rotten exists in that departmental Denmark, for it seems scarcely possible that both sides should be wholly in the right. Of the long-continued wrong-doing in New York's sugar importations there can be no doubt; it is only to be hoped that the clean-up there will be as swift and thorough as was Japan's last July, when the guilty ones in a graft scheme exactly paralleling that now brought out from under cover, were haled off to prison from the Diet Chamber itself, where twenty-three of them had sat as members.

As to other foreign misdeeds, '09 has left the Congo muss pretty much where it found it; the vital, paid the great river basin by Belgium's heir-apparent was all bark and no bite, so far as improving conditions there was concerned—it has produced a story almost identical in its revolting allegations concerning Portuguese Angola; and, in Russia, it has hung out for the world to see the extremely dirty linen of the Lopukhin case. Here was an official looking like all to expose the disgraceful Arafé presidencies and springs—and losing his all in doing so. With the clearest of cases made out against a villain who had instigated revolutionary actions only to give up to justice (7) the very men he had urged on the man who showed him up was condemned to five years' penal servitude. There are European papers which predict a Russian "affaire Dreyfus" sure and soon to follow.

and intimidation and worse, emboldened upon values rather than returns (as at present), with the "unearned increment" feature added, has been referred to the voters by the Peers. Parliament has been prorogued and a general election will be held after the holidays, the enthusiastic campaign being already entered upon.

THE PAYNE TARIFF LAW was passed by an extra session of the 61st Congress, allegedly fulfilling the Republican promise of "revision downward." In answer to widespread dissatisfaction with it, President Taft calls it the best such measure ever approved by the Federal legislators.

A UNITED STATES OF SOUTH AFRICA promises to be born early in 1910, as the result of the agreement to union reached by Cape Colony, Natal, the Orange River and Transvaal colonies and Bechuanaland. Lord Milner also has brought his British Indian reforms into play.

WIDESPREAD AND CONTINUED STRIKES have marked the year in France and Sweden. Australia, Argentina and Lima, Peru, have been the centers of serious rioting with bloodshed.

THE CRETAN EMBROGGLIO failed to eventuate in the union of the Isle with Greece, but paved the way for the appearance of a "Military League" at Athens, which has begun with a strong hand to set the national house in order. Rumors of Greek revolution have not been fulfilled.

SOMEBODY FOUND THE NORTH POLE. Cook's claim to the discovery is set held "under popular advisement." Peary's visit there being everywhere granted. An English naval officer, Shackleton, set a new antarctic record, penetrating to within 111 miles of the southern "twick,"

which upheld the earlier findings that they had been in contempt of court in not obeying the injunction to cease their boycott of a certain St. Louis business house. Both cases now go to the Supreme Court itself for final consideration; each involves a principle of primary and far-reaching value.

The two other matters referred to have been plead before that highest bench of our land. In May the so-called "Commodities Clause" in the interstate commerce law, was passed upon, its constitutionality being upheld, but such new interpretation being given it as to modify it immense, and wholly in favor of the railroads; and in November, for the first time in American annals, six defendants were found guilty of contempt of the Supreme Court itself. Ex-Sheriff Shipp, of Chattanooga, with five others, involved in one way or another with the lynching of a negro whose execution had been stayed, pending an appeal, are now enjoying the holiday hospitalities of the jail in the District of Columbia.

THE year has also brought a great strike to Buenos Ayres, with serious street fighting, and her chief of police assassinated, while the Peruvians lent themselves last Spring to a political war, which, as an attack upon the President's palace at Lima, two scores were killed before quiet was restored.

But the glee of South American doings, during '09, with special reference to United States interests, has centered in Venezuela and Chili. With our old friend, Castro, the Unprincipled, literally a "Man Without a Country," and with his successor Gomez trying hard to do the right thing in spite of poor materials to work with, two of our long-standing claims have been settled, with the three others referred to the Hague Court. Chili, too, has at last reached an agreement with us concerning that \$1,000,000 Altop claim; after we had recalled Minister Dawson she came to us promptly, with King Edward agreed upon as the judge to whom the case shall now go.

In her little row with Ecuador, Bolivia well all of them boundary matters. Peru has also decided to arbitrate rather than fight; King Alfonso has delimited the first line, while the other two have been settled by mutual agreement between the parties most concerned.

Sweden's contest involved more stakes; Spain's was most riotous and tragic. King Gustave intervened personally to straighten out the one, after \$5,000 had joined the protesting army of woolen and cotton workers, but an even month had been lost and not less than \$5,000,000 in wages and profits. Alfonso did not do so well. The Barcelona rioting, instigated by the Basque socialists (the extremists of the creed from the first), and joined in by half the labor organization in South Spain, undoubtedly needed a strong hand to quell, but it is so doubted if Maura, in behalf of the young King he served, did not go a step too far; his activities, at least, caused his loss of the premiership. Troops continued to be sent across to Africa, street traffic and general business was restored to something like a normal condition in the affected district, and then Francisco Ferrer was made official scapegoat—"judicially murdered" was the phrase of half the world the morning after.



Constitutionalism Afoot

CHINA, again, has taken the first important step in a programme looking towards self-government for her teeming millions, when, in October, her provincial Legislatures convened for the first time; eventually a constitution is to be drafted and gradually put in force. India, too, thanks to Viscount Morley, is working to the same end, the Secretary's plan for schooling the natives in autonomy being the impelling motive of admitting their representatives to some considerable share in the government, as was inaugurated in November—the same month that an ungrateful people attempted the lives of Viceroy and Lady Minto; Persia, in this path of constitutionalism, moves slowly but surely; the 11-year-old Shah has presided at his first Parliament, announcing that disorders throughout the venerable empire were fast passing away. It seems the fact, much to be desired after the past two years of political chaos.

Of even larger import is the word from the Cape, telling of harmony among the representatives of the five great English Colonies in reaching a plan for such a union as may soon be known as "The United States of South Africa," before warm weather comes again the Prince of Wales will have opened their initial National Assembly. Oppressed Finland has only the other side of the penny to show; the Heistogers Diet and the St. Petersburg authorities are badly at odds, and the outlook is not good for the hardy citizens of the long-abused Grand Duchy.

As for home news which may properly fall under this classification, it is to be recorded that New Mexico and Arizona have again failed of statehood, and that the proposed disfranchisement of the negro vote in Maryland went down to defeat "the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November."

Ruptions and Little Wars

FROM the Southern "Black Belt" have come other items of news of the "unrest" sort, items varying one from another in date and scene, only, telling of "Night Riders" still active in arson

And to the North of Us

Above us, by the map—and with mere passing mention that the troublesome fisheries debate with Newfoundland is to be settled once and for all at the Hague; which that Newfoundland herself has been through two general elections in eight months, with a total change in government—all the news concerns the verities of the old globe. Who discovered the North Pole? Commander Peary has no doubt as to the correct answer; he was there himself, just last April, and no one seems to doubt it. But Dr. Cook says he was there a full year earlier—and a right here, come in the Douglas Thomases as legion. If 5,000 words could be the justice of the doctor's contention (for that is what the report amounts to which he has sent to the savants who first hailed his achievement), then a tidy little dispute, which has already filled newspaper columns by the thousand, will take on a new lease of life. At this writing, the case is something like the endless question of tariff revision; you've good right to your own opinion and you know just about as much as the next fellow.

Who the stick down south it's different. No one has actually placed the foot as yet, but Lieutenant Shackleton, II, M. N., has been almost within sight of it (it miles away, to be exact)—and no one else has arisen to say him nay!

In Courts of Law

FRANCE'S own courts have had "Lafaire Steinhilf," with that picturesque but scarcely admirable little widow successfully fighting for her life against the least judicial legal code the wide world over, while in our American tribunals four cases of large importance have been decided. Foremost stands the decision of a Missouri Circuit Court that the Standard Oil is an illegal monopoly and must be dissolved (going several steps beyond the premier). Troops continued fortnight before Judge Sanborn handed down this ruling, decision had been pronounced in the appeal of the labor leaders, Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison,

The Social Side of It

IT has been distinctly a twelve-month of "official visits." Our world-encircling battleship fleet had scarcely cast anchor again in Hampton Roads when the monarchs of Europe began to peck their handbags and buy railway tickets. Edward of England has been most everywhere since then, with his infallible tact never in better oiled condition; the Kaiser has followed his lead. Alfonso has followed his, Ferdinand, of Bulgaria, ran over to see Cousin Peter of Serbia, event the Czar dropped in at Cowes during regatta week and then set half the continent wondering what was going to happen to the triple alliance by that October call of his upon Victor of Italy.

The Fair Sex

Nor is this the sole item of the now-dying twelve-month's budget which has to do with the fair sex; the militant suffragette has been ever on the qui vive, going perhaps a bit further than ever before in conservative (7) merrie England, winning to her goal of a vote in Norway, and, here at home, creating quite as much opposition as she has enthusiasm. For the sake of those interested, it is only charitable to hint that she may achieve their dearest wishes more promptly than did the Maid of Orleans, for Joan of Arc had to wait nearly 500 years after she had been burned at the stake before the Mother Church did what it could for her memory by bestowing upon her the Papal Decree of Beatification.

One final word: there have come royal babies to Spain and Holland. The diminutive Beatrice was more welcome than really needed at Madrid, but the arrival of Juliana Louise Emma Marie Wilhelmina at The Hague, two months earlier, approximated an event of international and historic importance. Never was baby so enthused over, and bonfires and sky-rockets, marching bands and chanting choirs, cheering children and dancing grown-ups, as was Juliana—and so forth. For with the coming of a direct heir to the throne, which had already been believed to have been threatened, the patriotic Netherlands saw all the world through rosy glasses and proceeded to show it.

Possibly that is the best place to set the period of the chronicle of nineteen nine. It has the truest Christmas-like ring to it of all that has been written, and the world well may hope that the presence for the twelve-month which will draw before another Sunday is to be found in such hope and good-will, rather than in the far less brotherly march of events which has held its more or less turbulent course through the chain of events which this one year has (Copyright, 1909, by Warwick James Price.)

Literary Assistance

They sat on a big, rosy sofa, but he was afraid to spare up on her. He talked of his aims as writer, and she proved a very intelligent hearer. "They tell me," he said, "I'm diffuse; and I think."

"That perhaps I've a fault of digression."

"You have," said the maid, with a critical blink.

"You should study the art of compression."

—F. Moxon in Christmas Post.

The Parsnips.
Each day, at mutual expense.
Do I and Johnny discuss—
The food and drink at Johnny's.
The jokes at mine.
—Exchange.