WAGES OF WOMEN ARE LOW

Startling Story Told Premier Asquith by Delegation.

SEVEN SHILLINGS WEEKLY

Average Far Below Minimum Set by Immigration Board—Women Imprisoned for Failing to Pay Taxes.

LONDON, July 11.—The recent meeting between Prime Minister Asquith and the women representing Sylvia Pankhurst's East End Suffrage club is unique in English history, for never before have women workers of the lowest social class told their wage grievances to so high a personage.

The average wage of women throughout the country, Mrs. Julia Scurr told the prime minister, is but 7 shillings a week. Many women, she said, supported children and parents on this, although the immigration board has held that a woman cannot live in London on less than 17 shillings and 6 pence a week. To small wages and the severity of the struggle was attributed the large number of suicides among married working women of the city. Mrs. Scurr said the poor law attached harsh and humiliating terms to the relief given and was thoroughly hated by the indigent.

Women Imprisoned for Taxes.

In justifying the demand of the working women for suffrage, the delegates told the prime minister that there did not seem to be any other way of making their wrongs known to the public. Women are still sent to prison for inability to pay their taxes, and few of those who suffer from drunken and brutal husbands can afford the luxury of a divorce.

One of the suffragists, Mrs. Hughes, opened her argument by laying on the premier's table a brush that retails at 10 shillings.

"For my share in making that I get 2 pence," said Mrs. Hughes.

Her pay, she explained, was 2 pence for filling 200 holes with bristles, and her husband got 2 pence ½ penny for finishing the brush. To support her home required fourteen hours work a day.

Another delegate said she was rearing a family of six children under the age of 13 on her husband's pay of 25 shillings a week as a docker.

A pitiable story was related by a woman who had started to work in a jam factory at the age of 11. When left a widow with two children she shared her small room with an unfortunate girl whose baby had been born in a workhouse. As the widow's wages could not feed them all, the girl drowned herself and baby in the Thames.

Mr. Asquith in reply said that it would be perhaps difficult to get substantial and intelligent reform in the east end unless the women themselves had a voice in choosing the members of Parliament. But their problem was such that it could not be solved by any short cut. He promised to consider their case fully.

Although the premier treated the delegates as non-militants and attacked militancy, the East London Federation, which they represented, has never repudiated militancy. Nor have the delegates.

British Expedition Will Spend Six Years Charting Seven Seas

LONDON, July 11.—Six years at sea and a voyage of 21,000 miles to hunt and chart islands, reefs and banks of doubtful location is what the British Antarctic and Oceanographical expedition now propises to do for the benefit of the world's merchant marine. Originally Sir Earnest Shackleton and J. Foster Stackhouse intended only to survey and chart the coast of the Antarctic continent, looking for menaces to shipping as might lie on their voyage down and back. But the charts disclose so many points marked D., P. D., and E. D.—doubtful, position doubtful and existence doubtful—that the explorers have added two and a half years to their projected voyage, which starts next December in the "Discovery."

The seven seas have never been accurately charted, because, says Mr. Stackhouse, "being everybody's business it was nobody's business to do it." Even the north Atlantic has its doubtful islands and sunken rocks. Four different mariners, previous to the Titanic disaster, reported seeing rocks near the point where the ship went down, and this is one of the first things to be investigated by the discovery. Polynesia, Melanesia and Malaysia are notorious for volcanic and coral obstructions, and the Panama canal will open new routes through these dangerous seas. The South American and African coasts have their doubtful rocks. Mr. Stackhouse considers it just as important to find out that a menace does not exist as that it does.

The new sea charting expedition is financed by public contributions. Its fifteen officers and scientists have given their work for the next six years gratis. The only expenses besides the equipment are those incidental to running the ship and the pay of the crew of nineteen men. The foremost hydrographer of Great Britain, Captain J. A. Rupert Jones, will have charge of the soundings and Lieut. Humphreys will do the land surveying. Various other kinds of scientific work are planned, including observations as to the magnetic pole.

Existing charts disclose facts which have a disturbing influence on traffic, such as the presence of shallow surroundings in areas of deep water. Such places will be carefully searched for submerged rocks. All corners of the world will be visited and studied by the expedition.

The Discovery is a wooden ship with steam auxiliary, especially designed for work in icy waters, and she will carry the latest sounding machinery. While the voyage is planned to last six years, the officers and crew are signed on for seven in event of delays.

HEALTH CERTIFICATES FOR ALL SWISS BRIDES

GENEVA, July 11.—Health certificates for brides is the demand of the Swiss Society of Public Utility for Women, an influential organization having branches in the chief cities of Switzerland. The aim of the society is to obtain healthy wives and children in order to better the race and also make for the happiness of the home. It has hopes that later the government will take a hand in the agitation and require a certificate of healtht from both the bride and the bridegroom before sanctioning a marriage. The society, which is working very quietly, is strongly supported by the medical profession and the university professors.

GERMAN OFFICERS ARE CRUEL

Cases of Mistreatment of Soldiers Decrease Slowly.

SENTENCES ARE TOO MILD

Officers Convicted of Permanently Injuring Recruits Given Few Weeks Under Mild Arrest—Two Instances Cited.

BERLIN, July 11.—The unceasing criticism of press and parliament is slowly reducing the number of cases of mistreatment of soldiers, but a recent report shows that 490 non-commissioned officers and officers were convicted of such offenses last year. This was a reduction of ninety cases from the figures of five years ago.

These 490 convictions by no means indicate, however, that only that number of private soldiers were brutally handled during the year. A recent case, and one by no means unusual, was the conviction of a non-commissioned officer of the Third Bavarian regiment, who was charged with no less than ninety offenses against the men under him. One soldier was lamed by being struck on the kneecap with a gun butt, and there were dozens of cases in which recruits were choked and struck in the face. It is not long since a captain was forced to leave the service after his third conviction for mistreating recruits. The charges against him covered brutal treatment in 140 cases.

Complaints of these conditions, made in the Reichstag, have from time to time moved the minister of war to declare that the government was equally concerned and was doing its best to put a stop to them. Figures have been quoted to show that cases of mistreatment are gradually growing less common, and it has been declared that the government desired that punishment of the offenders be exemplary.

Sentences Too Mild.

With all credit to the minister of war, it must nevertheless be said that sentences in the majority of these cases are extremely mild and by no means calculated to discourage brutal officers from a repetition of their offenses. The non-commissioned officer just mentioned, was sentenced to three months and fifteen days' imprisonment and degraded. This is a really severe sentence, but it is at the same time a most unusual one. Not only is imprisonment for such a term rarely meted out, but degradation is still rarer.

The following case is typical of the nearly ten cases occurring on an average each week. A non-commissioned officer of the Third Guard Field artillery regiment commanded a recruit to clean harnesses. He was not satisfied with the recruit's work and started expressing his dissatisfaction by striking the man over the head with a bridle. He then forced him to march up and down in the stables and to do setting up exercises, including the fatiguing "knee-bend" until the recruit fell from exhaustion. He kicked him in the thigh and on the knees and otherwise maltreated him. The recruit was removed to the field hospital suffering, among other things, with concussion of the brain. The court-martial condemned the officer to five weeks' light arrest.

Older Privates Also Guilty.

It is not only certain officers who mistreat recruits. The latter, in the absence of officers, are subject to the older privates, and many cases of mishandling involve these older men. In a recent case, one of these was sentenced to nine weeks' imprisonment for mistreating a recruit in such a manner that one of the victim's eardrums was ruptured, causing partial deafness.

On the other hand, there is short shrift for the recruit who raises a hand to defend himself against even the most brutal assault from a superior. He is certain of imprisonment for a long term.

Liberty of Speech is Becoming Curtailed in Parts of Greece

SALONIKA, July 11.—Liberty of speech is becoming so curtailed in Greece that one dare not criticise even the street car service, as an Austrian resident learned here recently.

The street car company had just raised the price of first-class fares, and while speaking to a friend on a car the Austrian took the officials to task on this account. Another passenger, overhearing the talk, summoned gendarmes, who arrested the critic. Only on protest by the Austrian consul was he released.

Before the Grecian occupation, the Turkish authorities left the street car management free to employ Turks, Greeks or Jews, as it wished, and the men were allowed to dress as they pleased. Now, to force out the Turks, the Greek officials have "invited" the company, which is Belgian, to order the men to wear caps. The result aimed at was accomplished, since the Turks, rather than give up the fez, resigned. In this manner, the Moslems have been forced out of employment in many other quarters.

GERMAN WINE INDUSTRY SHOWS BIG SHRINKAGE

BERLIN, July 11.—The German wine-growing industry is in a bad way. Every year since 1906 there has been a shrinkage in the acreage of the vineyards, so that the total has fallen from 297,000 to 266,000 acres. As evidence of the growing distress of the vintners the fact is cited that the debts of the fifty co-operative societies of growers on the Moselle have increased from $345,000 to $2,000,000 within ten years. The causes of the decline of the industry are various: Increases in the costs of production, larger imports of foreign wines, defective German legislation and crop failures from the ravages of insects and plant diseases. Many vineyards have been condemned and destroyed by the government as a preventive measure against the spread of the phylloxera.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS BUILDS HOME IN BERLIN

BERLIN, July 11.—The Society of German Engineers has just built for itself a new home at a cost of nearly $500,000. It now has more than 25,000 members, and it is claimed that this is the largest organization of its class in the world. It has branch organizations in England, China, Argentina and other countries. The society has recently accepted an invitation to visit the San Francisco Exposition, and it is expected that a very large number of members will take part in this excursion.

Salt Lake Girl to Wed Omaha Man

MISS MARY MONTIETH LUMAN OF SALT LAKE CITY.

What Women Are Doing in the World

Club Calendar.

SUNDAY—Anti-suffrage meeting, German Home, 4 o'clock.

MONDAY—Panama exposition building committee, Young Women's Christian association, 2:30 o'clock; Miss Charlotte E. White, lecture on "Social Purity," North Presbyterian church, 3:30 o'clock, interests of Child Conservation League of America.

TUESDAY—Monmouth Park Mothers' club, Monmouth park school, 2:30 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY—Omaha Suffrage association, basket picnic, Miller park, 6 o'clock.

THURSDAY—Equal Franchise society, Mrs. E. M. Fairfield hostess, 4 o'clock; Emma Hoagland Flower mission.

FRIDAY—Vesta chapter, order of the Eastern Star, annual outing, Carter Lake club.

SUMMER traveling finds much favor with Omaha club women, so that the exodus of club workers is quite marked. Their return, however, is characterized by renewed interest and enthusiasm for taking up the work again. One mother stated that she planned to do nothing so much as to entertain for her children and their friends and to devote herself entirely to their pleasure for the whole summer.

Mrs. M. D. Cameron, former president of the Omaha Woman's club, left Wednesday for Lake Okoboji to spend the summer.

Mrs. F. H. Cole went to Warren, Ill., following the convention of the General Federation of Women's clubs, but is expected home shortly.

Mrs. W. A. Challis of the musical department of the Woman's club will go to the country for a brief stay.

Judge and Mrs. Ben S. Baker leave the latter part of the month to go abroad.

Mrs. Esther M. Allen, mother of Mrs. F. J. Birss, left Wednesday for Hot Springs, S. D. She will spend a few days in Chadron enroute. Mrs. Birss is contemplating to trip to Manitou, Colo., later in the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Marley leave this month for the woods of northern Minnesota where there is quite a colony of Omahans. They will spend a great deal of their time in fishing. Mrs. C. B. Coon is also contemplating a trip to Minnesota to visit her niece.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Smith left last week and will take the lake trip to Montreal, Quebec and the Thousand Islands. They will be gone several weeks.

Mrs. S. A. Collins is planning an automobile trip through Iowa shortly.

John L. Kennedy will speak on "Naturalization Laws" at a meeting of the Equal Franchise society at the home of Mrs. E. M. Fairfield Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Miss Charlotte E. White of Massachuchusetts, national lecturer for the Child Conservation League of America, will speak on "Social Purity" Monday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the North Presbyterian church. The purpose of the meeting is to organize branch leagues for this community.

The Monmouth Park Mothers' club will meet Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Monmouth park school for a short business meeting. Election of officers has been postponed until September.

Vesta chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, will enjoy its annual outing Friday at Carter Lake club. In the afternoon there will be cards for the women and a picnic supper will be served in the club house at 6:30 o'clock. This will be followed by dancing, when old-fashioned square dances will be featured. The committee in charge includes Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Birss, Mr. and Mrs. C. Vincent, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Keller, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Underwood, Miss Jean Wallace and Mr. Dean T. Gregg. Two hundred guests are expected to attend.

The committee from this congressional district which is working to raise funds for a Nebraska building at the Panama exposition, will meet Monday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Young Women's Christian association building. Mrs. Clyde Husted of Lincoln, who with Lieutenant Governor S. R. McKelvie is in charge of this work, will be in Omaha to attend the meeting. Mrs. C. B. Towl, 2222 L street, South Omaha, is chairman of the committee for this district, the other members being Mrs. C. W. Hayes, Mrs. Bruce McCulloch and Mrs. N. M. Graham.

Thes following list of contestants for prizes in the campaign, as previously announced, are Mrs. Harry Champney, Mrs. F. J. Sullivan, Mrs. L. P. Sears, Mrs. E. C. Tyler, Mrs. H. Campbell, Miss Marie Ault and Miss Josephine West.

An anti-suffrage meeting will be held this afternoon at 4 o'clock, at the German home, 456 South Thirteenth street. The meeting will be under the auspices of the Deutche Damen Verin and Mrs. Carl Getzchman will address the women in German. Mrs. Helen Arion Lewis and Mrs. J. W. Crumpacker will also speak, and Miss Margaret Stoltenburg will sing.

Mrs. F. P. Burnett, leader of the household economics department of the Omaha Woman's club, was tendered a surprise party by fourteen members of her department Thursday afternoon. The women surprised Mrs. Burnett by arriving at her summer home in Florence laden with picnic baskets. A most enjoyable afternoon was spent.

GERMAN ARMY DISCARDS USE OF THE TELEGRAPH

BERLIN, July 11.—October 1 will see an increase of the telegraphic detachment of the German army by a new battalion. The designation of these troops, however, is only a reminiscence, for there will henceforth be no army telegraphic service. The telegraph has been replaced by the telephone. The only disadvantage of telephonic service—that it leaves no written record—is considered to be much more than counterbalanced by the fact that the telephonic service is faster and does not require a specially trained staff. The general commanding will hereafter have at his disposal thirty wagons, drawn by 160 horses, and equipped with sixty telephones and about seventy-five miles of cable and wire.

EMPRESS OFFERS A FINE BILL THIS WEEK.

The headlining act at the Empress this week is the Paul Azard Troupe. This troupe of cyclonic comedy acrobats and hand balancers present a funny take-off on the old Roman pastimes entitled "Two Romans and the Mad Doll." A secondary feature act is Gangler's Canines. These little dogs are exceptionally well trained and put up their part of the entertainment in a high class manner. Bissett & Schaefer do a very clean-cut dancing act and the vaudeville offering is completed by Mme. Helene Hardy in her character impersonations, depicting great women of the past and present. Mme. Helene makes eight rapid changes in full view of the audience, which is both an interesting and entertaining feature of the act. Peerless Photo-plays of first-run comedies and dramas, together with the Hearst-Selig News Pictorial, changing Sunday and Thursday, complete the bill. "It's just as cool" at the Empress

NEW RULE DELAYS LETTER TO KING OF DENMARK

COPENHAGEN, July 11.—Postmaster General Hertz, brother of Henry Hertz of Chicago and for several years a resident of America, has introduced some new rules in the service which have brought a strong protest from the public. Letters to be delivered in Copenhagen must now have the section of the city marked on the envelope as well as the street address. Recently a letter to the king was delayed ten hours on this account.

BIG REINDEER FARM IS STARTED IN JUTELAND

COPENHAGEN, July 11.—A reindeer farm, stocked with 400 deer from the north of Norway, has been established by a farmer near Viborg in Jutland, to be exploited for meat and hides. The herd seems to be prospering in its new environment.