

Political and Social News by Cable and Correspondence from the Old World

TO GO SLUMMING FOR BIG GAME

Agenda Club Formed in London to Attempt to Wake Up the Nobility.

LORDS ARE LIVING IN SHELLS
Some Notable People Participate in First Meeting.

KING GEORGE A GOOD GUNMAN
Kills 1,700 Birds with 1,400 Cartridges in One Day.

AMERICAN DOLLARS HOLLOW CRY

Great Britain Largest Foreign Holder of Our Securities, in the Amount of \$3,500,000,000—Alleged American Crooks Work.

BY PAUL LAMBETH.
LONDON, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—It has been publicly suggested here that it was possible that a slum missionary party might have to be done among English peers and the nobility in order to bring them to their senses. The agenda club, an organization on novel lines, was formally inaugurated a few nights ago at the Hotel Cecil. Hon. Sydney Holland presided in the absence of Lord Shaftesbury, among those present were Lord Brinkley, the head masters of Eton and Harrow, and W. W. Aquilith, the prime minister's brother.

"The object of the agenda club," in the words of its constitution, "is to do a few things that need doing and can be done for the betterment of the existing social conditions."

The club is established "for a limited period of twenty-five years, and shall cease to exist December 7, 1935."

In general the idea behind the club is that there are many men in the world who wish to do something for their fellow men and are discouraged because there is no business-like organization which will tell them what to do and help them to do it.

Mr. Holland, in dealing with the objects of the club, said: "One aim will be to bring gentlemen, the natural leaders of the country, out of their shells. It may be our duty to slum among dukers, rescue earls, and set young peers on their legs, even if their last legs."

Kiss a Good Guy Man.

The king left Oxford by special train Friday morning on the conclusion of his visit to Viscount Iveagh at Kiveden. As the party motored to the station the scholars of Theford school greeted the king, who most cordially responded. During shooting at Elyedon it is said that his majesty used 1,400 cartridges in one day, killing 1,700 birds. It looks as if he was going to prove an useless ornament as his father.

Hollowness of Election Slogan.

The Tories have been doing much shouting in denunciation of American dollars, as though they were something to be avoided. In view of the fact that the average English crook, if he be born in a lower strata of society, is apt, all his life, to cling to certain managements that plainly indicate the class from which he sprung, Americans, being more adaptable, soon discover that abroad there are just two real classes and share their personality so that classes are mistaken for those of the upper class. Consequently most of the "big deals" in the English criminal world are turned by Americans.

Most of the men of the underworld who keep the police in hot water here are old enough at the business to emulate the monkey who persuaded the cat to take the chestnuts from the fannies. There is a "Cheroké Frank," who actually conducts a sort of criminal intelligence bureau, with headquarters in Paris, advising his "tools" when anyone leaves Paris for Berlin, Rome, London or St. Petersburg, with any amount of jewelry or money on his person. "Cincinnati Kid" is said to be one of his most valuable assistants. "The Toledo Punk"—christened Frank Vaals—is said to be a general sales agent for "the gang," a sort of "traveling fence," who knows whom he dare trust in the matter of selling stolen goods.

Strange as it may seem, Eddie Guerri, once a shining light in his peculiar world, has sunk low in the estimation of criminals and is my no means on an equal footing with those whose names are above mentioned. He is a sort of leader among the cheaper crowd, and the Underground railway, who frequent that unsavory section known as Aldgate, below "the City," the rejuvenation of "The Seven Dials Gang," which dates back to the times of which Dickens wrote. Guerri promised Inspector Stockley that he would "turn square" if he was allowed to remain here, and as a matter of fact, nothing has been proved against him since he managed to beat the extradition by means of said-to-be perjured evidence to the effect that he was English born. His friend, "Dutch Gus," another New Yorker, is the president of the association of pickpockets who work the "Topsy Turvy" and the Underground railway. These are all English thieves whom Gus has trained.

Another Shaw Fellows.

George Bernard Shaw has made another failure here. He has written a play upon the life of Shakespeare, called "The Dark Lady of the Sonnets." To judge by the reports of it, it is one of the thames literary practical jokes of which Mr. Shaw has become proud and the public has become sick.

American Gambler a Winner.

Among the visitors here recently was an American whose name is said to be Willis D. Danbro, who, thanks to the tables of Monte Carlo, by \$24,000 richer. The first day he played he risked \$1,200 and won heavily. He continued, and at one time had a credit balance of \$25,000. From that moment his luck turned, and he won and lost from \$12,000 to \$18,000 a day. He finally decided that he had passed the maximum of good luck, and let it go. Along with other consecutive years he has been to the Riviera in the summer and autumn, when the hotels are quiet, and one can give proper attention to the game.

ENGLISH RULE A FAILURE

Lord MacDonnell Proposes a Scheme of Devolution.

NO PARALLEL NOW IN OPERATION
New Plan Has Concurrence of Lord Dunsar and Would Let the Irish Control All Home Affairs.

BY THOMAS EMMET.
DUBLIN, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—Lord MacDonnell, addressing the Historical Society of Trinity college recently, outlined a scheme of devolution in which he said he had the concurrence of Lord Dunsar.

The proposed system had no parallel in any other country. It postulated the maintenance of an imperial parliament at Westminster; a representative Irish assembly with legislative and administrative functions controlling the executive and dealing with purely Irish matters; and the establishment of an Irish treasury, furnished with funds in the manner indicated in the Irish councils bill; the continuance of the British treasury responsibility for financing land purchase, and the reasonable financial recognition of the conclusions of the Royal commission of financial relations.

From tariff reform, he said, Ireland had nothing to gain, but a great deal to lose. He believed Irishmen would not relax their efforts to procure that measure of legislative and administrative control which would enable them to manage the domestic affairs of Ireland free from English official meddling.

English Rule Incompetent.

The Irish people had been willing to live as subjects to the king, if only they were allowed to live in peace. They objected to being governed by a foreign nation which had demonstrated its absolute inability to govern any people foreign to itself. They objected to being plundered and oppressed by men who never saw Ireland and had no interest in it save the interest a freebooter has in the place he pillages.

"But the English government had never forgiven the concessions they had been compelled to make in 1781, and had striven at every favorable opportunity to recover by guile what they had yielded to force. They succeeded in neutralizing the concession of a free parliament by purchasing through mass bribery corruption, the votes of a majority of its members. And thus it came to pass that while the feeling in Ireland in 1785 was strongly in favor of Grattan's policy of conciliation, and while the Irish parliament, if left to itself, would have responded to the country's feeling, an event occurred which defeated all hope, and brought untold woes upon Ireland."

Four Centenarians Die.

The death of four centenarians has just been announced. They were: William Mark Wintertill, Donegal, who celebrated his 100th birthday last September; Miss Margaret Kelly, Donegal, aged 100; Felix O'Drourke, Drummekin, County Antrim, aged 100, and Mrs. Stables, Cavan, aged 100.

Beat Brother's Widow.

"Peculiar kind of love-making," remarked one of the magistrates at Balbriggan. The defendant had been James Halpin, summoned by his sister-in-law, Mary Halpin, a widow, for assault. Two years ago Mrs. Halpin married a second time, and a few months after her marriage her husband died in an asylum. The defendant, it was stated, proposed marriage to the widow, who promised to marry him when eighteen months had elapsed. This condition did not suit Halpin and he beat Mrs. Halpin. He was held for trial.

Ireland Wins Soccer Match.

The international "soccer" match between teams of English and Irish amateurs ended in favor of Ireland, 2-1.

Queue Cutting Popular in China.

In Hong Kong Alone 11,000 Men Have Discarded Once Cherished Appendages.

HONG KONG, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—Hong Kong has just witnessed a remarkable queue-cutting demonstration. Six wealthy elders, the aggregate of whose ages is 49 years, set an example to their fellows on the platform of the Chinese club where an Indian military band played sections from Gilbert and Sullivan operas. Hundreds of other men followed their lead. The promoters of the movement had effectively cited the case of an older who was killed when his queue became entangled in machinery.

The movement has become so widespread that in Hong Kong alone within three days 11,000 men voluntarily discarded their queues. No change in the national costume is contemplated.

Mrs. Napoleon Worries Belgium.

Wife of French Pretender Sets Up a Toy Court Menage that May Explode.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—The Belgian government has a rather difficult problem on its hand. Princess Victor Napoleon, who was Princesse Clementine, is not only settling in Brussels, but also making the scene of her position as wife of Napoleon, to surround herself with French ladies-in-waiting recruited from the French nobility. It is feared that such a menage might easily cause offense to the French government, with whom Belgium is now very friendly, and, though Prince Victor Napoleon is forbidden to issue manifestoes, or otherwise to further the cause of his territory, it is nevertheless being pretty plainly hinted that it might be better if the pair would settle, say, in Italy, instead of Belgium.

MONKS' LARDER HELD OUT

Party isolated at Hospice in the Swiss Alps by Storm Has Good Luck.

GENEVA, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—For fifty hours last week were the monks of the late King Edward's hospice, a party of eight, including twelve travelers imprisoned in the hospice, 7,000 feet high, by snowstorms. The hospice is always provisioned as if for a siege, and there was, therefore, no danger of the monks and their guests going short of food.

CADETS "RAGGED" IN BRITISH WAYS

German Army and Navy Authorities Are Accused of Upholding the Practice.

GAUNTLET OF FIRE ONE FORM
Hazers Do Not Spare the Victims of Their Devility.

BY ERIC GRUNDMARK.
COPENHAGEN, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—Norway's "mutual consent" divorce law has been in effect now for just a year and has on the whole been thoroughly satisfactory in its working. Even the clergy who looks with disfavor upon divorce, is inclined to concede that the law has tended to a higher standard of morality.

Under the Norwegian law men and women have equal rights and responsibilities. If a man and his wife agree to dissolve the marriage they need no public lawsuits or complaints against each other. Separation always is granted by the magistrate when it is demanded by both parties. If the husband and wife are not agreed on separation either person can force the separation if the other has been unfaithful or is a drunkard or ill-treats the mate or the children, or uses the income to the family's ruin, or has a deep-rooted dislike to the consort.

The ministry of justice, in case the couple is not agreed, decides the issue, and says which shall have the children. In the case of non-agreement, where only one person wants the separation, the magistrate cannot be dissolved by divorce until after two years' separation. In case of agreement the marriage is dissolved after one year of separation. After a divorce either party can marry again.

Women Police All Right.

Sweden now has women policemen. Several have been enrolled in Christiania and their work among women has been satisfactory.

King of Greece Foresighted.

As an indication of the feelings of the king of Greece in regard to the security of his throne, he has just transferred that his company looks forward with pleasure to the carrying out of a project which has already been looked upon as impracticable. As far as Canada is concerned, that country some twelve or fifteen years ago negotiated with the Great Northern company on the subject, while attempts have been made by former Danish ministers to establish telegraphic communication between Greenland and Denmark.

NORWAY'S NEW DIVORCE ACT

Operation of "Mutual Consent" Law is Quite Satisfactory.

NO NEED TO GO TO COURT
If Husband and Wife Agree they Do Not Split Each Other, or One is Given an Unfair Deal, the Split-Up is Easy.

BY MALCOLM CLARKE.
BERLIN, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—Nowhere is the practice of ragging more prevalent than in the German army and navy cadet circles. Ragging is just what hazing is at West Point or the Annapolis Naval academy. The military authorities shut their eyes harder than most other official bodies to the practice. If anything, they encourage it as the means of discovering the young officer recruit's stamina in times of peace. The theory is, of course, wrong, as experience has often demonstrated, for many a young man who cheerfully face the risks of a battlefield under the influence of the unmeasured brutalities of his fellow cadets, the pranks tolerated are of low, vulgar, brutal order, such as only men belonging to the "nobility" could think of or carry out.

Of all the forms of hazing the most brutal perhaps is the "gauntlet" of fire. The freshmen upon whose heads are stared the mate or the children, or uses the income to the family's ruin, or has a deep-rooted dislike to the consort.

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KAISER FRIENDLY TO CATHOLICS

Ecclesiastics Who Recall the Days of the Kultur Kampf Most Agreeably Surprised by the Present Policy of Wilhelm.

BY ERIC GRUNDMARK.
COPENHAGEN, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—The German emperor's attitude toward the Catholics is a subject which has been a subject of keen interest to the Catholics of all countries. The emperor's attitude toward the Catholics is a subject which has been a subject of keen interest to the Catholics of all countries.

German Brewers Resent Wilhelm's Newest Policy

Keepers of Berlin Beer Halls Also Take a Hand in Voicing Their Displeasure.

BERLIN, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—The brewers and saloon keepers threaten to make more trouble for the emperor than the socialists have made. His repeated utterances in favor of temperance, though intended to establish a better business connection between Germany and Denmark, have not been received with pleasure.

NEW MINERAL DISCOVERED

Find Made in Spain May Revolutionize Sulphate of Soda Industry.

MADRID, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—Several million tons, it is believed, of a new mineral lies in a remarkable vein, of which a sample has just been discovered at Benahadux, near Almeria, which has been named calafita, after its finder, Senor Calafita. This mineral consists of a substance which, when being calcined, produces pure alumina and pure sulphate of soda.

It is thought that this discovery may bring about a revolution in the sulphate of soda market, which has up to the present been monopolized by the Germans. An American firm has already made a firm offer to purchase \$9,000 tons of the new mineral annually, but so far no decision has been arrived at.

BERLIN PRISONERS UNRULY

Authorities Find it Necessary to Arm the Prison Wardens with Sabres.

BERLIN, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—Owing to the frequent assaults made by prisoners in the local courts on warders, these officials will henceforth be provided with sabers. Several warders have been seriously injured by infuriated prisoners. It took six men to subdue one of the latter in a court recently.

SWITZERLAND CUTS BUDGET

Money for Military Instruction and War Material Will Be Spent Sparingly.

BERNE, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—While the military budgets of most countries are increasing annually, Switzerland has just decided to reduce hers by \$14,230. The chief reductions are \$9,000 in military instruction, \$4,800 in war material and \$2,600 in fortifications.

HAT WITH A HEN ON

German Woman Creates a Sensation by Wearing Exact Imitation of a Nest.

BERLIN, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—A woman created a sensation a few days ago in the streets of Hanover, by wearing a hat which was the exact copy of a bird's nest, with a large hen in it.

NORFOLK GETS PAPAL ORDER

Premier Duke of England Given Golden Spur by Pope.

TOMBS OF TWO AMAZON QUEENS
Italian Excavator Finds Women Warriors Were Buried in Same Fashion as Fighting Men of the Pre-Christian Era.

BY CLEMENT J. BARRETT.
ROME, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—The Pope has just conferred on the duke of Norfolk, who was originally given to papal employes on the anniversary of the pope's election. The duke of Norfolk is the only man in England who holds the order, just as he is the only English holder of the fourteenth century Order of Christ, the oldest of the papal decorations. In 1841, the Pope, who is a very devout Catholic, the premier duke of England, and said the duke's name is Howard. Although he is absolute master of ceremonies at royal functions, he is famous as the worst dressed man in England. He is one of the men whom rank, wealth and power have not spoiled. If marks of honor such as decorations counted for anything they could not be awarded to a worthier man.

Tombs of Amazons Found.

Camilla, Amazon queen of the Volscians, has been named of the suspicion that she was merely a poetic fragment of Virgil's imagination by the discovery at Belmonte, by Prof. Dall'Osso, of the sepulchres of two women warriors. The discovery was reported briefly, but now further details are available of the women who fought and died eight centuries before the time of Christ. The district which is being excavated is in the ruins of old Etruria, and the existence of Amazon tombs is proved by the fact that two women whose remains have been discovered were buried in their panoply of war beneath their chariots in exactly the same way as the fighting men whose skeletons have been unearthed. The first Amazon tomb which the professor opened was fifteen feet long, eight feet wide and ten feet deep.

FRENCH CAUGHT IN SUGAR CORNER

Chilean Speculator Has Manipulated Margins Until He Controls the Supply.

HAS IT IN BONDED WAREHOUSES
Disastrous Consequences of a Former Corner Recalled.

RUI N AND SUICIDES FOLLOWED
Usual Weekly Mystery Provided by Murdered Woman.

WAS A SERVANT FROM BAVARIA
Florence Nightingale of France is to Marry Colonel Marchand of Fashoda Fame—Here is Drowned.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—(Special to The Bee.)—Another sugar corner is on and it is likely to be a very profitable one. Nearly everybody was buying "margins" in sugar. The price of sugar began to go up during the spring of last year and by the end of July it had reached famine price.

Many Frenchmen, the Prince de Broglie among them, have reason for remembering the last corner of sugar which brought on a panic. This was six years ago. Nearly everybody was buying "margins" in sugar. Some of the stars of the Paris opera were in it. Brokers scoured the provinces, finding customers everywhere. Prices were climbing and the leaders of the market were unloading. They did not unload fast enough. In a week sugar dropped from 45 to 25 francs. Jules Jaluzot, the proprietor of the Printemps stores, was ruined. M. Crozier, the director of the Egyptian refineries, committed suicide. Young M. Say, one of the wealthiest men, was absolutely ruined. Princess de Broglie saw her income reduced from 1,500,000 a year to 25,000. Again the public are beginning to protest.

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Just at daybreak a few mornings ago laborers going to work at their were startled to find the partly burned corpse of a woman. A match box and a bottle which had contained petroleum were found near her. As her watch and purse had not been taken, the police thought that she had committed suicide, but an examination revealed that she had previously been strangled. There was no difficulty in tracing her identity, as in a pocketbook was a paper with her name, and mention of the fact that she was born in Bavaria and was a governess.

An officer in whose family she had been employed, having heard of the affair, went to the prefecture of police and stated that she had been looking after his children until the previous week, when she left to take another place. His soldier-servant carried her trunk down to the street door and she drove off in a cab. It was not until she had been missing for some days that the police went to the house and discovered the body.

Efforts are being made to discover the cabman, as the woman was never seen at the address which she had given on starting. Pending investigation it is thought that the woman must have been slain in the city and her corpse conveyed during the night to the spot where it was found and there burnt.

Colonel Marchand to Marry.

A romance of the battlefield is a rarity, but it is likely to happen. Colonel Marchand, famous for his connection with Fashoda and later with the campaign in Morocco, is to be married. It is a soldier's romance. The bride-elect is Mile, Saint Roman, called by many the Florence Nightingale of France. She has long identified herself with the care of the sick and wounded, and founded a Woman's Red Cross society, which rendered admirable service in the Morocco campaign. When war does not call her, she works among the unfortunate here. Colonel Marchand met her in Morocco during the war.

A Hero is Drowned.

A notable French hero is dead. He lost his life one day this week. The man, Jean Georges, was recovering floating timber from the Garonne river at Bordeaux, when he fell into the water and was drowned. Georges was at one time employed as keeper of the Town Hall garden here, and when the terrible fire raged in the building during the charity bazaar he rescued five persons, being himself badly burned. For his gallantry he was awarded the Cross of the Legion of Honor.

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CZAR INTERFERES TO WEAKEN DUMA

Russia's Alleged Parliament Has No Real Power, Being Merely an Advisory Body.

PRESIDENT IS READY TO RESIGN
M. Guchkoff Has Unsatisfactory Audience with Nicholas.

CZARINA'S HEALTH IS NO BETTER
Russian Empress Now Reported to Be Hopeless Invalid.

BEAR STRENGTHENING FENCES
Destructive Storm on Volga Results in Loss of 800 Lives—Convicts in Kharhoff Prison Kill Wardens and Lose Lives.

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Referring to the scandal provoked by the reactionaries over the Tolstol commemoration his majesty said: "No consideration is admissible in this matter. Every one should be allowed to act as his conscience directs."

M. Guchkoff's complaint that the upper house was systematically blocking the reforms ordained by the czar, notably the bill on religious tolerance, met with a similar rebuff.

His majesty rejoined: "I have been living in Germany, where I noted the slow work of the Reichstag. Yet there is no complaint about the German legislature. I see no cause for finding fault with the council of the empire."

M. Guchkoff next touched upon the national defense and especially the reform of the navy department.

"The emperor valued the question. 'Let me await the results of the inquiry,' he said."

M. Guchkoff next tried to say a word for the universities.

His majesty cut him off with the remark: "Disorder still prevails there."

Referring to the Finnish bills the emperor said: "No time must be lost."

Czarina Unimproved.

No permanent good has resulted to the health of the czarina from her long sojourn in Germany. Those who have seen her majesty recently declare that she is a hopeless invalid. Her nervous trouble does not seem to have been abated in any marked degree and she walks with extreme difficulty. She devotes as much of her time as she possibly can to her children, for she is a devoted mother, and seems to have an overshadowing dread that the little carnich will be either killed or taken away from her. The fear she feels for her little son is almost an obsession.

Trouble Brewing.

Russia is strengthening her position on the Turkish frontier. General Gugurgov, chief of the staff, has gone to Kara, where he will take command personally until the crisis is past.

The opinion in well informed circles here is frankly pessimistic of the peaceable settlement of the Iberian trouble. On the Turkish and British frontiers, as well as the Russian, a state of practical anarchy exists, which it is believed can only be ended by a joint protectorate or the practical partition of China.

Storm Causes Death of 300.

Graphic descriptions of the scene at Astrakhan when a caravan of barges with their tugs were storm-driven from the river bank and carried down the Volga, towards the open sea, 300 men perishing. The Volga is now ice-covered and in flood.

The craft were dashed one against the other and were stove in by driving ice floes. Most of them were soon mere wrecks, to which the men clung until overcome by cold. Splendid work was accomplished in almost pitch darkness by two ice breakers and three other steamers. They succeeded in rescuing over two-thirds of the 1,600 workmen whose lives depended on heroic promptitude.

In the desperate chance of saving more lives the steamers have been battling day and night against the solid masses of ice which have meanwhile formed at the Volga estuary, barring access to the barges which have partly survived the battering by ice, flounders and storm.

In consequence of violent gales in the sea, off Azoff the water has been driven away from the coast, the sea having in some places receded as much as three miles.

A number of ships are consequently stuck fast in the sand, and their crews were in some cases as long as forty-eight hours without food. Lifeboats were sent out. The sea was covered with drifting ice.

Convicts Kill Wardens.

Three convicts in Kharhoff prison killed two wardens with crowbars, seized their keys and a revolver and rushed out into the courtyard, where they killed a third warden and mortally wounded three more. While attempting to climb the prison wall they were shot. The remaining ninety-six convicts were passive spectators of the affair. Order has now been restored.

Escape from Schlusselburg.

For the first time in living memory a convict has escaped from the island fortress of Schlusselburg, in the Neva.

While working in the afternoon in the open air the convict scaled the wall with the aid of a rope and subsequently, though chained, walked all night across the ice of Lake Ladoga towards the Bugrovskiy lighthouse. Early on the following morning the man was discovered by some peasants and was seized and taken back to the prison.

The Schlusselburg fortress, rich in memories of the battles between Russians and Swedes, is less from the river, a place of old walls and low, round watch towers. Among the famous political prisoners who spent years there was Biron, Empress Anna's favorite. The Schlusselburg prisoners nowadays are treated with no little consideration. The cells are lighted by electricity and heated by hot-water radiators. The prisoners are allowed to smoke and there is a good library. Every man sentenced to more than eight years' penal servitude is, during the first two years, obtained on the feet.

CZAR INTERFERES TO WEAKEN DUMA

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