

ENGLISH COURT TEACHERS MAY GO IN GLOOM TO ST. PETERSBURG

King Edward Mourns Death of Warm Friend and Ally, King Carlos.

(United Press Special Wire.)
 London, Feb. 12.—Recent events have combined to throw a pall of gloom over the English court. The assassination of the Portuguese king and crown prince and the present disturbed condition of affairs in Portugal have affected King Edward keenly. Ever since the days of the peninsula war, Portugal and England have been close allies. Of late years this alliance was further cemented by the warm personal friendship of King Edward and King Carlos. No royal visitor was ever more welcome at the English court than the genial, sports-loving Carlos. This friendship on the part of King Edward was extended to the Portuguese minister at the court of St. James, the Marquis de Soveral, who for years has been a familiar figure among King Edward's most intimate friends. Under the circumstances it is but natural that his majesty should regard the taking off of the Portuguese monarch and his son as a personal loss.

Recent news from other quarters has likewise caused a touch of sadness to England's king and queen. The boldness and success of the anarchistic element that perpetrated the Lisbon outrage has caused renewed apprehension for the safety of the king and queen of Spain, the latter being one of the favorite nieces of King Edward. Neither Queen "Ena," nor her English relatives has ever recovered from the shock of the attempt made on the lives of King Alfonso and his bride on their wedding day. It is an open secret that the young Spanish ruler is marked for death by the international band of anarchists and desperadoes known as the "Red Terror." It is felt to be only a question of time before their well-laid plots of assassination succeed. The assassins almost invariably choose a public appearance of their victim as the occasion for the attempt on his life, on such occasions, in fact, as the king would naturally be accompanied by his consort. There is small wonder, therefore, that the mother of the Spanish Princess Henry of Battenberg should live in daily dread of the future and that this fear should be shared in by all the members of the English royal family.

On top of all this the English court has received from St. Petersburg news of the most disquieting character. There is no longer any attempt to disguise the fact that the condition of the Czarita is hopeless. Even the official bulletins issued from the sick room are no longer of a hopeful character. Never a robust woman, the perpetual and ever-haunting dread of the assassin has added there is no cure. To this has been added other ailments, including an infection of the lungs and falling eyesight. News of her death at any time would cause no surprise to those acquainted with her condition.

The czarina, like the queen of Spain, is a great favorite with King Edward and Queen Alexandra. Her mother was the well-beloved Princess Alice, sister of King Edward, and, though her father was from Hesse, it did not make her a whit the less English. Her girlhood days were spent chiefly in England and her sweet disposition and unassuming ways won for her the love of all her English relatives.

The troubles of her relatives have had a most depressing effect on King Edward. He has become noticeably morose and withdrawn and apt to be "put out" by the smallest trifles, traits of character of which his majesty has been free all his life. He grasped with the death of King Carlos to abandon or curtail all of the functions planned for the English court for a month.

He has come to find such things decided bore and is glad of any opportunity to escape them. On the advice of his physician he is planning to go to the continent much earlier this year than has been his custom, and if the condition of the czarina continues to improve he will probably pay an early visit to St. Petersburg.

DEBATORS TRAIN IN HIGH SCHOOLS

Clever and Effective Plan by Which Champions Are Selected.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
 University of Oregon, Eugene, Feb. 13.—The Oregon High School Debating league, which was organized this year, has produced far more enthusiasm than was anticipated. There are now 28 schools enrolled in the league and all are doing splendid work. Most of the districts have nearly completed the preliminary debates and are waiting for the final interdistrict debates which are to determine the two teams that will take part in the final championship debate to be held at the University of Oregon late in the spring.

No set subjects are given out for the preliminary debates and the most heated as a rule have been live questions, such as the Japanese question, government ownership of coastwise postal savings banks and the direct primary law.

Two of the teams had a great deal of difficulty in reaching their opponents. The two from Yamhill failed to make a hard trip over the mountains to reach Medford and Grants Pass and the Astoria team was delayed several days on the journey to Tillamook by the condition of the bar.

Even the business men are beginning to take an interest and in several places have offered financial aid to the teams where they are giving the league the heartiest support. The business men of the Dalles have chartered a special train and brass band when their team went to Hood River.

Contest Scheme Described.
 The state has been divided into four districts, the central Oregon, the central Oregon, the eastern Oregon and the Columbia river districts. The schools of each district are paired off and the winners of each debate meet one of the other winning teams until only one team is left as district champion.

Two contests will later be held between the two pairs of district champions. The winners of these debates will then meet at the University of Oregon to debate for the championship at a date to be fixed later.

The schools which have entered this year are as follows:
 Southern Oregon—Roseburg, Grants Pass, Medford, Marshfield, North Bend, Klamath Falls.
 Central Oregon—Eugene, Salem, Albany, Silverton, Brownsville, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Junction City.
 Eastern Oregon—Baker City, Pendleton, Astoria, Enterprise, La Grande, The Dalles, Union, Tillamook, Columbia River—Astoria, Tillamook, Park Place, Gresham, Amity, Clatskanie.
 The two Portland high schools were to have been in the latter district but owing to the installation of the new building high school the arrangements fell through. Next year they are expected to join.

BOY FIGHTS GREAT OCTOPUS AT AVALON

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
 Avalon, Feb. 13.—While diving under his father's glass bottom boat today, E. Adargo, instead of bringing up the usual shell, came to the surface fighting an octopus or devil fish.

Surrounded by the usual cloud of ink emitted from the monster, the boy came to the surface trying to free himself from the clinging tentacles, which almost encircled his body.

Clinging to the side of the boat and aided by his father, the boy at length succeeded in wrenching himself free from the sea monster, which immediately sank to the bottom, and two of its tentacles which had been severed in the struggle.

Beyond severe discoloration of his skin where the tentacles had grasped him, Adargo escaped injury.

BAKER CITY SLOT MACHINES DOOMED

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
 Baker City, Or., Feb. 13.—A deal of criticism has been hurled at the mayor's office by those who believed in so interpreting the order that the gambling houses alone were to be closed.

Chief Jackson declared in an interview that it is his instructions from Mayor Johnson to close all gambling. The slot machines must be discontinued in every form of petty gambling will be prosecuted. The police department will enforce the order fully.

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