

EXPENSE OF LIVING IN ITALY

Has Come to Place Where Man Must Be Wealthy in Rome.

SAME ALSO SITUATION IN GREECE

Governments Becoming Alarmed and Will Take Steps to Investigate Cause—Royal Scheming in Europe.

ROME, June 29.—(Special.)—If certain predictions come true, and it really looks as if they are, it will be a time when millions will be able to live in Rome. For some years the price of so many things have gone up when compared with what they were formerly, or what one imagines they should be, that they have in fact attained fabulous heights. It is all very well for the traveler or the visitor to get a sort of chill at times at the sight of his hotel bill, but what about the permanent resident, who has to pay many another bill besides that of a hotel bill? Prophets have arisen on every hand to show that a time will come when the permanent inhabitants of the city will be obliged to live on one meal a day and that meal of the character of bread and water. The fact that the price of bread is being raised by one-fourth of its former value is causing people to inquire what is the trouble and how it has been found that not only bread, but most vegetables, milk, butter, coffee, tea, chocolate, and in fact foodstuffs of every description have risen considerably within the last year. Comestibles of every kind have increased in price from 20 to 30 per cent, and it is claimed that even traveling expenses have risen at such a rate that it is almost impossible to visit Rome. It is argued by the Italian students of social science that the increase in the necessities of life is the chief cause of the unprecedented emigration of Italians to the United States—an emigration so large and increasing at such a rate that the Italian government itself has become alarmed.

King Favors Commission.

It is said that the king is in favor of the appointment of a commission to take drastic action and try to prevent the people from leaving the shores of Italy at the rate now going on. It is estimated that thousands per year, but hundreds of thousands argue that this is necessary and that it really affords a sort of an economic safety valve. However, it appears quite certain that next winter the most serious legislation will be adopted to prevent the operations of the emigration agents in Italy. It is believed that the officials that they are really to blame for the Italians sailing to New York in droves and that in the main their business is not only misleading, but absolutely dishonest.

And according to all accounts the situation is equally bad if not worse in Greece. There the emigration is said to be assuming serious proportions. The Greek government has recognized the disastrous result of the exodus which is taking place and as a first step is already bringing in a law which tends to limit it in some respects. All citizens who have not served in the army or navy are debarred from leaving the country. When it is borne in mind that the total population of Greece scarcely exceeds 2,000,000, the effect of an annual loss of the more enterprising of the peasantry running up into the tens of thousands annually can readily be understood. According to the British consul for the emigration question is agitating the people of the country of Greece more than any other. Although it is computed in this connection that more than \$5,000,000 is annually remitted by Greeks in America to their relatives either in the form of cash or in prepaid steamer and railway tickets the loss to the country of so many tillers of the soil is one that will naturally worry the thoughtful. The cost of labor has risen from 25 to 35 per cent and in many cases local labor cannot be obtained at all. And where it is secured it is supplied by the women and the gangs of Albanians and others who cross the frontier during the spring months, cultivate the vineyards and then return to their homes with their savings.

One of the Greek weekly papers, in commenting upon the building of the Panama canal, says that it is significant that the United States is constructing "that big ditch" with Greeks and Italians, the representatives of two of the oldest and the proudest nations of earth.

Sample of Royal Politic.

One of the smallest of the European states, the grand duchy of Luxembourg, is on the eve of some political trouble of great local import, and inasmuch as the

question is of dynastic character it may in no far distant period involve the grand duchy in international complications.

According to all accounts as received here the situation is as follows: The present grand duke, Wilhelm Alexander, is without male offspring and it is not believed that he will ever be the father of a son, so that the state of his health is very precarious. Being thus very weak, he is really under the influence of the Grand Duchess Marie Anna, a princess of Bismarck, who is a staunch Catholic. The grand duchess has caused a bill to be introduced into the chamber of deputies providing for the succession to the throne, according to which the grand ducal crown shall devolve upon the grand duke's eldest daughter, Princess Marie, who is now 12 years of age. Should the grand duke die, as is probable before the princess is of age, the regency would be exercised by the grand duchess. The objection to this course comes from the liberal and the socialist members of the Luxembourg Parliament, who claim to view with dissatisfaction the accession of a deeply Catholic princess to the throne, and are determined to oppose the same. On the other hand it is an open secret that a count of Merenberg, a distant relative of the Luxembourg family allied with the grand duchess to the throne and his contention is supported by many Luxembourg people. The matter is now at a standstill, but in the event of the death of the grand duke an open competition would arise between the grand duchess, supported by the conservatives, and the count of Merenberg supported by the liberals and socialists. In the event of such a competition proving an unsolvable problem the door would be opened to foreign intervention. That is why the matter is being watched with the greatest of interest in all the chancelleries of Europe.

SWINDLERS WORK NEW GAME

Claiming Relationship with Royalty, Traders Are Induced to Extend Much Credit.

PARIS, June 29.—(Special.)—Prince Sergius Ursouff, or a man thus styling himself, has just been sentenced by default to two years' imprisonment for defrauding tradesmen on a sumptuous scale. Prince Ursouff gave himself out as a cousin of the czar, and owing about \$400,000 a year. His wife, the princess, was described as a daughter of the sultan of Turkey, who had escaped from some harem in her own country. "Deenchantee, no doubt," remarked the judge, showing that he had read Pierre Loti's latest novel. The princess made no secret of the fact that she had been married to a prince between them, a Russian princely couple even ought to be able to live fairly well in Paris and they duly set up in a princely mansion, but do not appear to ever have furnished it. Counsel for the plaintiffs, wine merchants, said that the mansion remained bare, except for the hall, which contained a small table and a small fountain calculated to impress visitors. Once a process-server, who refused to be unduly impressed, forced his way beyond the antechamber and found nothing except empty rooms behind. Yet the prince had bought enough furniture to fill the place twice over. The expectation seems to be that he has sold it again immediately, and as he appears never to have paid for it, the transaction was a lucrative one for him. Cabinetmakers, tapestry dealers, furriers, the Bon Marche and wine merchants were all "done" in the same way, according to the plaintiffs. The latter on the strength of the position of the prince enticed him with \$50 worth of Chateau Lafite, Mouton Rothschild, and other wines of famous Udoec growth.

Another firm at Rheims kept the prince in champagne of which he drank 1,000 bottles or so a month. "I have," said the board, "heard that Russians are fond of champagne." The present prince is evidently fonder of drinking wine than of paying for it. He put in no appearance at the trial, the warrant against him could not be served on him and he was not represented by counsel. The court came to the conclusion that the evidence against him was sufficient, and in addition to the sentence, issued a warrant which there seems little chance of his obeying, that he shall repay \$50 to the wine merchant and a fine of \$100 into court.

Burr Will Divulge Scandal.

COLUMBIUS, O., June 29.—Charles E. Burr, the missing member of the board of public service, who disappeared in March last after the grand jury had accepted an indictment against him for accepting a bribe in connection with the East Broad street paving scandal, and for selling material to the city from a firm in which he was interested, appeared at the court today and gave himself up. He has been in Canada since his flight, and arrived here last night. The county prosecutor saw him at Windsor and Burr promised to return and tell all he knows about the scandal.

FIREWORKS EDICT IS A GO

Proclamation of Mayor Takes Effect on Sellers of Explosives.

ONE ARREST WARNS DEALERS

Merchants Apply to Police for Information as to Exactly What They May Sell to Young America.

That fireworks proclamation goes. John Hempelman, a Cuming street grocer, against whom Cook filed a complaint Friday on the charge of selling revolvers and blank cartridges to boys, was released by Police Judge Crawford Saturday morning. It was found the minimum fine which could be applied under the city ordinance was \$5, and because of Hempelman's evident ignorance of the law the court was lenient. His arrest, however, has already begun to have a salutary effect on other dealers in fireworks, as several have called at the police station and asked what they could sell and what was forbidden. All sellers of revolvers and firecrackers beyond the legal limit in size, or toy cannons for shooting shotgun cartridges, will be prosecuted. The danger in allowing boys to carry revolvers was demonstrated by the case of the Postal Telegraph messenger, to whom Hempelman sold a .32-caliber pistol. The boy took the weapon to the office, loaded it with ball cartridges and commenced flourishing it about recklessly. Accidentally it snapped and a serious accident was prevented only by the fact that the cartridge was defective and was not discharged.

Captain Moser, acting chief of police, says all indications point to a "same" and quiet Fourth. Excepting the Hempelman incident no complaints have been filed and there has been very little premature shooting. On the Fourth both patrol wagons will be kept hitched and in readiness at the station in order to properly handle the possible excitement.

HORACE PLUNKETT AT HOME

Noted Irishman, Retired from Office, Invited to Make Omaha His Home.

Sir Horace Plunkett of Ireland is deeply interested in the welfare of Omaha and the west and has shown his faith in both by making large investments in property and improving what he owns. A frequent visitor to this country, he has made many friends who admire both his enterprise and his devotion to the betterment of his native land.

For many years past, under the premiership of Arthur Balfour, Mr. Plunkett has held the post of vice president of the Department of Agriculture of Ireland. The return of the liberal party in power last year made Mr. Plunkett's term of office precarious. "To the victors belong the spoils" is a political polity as deeply rooted in Great Britain as in the United States. His retirement from the office was delayed until last May because a successor satisfactory to the factions could not be found.

Anticipating his release from official care, General Manderson wrote to Sir Horace, suggesting there was plenty of room for his activities on this side of the water and expressing the hope that he might make Omaha his home.

Replying to General Manderson's letter, Sir Horace, under date of May 2, writes: "I am glad to know that you are interested in my work and aims. The machine has interrupted my work and captured my workshop, but although the nationalist representatives in Parliament in alliance with the biggest party majority ever returned at a British election, have ousted me, I don't think they have done any good either to themselves or their allies. They have aroused a strong public feeling in favor of my ideals, and I believe my retirement from office is the best piece of luck I have ever had. But time will be required to prove the truth or falsity of this view. One thing I can say for certain, I badly needed a rest."

"I should greatly like to go and work in the United States. I know I have some ideas which find favor with American thinkers on social and economic problems, but my first duty is to my own country, whose public life needs the help of men who don't mind being beaten."

Accompanying the letter is a clipping from the London Daily Mail of May 23, in which a correspondent, under the pen name "Hibernicus," details the work planned and put in operation by Sir Horace, and the reasons why the Irish nationalist party demanded and secured his political exile. The writer says, in part: "Sir Horace Plunkett belongs altogether to the category of men who 'do things.' The whole impulse of his mind and character is towards constructive work based upon reasoned principles. He is the one living Irishman, it has been said with perfect truth, who has left irrefragable material applications of his ideas in every nook and corner of Ireland."

"It was he who first perceived the possibilities and the necessity of agricultural co-operation in Ireland. The whole movement sprang from his brain, was inspired by his enthusiasm, and organized by his directing ability. The 90 odd co-operative societies, with their 90,000 members—representing some 400,000 people—and their turnover of nearly £2,000,000 a year, are the visible vindication of his plan. And what I may call their invisible vindication—the moral and social influence of the co-operative movement in bringing men of all classes, creeds, and parties together on a common platform of constructive efforts, in preaching and practicing the doctrine of self-help, and in teaching the peasant confidence in himself and his neighbors, thrift, responsibility and business like habits has had a value which those who know Ireland best will appreciate most."

In conclusion, "Hibernicus" asserted that political jobbery and political greed are the chief reasons for depriving Ireland of the services of an "earnest, zealous and loyal friend."

The Dublin correspondent of the True Voice of Omaha, in a recent letter referring to the case, has this to say: "Sir Horace Plunkett has been in the unfortunate position of being either worshipped or jumped upon. By his extreme admirers he has been held up almost as the patron saint of Ireland. By his extreme opponents he has been denounced as a hypocritical conspirator. Unprejudiced judges will decline to accept either of these evaluations, and will regard him as an averagely well-intentioned man who had thrown aside many of the narrow views which most of his coreligionists in Ireland cling to, and was honestly trying to act according to his lights. The Irish party have carried their point, but it may seriously be asked, was the game worth the candle? It is difficult to see what benefit is gained by his dismissal, and already the nationalist attitude towards him has been condemned as as needlessly severe. It certainly has not erred on the side of generosity."

Printers to Get Holiday. WASHINGTON, June 28.—By an executive order the employees of the government printing office will be given a half holiday on Saturday during July, August and September, the same as is given employees of other governmental departments.

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