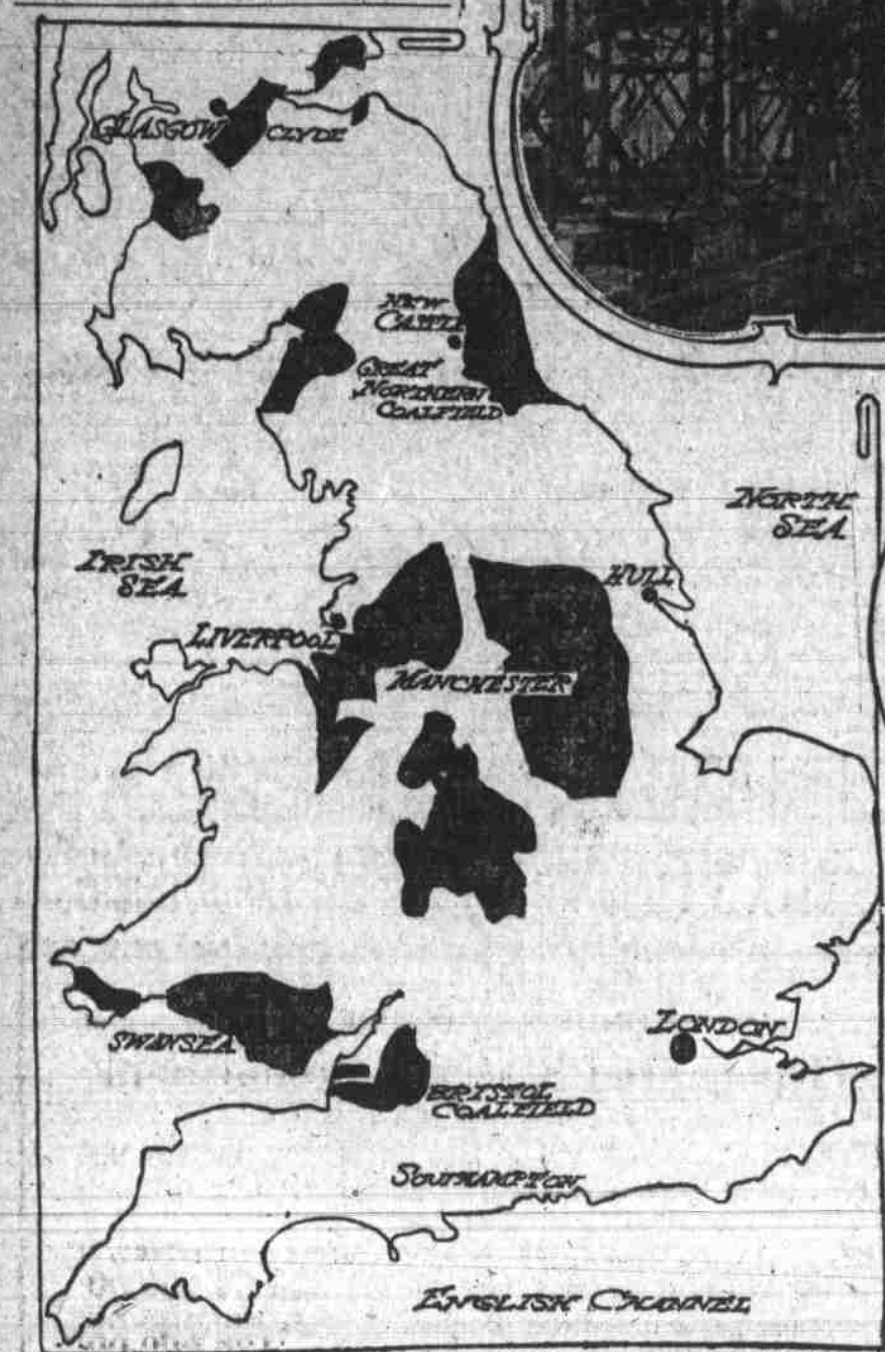


LONDON England Faces Gravest Condition of Centuries BERLIN Night Life in Vienna Is a Thing of the Past PARIS Double Crime in Paris Proves Most Baffling ROME WOMAN SUFFRAGE FIGHT MOVES ON ITALIAN TRENCHES

600,000 ENGLISH MINERS TO STRIKE, GRAVE INDUSTRIAL CRISIS AT HAND

Two Million Persons at Least Will Be Affected by Gigantic Walkout.

(By the International News Service.) London, Feb. 24.—The gravest industrial crisis of centuries will be precipitated next Thursday, when the nation-wide coal strike proclaimed by the Miners' Federation begins throughout England. Nothing, apparently, can now stop the threatening peril, despite the almost frantic eleventh hour efforts being made by the home secretary, Sir Reginald McKenna, and Winston Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, who is aiding him in his desperate attempt to stave off the calamity.



How the British navy is preparing to stand the great coal strike that will begin throughout England on next Thursday. The snapshot photograph shows a gigantic navy collier loading up to its capacity with coal, as all the other colliers are now being loaded, so as to be able to supply the warships with coal during the strike and thereby prevent utter incapacitation of all of England's fleet.

promise has been exhausted, and the only hope now remaining is that one side or the other will back down completely from its position and concede everything to the other. What slight chance there is of this can be gleaned from the latest declarations of leaders of the contending elements—the owners: "We have taken off our coats to fight."

Over 600,000 members of the Miners' Federation will quit work at the stroke of midnight between Wednesday and Thursday, and with them over 1,000,000 more men, women and boys employed in connection with British coal mines, above and below ground, will be thrown out of employment.

Factories will close, railway trains will cease to run, ships will lie idle in the ports. There will be no gas and no electric light. Disorders will inevitably follow, and some predict a condition bordering on civil war.

In every stage of the fight through conferences with the national union, the mine owners have proved obdurate, and they have issued statements that they are fully prepared to cope with the walkout of the miners.

The question of a "minimum wage" has only arisen during the last two years, the result largely of persistent socialist agitation in the mining towns and villages. The first resolution passed in its favor was by the federation conference last fall coincident with the election to the executive of young and extreme men, Vernon Harshorn and C. B. Stanton.

ENGLAND'S CRISIS IN COAL RECALLS BIG STRIKE OF '93

Conditions Almost Equal to Famine That Prevailed After 300,000 Men Left Pits and Refused to Work Longer.

(By Wellington Hope. (By the International News Service.) London, Feb. 24.—At a time when the country is menaced by a general stoppage of coal production, the terrible experience during the last great struggle between the coal owners and the miners in 1893 are recalled.

That was a disastrous epoch for several of the most important industries. The cotton trade of Lancashire was paralyzed by the lockout in the spinning trade, which began in October, 1892, and was not concluded until April in the following year. All the other industries dependent on the prosperity of cotton suffered proportionately, and the privations of the working classes constituted a poignant chapter in the history of labor.

Then the long threatened troubles in the mining industry came to a head. In 1890 an agreement had been reached between the employers and the pit workers that wages should be calculated at 40 per cent advance on the standard of 1888.

At the conference of delegates held in Birmingham on July 18, it was resolved to resist the reduction, and when the notices expired 280,000 underground and surface men left the pits and some 20,000 others, to whom the notices did not apply, struck in sympathy.

What the eventual outcome of the strike will be can not be forecasted with any certainty. There are too many different things to consider. One speculation is to the effect that either the miners will win a complete victory, or the strike will end with the smashing of the Miners' Federation, which in its 22 years of existence has accomplished much for the British miners.

These veteran leaders cite as an argument the experience of the 11,000 miners in the Cambrian collieries three years ago. After holding out for 11 months and spending all the funds of the South Wales Miners' Federation and \$400,000 from the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, they were obliged to give in to the owners and return to work on the old basis, after not having bettered their conditions at all.

GAS WORKERS' STRIKE IS WON BY DARKNESS

(By the International News Service.) London, Feb. 24.—Some idea of the chaos which will result from the national strike of miners that begins on March 1, has been supplied at Stalybridge by a strike of 200 employees in the corporation's gas, highways and sanitary departments.

The town was in darkness all night, and remarkable scenes were witnessed. Places of amusements were illuminated by means of oil lamps. There was a great demand for candles from shopkeepers, and they realized high prices. A number of entertainments which had been arranged had to be postponed.

The trade of the town was seriously affected throughout the day. Ten thousand persons employed in the cotton and iron industries were unable to begin work at the usual hour, and had to finish at dusk. Work was at a standstill at all workshops where gas engines are used.

The strikers held a demonstration and marched through the town carrying torches. The dispute was settled at a late hour and the men resumed work in the morning.

TRAINED LEOPARD LEAPS INTO FRANTIC AUDIENCE

(By the International News Service.) London, Feb. 24.—A sensational incident occurred at Bostock's Jungle at Nottingham during a performance by Mme. Morrell with a troupe of leopards and jaguars.

Two of the leopards began to fight in the arena. Mme. Morrell belabored the animals with her whip to separate them. Suddenly one of the leopards leaped up to the top of the iron bars surrounding the arena and bounded down among the audience.



Ex-Crown Princess Louise of Saxony and Enrico Toselli. Signor Enrico Toselli, who married ex-Crown Princess Louise of Saxony has brought suit against a woman residing in Brussels for \$20,000 for libel, accusing her of being the author of the memoirs of his wife, which were printed in a Paris newspaper. Toselli says that the use of his wife's name was a fraud.

BRILLIANT VIENNA IS LOSING LUSTER; BERLIN IS SHINING

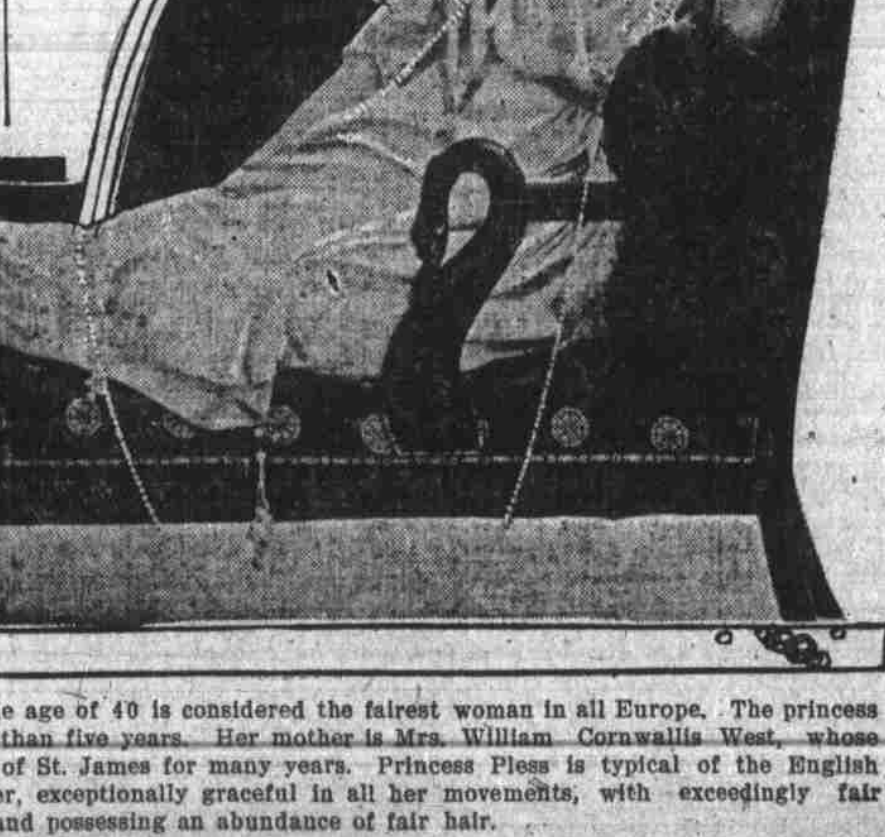
Proverbial Home of Gaiety Is Becoming Stodgy and Listless as Compared With Other Places.

Berlin, Feb. 24.—"Gay Vienna," of tinkling glasses, beautiful women and "Merry Widow" fame, is rapidly disappearing. Only here and there is still a trace of the life that has made the city world famous. "Gay Vienna" has become a misnomer. Its gaiety is dead when compared to that of Berlin and Paris and only the beautiful operettas and sensational dramatic music of Franz Lehár, is keeping this fame alive.

PERPLEXING CRIME VEXES CRAFTIEST OF PARIS SLEUTHS

(Publishers' Press Leased Wire.) Paris, Feb. 24.—A bizarre story of love, revenge and the corpse of an unknown woman, are elements of a grisly mystery that is disturbing the soul of W. Gouchard, the new head of the Paris detective force. The proprietor of a hotel in the Rue De La Luce, near the Pont St. Denis, heard a man-crying for help. In a few seconds several shots were heard. On entering her room he found her lying on the floor with two bullets in her head. The assailant had escaped. The girl was removed to the hospital. Two hours later a man called on the local commissary of police.

Perfect Type of Beauty



Princess Henry of Pless, who at the age of 40 is considered the fairest woman in all Europe. The princess has carried this title for more than five years. Her mother is Mrs. William Cornwallis West, whose beauty held reign in the court of St. James for many years. Princess Pless is typical of the English beauty. She is tall and slender, exceptionally graceful in all her movements, with exceedingly fair complexion, violet blue eyes and possessing an abundance of fair hair.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE FIGHT MOVES ON ITALIAN TRENCHES

Coming Session of Parliament at Rome Will See First Sally in Campaign of "Votes for Women."

(By Henry Wood. (Cabled Press Leased Wire.) Rome, Feb. 24.—At the coming session of parliament, the women of Italy will engage in their first skirmish for suffrage.

The suffrage campaign in Italy has differed greatly from those in other European countries, in that it has been conducted with lack of publicity. It has been exclusively in the hands of the educated women and since not a line about the struggle has scarcely ever appeared in the public press, the greater part of the female population is not even aware of the movement.

However, to offset this favorable opportunity, lies the certainty that if the clause for woman's suffrage should prove an obstacle to the passage of the electoral reform bill, it would be smothered without discussion. Premier Giolitti's elevation to power and the election of a parliament to back him was based largely upon his promise for general suffrage in Italy and it is not expected that he will permit the efforts of the women to stand in the way of getting his pet measure through parliament.

The electoral reform bill is now in the hands of a commission upon the members of which the Roman matrons are bringing influence to secure the insertion of a clause for women. So far they have been asked to reduce their demand to the lowest possible terms, and have been assured that if they do not ask too much the clause may be inserted in the general reform bill.

The woman's committee has therefore decided to ask for the present only that the right of suffrage be granted to women "laureate," or those who have received university degrees. In Italy the matrons themselves have only secured the right of franchise section by section and the women feel that their best chance for success is to demand the right in the same manner. In making their preliminary demand, therefore, the women feel that they will disarm the possibility of opposition on the grounds of both intellectual and physical unfitness.

Naturally, even should the commission assent to the clause in the electoral bill for the women, it will then be necessary to secure permission from Premier Giolitti, "The Iron Man of Italy," to allow it to be discussed in parliament. However, all of the women's relatives are aligned with the movement and the committee in charge is depending entirely upon these, through the subtle winning influences which the Italian women can always bring to bear, to secure for them the desired permission.

Proponents in Earnest. Just how much this movement means to some of the women who are fighting so quietly for it, can possibly be judged from the statement by Lady Giacinta Martini-Mareschoti, the founder of the movement in Italy, and who is still its leader.

"I have fought so much and suffered so much for this ideal," she declared. "I have bound to this hope so much of my very life, that I would die content if we were able to attain it, even in the most infinitesimal part. But while we would be content now even with the recognition of the right of women to vote, we do not mean that it should apply only to the intellectual class from whom we are first demanding it. I believe that all women who work and think should have this right, no matter how humble they are. But we cannot hope to come to this grand conclusion all at once, and therefore we shall be satisfied, if as the matter has done, we can approach it by degrees."

RAILROAD MONEY WILL FIGHT THE SOCIALISTS

(By the International News Service.) London, Feb. 24.—At the half-yearly meeting of the Metropolitan Railway company, \$500 was voted to be paid as a subscription to the anti-Socialist union of Great Britain in furtherance of the propaganda.

A director pointed out that the disturbance in railway circles was almost entirely due to the agitation of Socialists, and as railway shareholders were affected they should help to expose the false statements and impossible promises of the agitators.

Lord Abernethy, who was Sir Charles McLaren, a Radical M. P. president and said the board were in sympathy but it would perhaps be better not to press the resolution, as it was not considered in order.

Mr. Fowall pressed for a vote, and the resolution was carried amid applause.

NEW ENGLISH LAW MAY LIMIT USE OF "BANK"

London, Feb. 24.—There is every prospect that the government will introduce in the present session of parliament a bill to put an end to the widespread abuse of the word "bank." Recent failures, notably that of the Charing Cross bank, have emphasized the need of such action.

It is understood that the bill will provide for a system of government inspection in the case of private banks and ample securities being placed by all new banks. The reform which such a bill would secure has long been urged by leading financiers, and it is considered likely that the measure will encounter little, if any, opposition.