

LONDON

French Capital Faces Severe Coal Famine

BERLIN

Conservatives Are Silenced Promptly

PARIS

Kaiser Exhibits a Changed Attitude

VIENNA

AMERICAN FUNDS TO HELP BRITISH ELECTION

Conservatives Make Fuss Over Donations of Irish Sympathizers to Fund to Aid in Home Rule Fight.

By Phillip Everett. (By the International News Service.) London, Dec. 10.—There is every reason to suppose that the sensational conservative papers which first took up the cry against the \$300,000 collected by John Redmond on the other side of the Atlantic to further Ireland's just claim for home rule are wishing that they had never attempted to make this particular feature a campaign issue, for it has proved a most fatal boomerang to themselves and their cause. Ever since Lloyd George in his now famous speech at Mile End nearly three weeks ago threw light upon the fact that this comparatively small amount willingly donated by lovers of justice and fair play and Irish patriots across the Atlantic, was a mere trifle compared with the \$30,000,000 sent over here by Irish sons and daughters in America to save their old parents and poor relatives from being driven from their comfortable homes by greedy landlords, or compared with the millions of American dollars that had found their way into aristocratic pockets in the shape of dowries, ever since then Unionist speakers at every meeting have had to face the unanswerable facts. One particular London paper, owned by the self-ex-patriated William Waldorf Astor, which had been particularly noisy in its denunciations of American dollars in English elections, became strangely silent for several days after the chancellor of the exchequer had referred to the fact that its very existence was due to the income its owner derived from New York tenements.

Trouble in Parliament. From a person close to the king's secretary, Lord Knollys, I have been informed that the liberal government nearly came to an end just before the announcement of the dissolution of parliament, because King George after resolving as far as possible to follow his late father's policy, explained to Mr. Asquith that he could not say whether he would be willing to create a sufficient number of peers to overwhelm the reactionary house of lords, until the necessity of this action actually existed. This as might be imagined, was not very satisfactory, either to Mr. Asquith or to the more advanced members of his cabinet. Resignation was at once advocated at the cabinet council, which the premier informed his fellow ministers of the king's views. And resignation almost took place, but this calamity was finally averted by Lord Knollys' tact. It was probably this incident which gave rise to the statements made in some radical papers, that the king had taken sides with the Tories, an accusation which is absolutely unjust.

Will Visit India. The idea of a visit to India in 1911 by the king and queen, which was recently officially announced, I hear on excellent authority originated with King George himself. When he first mentioned this project to the prime minister a few weeks ago, Mr. Asquith could be spared from the country for the necessary period. Further examination, however, showed that the good that is likely to accrue from this tour will outweigh every other consideration.

The outlines for this visit are now being considered by the responsible authorities, and it is understood that they will follow very closely upon the lines of the great Durbar at Delhi for the coronation of the late king. An interesting proposal has been brought forward that the royal couple should be attended on this tour by those officers still living who have held the appointment of commander-in-chief in the field. There are three of these, and each is a field-marshal—Earl Roberts, Sir George White and Lord Kitchener. It is also probable that the Prince of Wales, Prince Albert and Princess Mary will accompany their parents on this tour, but this has not yet definitely been decided.

Lord Curzon Going, Too. Lord Curzon is likely to be included in the royal suite and will probably act as chief attendant on the king at the Durbar. Other stately ceremonies are now being considered. The stay in India will necessarily be comparatively brief, since the king has expressed his desire to call at South Africa on his return voyage. Neither of the royal yachts are to be employed by the royal tour of the Broadnought type, probably the Indefatigable (now undergoing repairs) will be specially fitted up for their majesties.

Mrs. Leeds a Wealthy American Widow. The tenant of Mr. and Mrs. George Keppel's handsome new residence in Grosvenor street, which Mrs. Keppel had intended occupying herself next season, and entertaining there her elder daughter, who will be among the debutantes of 1911, Mrs. Leeds was Mrs. Francis Worthington, her first husband having been a Cleveland business man before her marriage to William Leeds, the tin plate trust king, who is reported to have left \$3,000,000 of which amount his widow received the greater part. A very pretty woman, with a rather romantic history Mrs. Leeds is likely to come to the fore as a hostess next season, for she has many friends here.

Sportsman Sportsman's Heir. Any American sportsman with capital of \$1,000,000 may just now become the owner of a lovely part of the British kingdom for the half million acres of moor and hill, lakes and rivers of which the island of Lewis consists. It is for sale for that amount and the buyer becomes the lord and master of 35,000 souls.

Lewis, which is the principal island of the Outer Hebrides group, may be described as a sportsman's paradise, for salmon, deer, grouse and snipe may all be obtained within its boundaries; a thousand salmon averaging eight pounds to 10 pounds being caught in a season in the principal river, the Grimsa and 150 stags in the largest deer forest.

SCORES NEW SUCCESS



Mlle. Polaire, advertised as "the richest woman in the world," who has made another great success in a new play entitled "Gay Life on Montmartre." The story follows the lines made familiar by "La Boheme," "Louise," and other stories of the district, which represents the tenderloin of Paris. It tells of the association of a dancing girl of the Moulin Rouge with a young working man whom she soon leaves for a millionaire, only to tire of semi-respectable life and drifts back into the tenderloin. There in a few years she becomes a physical wreck. She is found again by her first lover, who forgives her and takes her back. As can be imagined Mile Polaire gives a realistic portrayal of the heroine, particularly in the those phases which show her as the abandoned creature of the streets. It is likely that the play will have a long run here and then be seen in America. But in its present form it would hardly be permitted on Broadway. Mile Polaire has a souvenir of her visit to America in the person of a small slave. It appears that while in the United States she hired a negro boy as a servant, entering into a contract to see personally that he should return to his home if he wished to. Since she has been in France the boy, who is nothing more than a child, has been giving the actress untold trouble by getting into mischief. She wants to get rid of him, but as she must see personally to his safe return, she is forced to keep him until she goes back to America. That probably will be some time during the next year.

KING GEORGE OF GREECE DEMANDS PRISON REFORMS

Athenian Republic Grateful to Ruler for His Insistence That Prison Barbarity Shall Cease.

(By the International News Service.) Athens, Dec. 10.—King George of Greece has new claim upon the gratitude of the people of his little kingdom by ordering his government to reform the prisons of Greece, which are the worst in the world. Even in the capital, Athens, one may every day witness barbarities which one would expect to meet only in some savage country. In the very heart of the city of Athens a large and rambling building where prisoners are kept to await their trials. Here in cellars, the windows of which are on a level with the pavement, languish for indefinite periods suspects of all classes and ages. Herded together, these unfortunate men peer through the windows at the curious spectators. Without sustenance or means to obtain it, they climb to the level of the street, thrusting their hands through the bars, impugning the names for sin. Children and old men, sick and hale, are, it appears, thrust together in a place of common confinement. There the healthy become diseased, some of the weaker prisoners die, and the innocent are initiated into the knowledge of vice.

King Orders Action. This chamber of horrors, which is passed every day by hundreds of Greeks, has now had public attention drawn to it by a tragedy which caused King George to take prompt action. A suspect was one morning found in a house built of mud and stone, gaining livelihood as fisherman, and occupying themselves in the few acres which they hold under perpetual lease from the owner of the island. They also weave the Harris tweeds, beloved of sportsmen and women, and two or three times a year the island is visited by merchants who travel round buying up the stock on hand.

EMPEROR WOULD HAVE KEPT THRONES AS ONE

German Ruler's Recent Official Speech Arouses Storm of Protest; Great Writer Advocates Socialism.

By Frederick Werner. (By the International News Service.) Berlin, Dec. 10.—The Kaiser's recent speech in the Benedictine monastery at Beuron has given the German press much food for speculation, not because it brought forward any new political ideas—on the contrary, it consisted mostly of truisms and platitudes—but because it is a proof that Emperor William has returned to a way of thinking which most people had thought he left far behind him, but which is easily understood in the light of recent revolutionary events which have made the heads of several European dynasties feel rather unsafe. The Kaiser is once more convinced that church and throne must stand shoulder to shoulder, but his Prussian subjects at least are openly expressing their doubts as to whether the intimacy between the throne and the Roman Catholic church is beneficial to the monarchy. Too close cooperation between these two might seem quite natural in a Roman Catholic country like Portugal, and it was this intimacy that cost poor Manuel his throne. In Spain there is today no more important question than how to bring about a separation between church and state, for if this question is solved Alfonso may hope to keep the crown on his head. How very small is the actual influence and hold of the church upon the masses of people even in a Catholic country was plainly shown in France, where the separation took place almost without any protests from anyone but the church itself.

Church Weak Support. In a country like Germany, where Catholics are a comparatively small minority, the church is apt to prove a very weak prop for the throne. Under existing circumstances, an alliance between the throne and the Catholic church, as a political party, is the elevating of the Center to become the ruling political party, a fact which Catholic papers have not been slow in emphasizing in commenting upon the Kaiser's monastery speech; but there is little doubt that the next election will soon change this. Germany has after many struggles become one of the most progressive countries, and neither church nor throne will be able to block the path of progress.

Another solution of the political difficulties has almost simultaneously offered itself, and may still be adopted by Emperor William, as opening far wider possibilities to a ruler of the versatile mind. I mean the one suggested by Herr Berthold Otto in his sensational book "The Country of the Future—A Socialist Monarchy." The brilliant writer openly asks the Kaiser to place himself at the head of the Socialist movement in Germany, and go down in history as the founder of the first Socialist empire.

Herr Otto is well known as a writer on social, political and educational subjects, and his new book has aroused considerable attention, owing to the originality of the ideas expounded therein. Herr Otto is, of course, not a Socialist himself, but he believes in the amelioration of the conditions of life and labor of the masses on Socialist lines, and is convinced that effective reforms can only be produced by benevolent despotism, and never by democracy.

Herr Otto argues that the United States, though the most democratic country in the world, is also more oppressed by great combinations of capital than any other country; in this case, he is exactly right. The same is true of side with social slavery. In France, too, political freedom is accompanied by such social conditions that the masses have been driven to the verge of revolution.

State Should Foster Socialism. To avoid these evils, Herr Otto believes that the Kaiser should take the Socialist movement in hand, realize Socialism under the auspices of the state, and become the hereditary president of the Socialist empire. Professor Zimmer and one or two other well known political economists, in their approval of Herr Otto's book, and of the propositions contained therein. Numerous parties of Turkish military and veterinary commissioners have, during the last two months, purchased cavalry remounts to the number of 6000 in Russia. The proprietor of a large stud farm in this government informs me that the Ottoman commissions have for the time being practically cleared the southern markets of all the best animals for cavalry and artillery service. The commissioners are now buying horses in central Russia.

Turkish Cavalry Remounts are every year bought in Russia, but never before have the purchases been on so large a scale. They will this year, an informed source tells me, amount to 15,000 horses. Socialists Bumped Again. The Zionists in Russia have experienced another demonstration of the government's hostility toward their movement, despite the personal assurances given by Mr. Stolypin to the Zionist president, Herr David Wolffsohn of Cologne, two years ago, that they would not be interfered with in their activity. A number of young adherents of the Jewish national movement, delegates from various towns in Poland, met in Lodz a few days ago, with the object of considering measures for extending the Zionist propaganda in Poland. They were surprised by the police and 15 were arrested. These comprise six young men of Lodz and six of Lublin, the others being delegates from Lomza, Dzwina, Grodzka, Piotrkow, Pinal and Kalisch. It is expected that the Zionists of Warsaw will provide legal assistance for their comrades at the impending trial.

Domiciliary searches have taken place in the houses of Zionists in Kalisch, Tchernigov and Bendery, followed by confiscation of propaganda literature and correspondence. It is feared that the leader of the Tchernigov Zionists, a poor teacher with a large family, will be expelled from the town.

After next July racing clubs in New Zealand will have authority to prevent bookmakers operating on their courses. At present the clubs are forced to permit bookmaking.

TAKES LONDON HOUSE



Mrs. William B. Leeds, widow of the tin-plate magnate, who has rented Mrs. George Keppel's handsome residence in Grosvenor Square, and is likely to be one of London's most popular hostesses next season.

COAL FAMINE THREATENS PARIS ON EVE OF CHRISTMAS SEASON

With Weather Biting Cold, French Metropolis Shivers Because of Inability of Railroad Companies to Deliver Coal Fast Enough—Terrible Suffering Inevitable Unless Conditions are Alleviated in Near Future.

(By the International News Service.) Paris, Dec. 10.—An evil star seems to be hovering over our gay city of late, for just before the arrival of Christmas we are threatened with a coal famine that the weather, which is unusually cold for this time of the year, threatens to make a terrible calamity. The railroad companies cannot deliver coal fast enough, and coal dealers and others are protesting to the ministry of public works against the delay.

An idea of the unsatisfactory conditions may be gathered from the fact that only 300 carloads of coal are arriving in Paris daily instead of 1500 or 2000 carloads. It seems that there are only 300,000 tons of coal in reserve, while 25,000 tons are consumed daily. strenuous efforts are being made to avoid anything like a scarcity of coal. The railroad companies are being urged to do all they can to improve the situation. The Paris chamber of commerce, too, has addressed a circular to the great syndical groups, in which they are requested to call attention to the difficulties of the railroad companies, in view of the encumbrance of their material and the necessity of promptly withdrawing any goods from the cars at goods stations in order to set the rolling stock and give place to other consignments.

At the present moment it is extremely difficult for Parisians to obtain their coal supplies. The cold is intense, and the lack of coal and a vigorous winter is a prospect from which citizens may well shrink. French Dignitaries Bumped. Some 400 French deputies and senators have come in for a decided snub from Russia. Their signatures appended to a petition in favor of Finland would, it was thought, make a deep impression on the duma, but the reply was prompt. "The members of the duma," said M. Kropensky, "did not require the advice of citizens of another country in questions of Russian policy that did not concern them in any way whatsoever." And M. Dietrich, member of the council of the empire, writing to a French senator, spoke of "prodigious and unheard-of meddling."

The black experiment promises to be very successful. Colonel Mangin, who was entrusted with a mission to central Africa, has returned delighted with the prospects of raising negro battalions. He found a real enthusiasm among the chiefs, who were only too delighted at the opportunity of contributing a tribal quota to the lives even in the districts where the railway is being made, and 2 francs 50 centimes and 5 francs a day are being paid as wages, the natives expressed willingness to follow the soldier's career.

It is apparent that a real spirit prevails among these black nationalists of France. Twenty thousand men, the colonel declares, could be raised if parliament consents and will vote the money. This is one way of tiding over the military difficulties created by a dwindling population in the mother country.

The declaration made by Prince Victor Napoleon to the French journalists who went to Moncalieri may be considered as "a bolt from the blue." Let it be remembered that the prince had always refused to make any communications to the press, and there were no exceptions to that rule. The day after his marriage he called the journalists together and addressed them in just the same way a French minister would do when he has something important to put before the public. And this was his message: That he was for the republic; that he admired M. Briand; that he would defend republican conquests, and that his brother Louis had left the Russian army. Now the "conquests" to which the prince is referred would mean no other than that what M. Briand a week before had said they meant. The disestablishment and disendowment of the church, the suppression of the religious congregations, and the supremacy of secular primary education. Prince Victor in a word has placed himself in touch with the Radical majority in the chamber and elevated M. Briand to the skies. It is not, then, surprising that the pretender is considered to be aiming towards the independence of the republic, for all the world like his Uncle Napoleon in 1848. And there are those who think that M. Briand is not unlikely to encourage the idea. It would, so it is contended, fortify the republican regime, unite discordant elements in the nation, and do no injury to cherished political convictions.

AMERICAN WOMEN KNOWN IN AUSTRIA FOR THEIR GOWNS

Those From United States Are Most Fashionably Dressed Women at Austrian Resorts—Customers Prosper.

(By Emil Andriassy. Vienna, Dec. 10.—American women who visit the Austrian resorts are said to be the most fashionably dressed and spend more for beautiful gowns than those of any nationality. Having time to ponder well on the beautiful wearing creations of the season, Viennese firms display them to the best advantage, and it is nothing uncommon for a wealthy American woman to buy as many as 20 frocks during the season, many of these to take back to America, although the duty is high. The "hobble skirt" was never worn by the former dollar ladies. The latter allowed themselves to be persuaded into it in the gay city, and women dressed in Carlstadt or Vienna smiled in a superior way at their sisters' foolishness. In Paris, they say, the lady has to suit herself to the fashions, but in Vienna the fashions are carefully suited to the lady. They are not difficult to satisfy, but they require the "best material" the most elegant cut possible, and, above all, special attention to the clothes that suit them individually.

The independent idea in dress of that which is best suited to the wearer appears to be a breaking away from the custom of following certain styles that are not always suited to all persons alike. Street dresses are so plain that it is difficult to realize that an apparently modest coat worn on the street may be lined through with costly fur and finished with inside ruffles of rare lace.

Dies After Checkered Career. Vount Vinzing Laxar, a Hungarian nobleman, is dead after a checkered and romantic career, not the least incident of which occurred as he was on his deathbed. While yet a young man, the count squandered his wealth in speculation. After undergoing a course of training at Brussels as a civil engineer after his wealth was gone, he was given a post by the Hungarian state railway administration. After some years he retired to the town of Mares-Vasarehely. There he married the daughter of an innkeeper, and to eke out his very small pension he worked as a carpenter. In their efforts to save something for their old age the count and his wife lived with extreme frugality. Finally the count fell seriously ill. When he was on the point of death a message reached him announcing that the sum of 60,000 pounds had been awarded him as the result of a long standing lawsuit. The law suit was begun in the days of his prosperity. The dying man was sufficiently conscious to understand the news.

Boys in Real Duel. An extraordinary duel is reported from Mako, in Hungary. A 15-year-old schoolboy, Anton Perecky, taking offense at certain remarks made by a school fellow, Stepan Solyemocki, of the same age, sent two friends as seconds to him, and challenged him to a pistol duel.

The challenge was accepted, and the meeting took place outside the town, four schoolboys acting as seconds. Revolvers, which the boys had stolen from their fathers, were used. In the fourth round Perecky was shot through the heart and died on the spot. Solyemocki and the seconds were taken to the hospital. The ex-shah of Persia, who has been ill of bronchitis during his stay in Vienna, will, on his recovery, visit some Austrian towns in Galicia. Later he intends to make a journey through Germany and France. The attack of bronchitis followed a cold.

The building of the two dreadnoughts is now well under way. The stocks have been laid at the Stabilimento Tecnico, in Trieste, for a second dreadnought. The first dreadnought is as high as a large house. The ship's press made in the building of this ship justifies the presumption that it will be launched, according to program, in June, 1911, and the second in October, 1911.

As regards the type, the details are not given, but it is certain that the displacement will be above 20,000 tons, the length 525 feet, and the main armament twelve 11.6 inch guns.

GERMAN TAILORS UNITE IN PROTEST

Berlin, Dec. 10.—The latest grievance against the Kaiser is that he will not employ a German tailor, but has his clothes made in London. The nobility and all the well-dressed men in German society follow his example, so that the native tailors are in despair. They have decided to draw up a petition pointing out the distressing results for German trade of his Anglomania in the matter of dressmakers. It is just the same with the German dressmakers. Heeded by their crown princess, the best dressed woman at court, the German society women avoid German dressmakers and send their orders to Paris, Vienna or sometimes to London.

BARON ROTHSCHILD TO VISIT PALESTINE

(By the International News Service.) Berlin, Dec. 10.—Believing that the tombs of Jewish kings are situated near Palestine, Baron Edmond de Rothschild of Paris will shortly visit the Holy Land, where he intends to have excavations made in the locality. A celebrated French archaeologist, the baron's representative, has already arrived in Jerusalem. According to the "Journal des Debats" it is probable that while there the baron, who has done so much for the Jewish colonies, will take advantage of his visit to Palestine by inspecting the colonies and studying the possibilities of colonization there and in other parts of Asiatic Turkey.