

Politically England is in a bad way. Any nation is in a bad way politically when an alternative government ceases to be a possibility, and that is the position in which England is placed at the present time.

Political Condition of England

By LORD ROSEBERRY.

THE PEOPLE MUST KEEP THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT IN POWER WHETHER THEY APPROVE OF THE ACTS OF THAT GOVERNMENT OR NOT, BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE TO OFFER. The British empire can produce no remedy for the present administration of English affairs.

We cannot look to the Tory party for relief, we cannot look to the Liberal party for relief. Neither or both of these can give us that for which we seek—an alternative government.

The great mass of the English people believe, whether they say so or not, that the present government has grossly mismanaged England's affairs, yet this nation, a nation of proud traditions, of great imperial strength in the past, is to-day helpless before an administration of which the people do not approve because they can offer no alternative to it.

This statement contains the greatest disparagement Great Britain has ever known. None of her enemies, of which she has so many, could possibly say worse, but it is true—alas, too true.

If this condition is to continue, which God grant it may not, it is time for Englishmen to forswear their empire, to put up their shutters, and go and dig in their cabbage gardens. A nation that cannot produce an alternative government is more fit to control allotments than an empire.



ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS.

Immense Quantities Bought by Americans from the Little Town of Sebnitz in Saxony.

A notion of the enormous consumption of artificial flowers in this country is given by the fact that we imported during the last year about \$350,000 worth of such imitation blossoms, including leaves and plants, from Saxony alone, the bulk of them being manufactured at Sebnitz, a town 25 miles from Dresden and close to the boundary of Bohemia, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The origin of this great industry dates back to about 1840, the business making its first beginning with the arrival at Sebnitz of a few Bohemian artists skilled in flower making. For some time only a very inferior, cheap grade of flowers was turned out (chiefly of tissue and thin colored paper), which were bound together with fancy grasses and ferns, and peddled at the church steps and at village fairs.

Later on more serious attention was given to the matter, and paper was replaced by more substantial materials, such as cotton, silk, plush and velvet. At the present time Sebnitz is not only the center of the artificial flower trade in Germany, but the manufacturers there located compete quite successfully with their French rivals. The Franco-Prussian war, so disastrous to most branches of trade, was highly beneficial to the flower makers of Sebnitz, inasmuch as during the siege Paris was unable to fill its orders for such merchandise, and the little Saxon town, which has only 8,500 inhabitants, was called upon to supply the demand. This was practically the foundation of the town's export business in this line, and of its reputation throughout the world.

Such a notable impetus was then given to the trade of Sebnitz that many new factories were erected, and at the present time there are in Sebnitz and neighboring villages no fewer than 330 concerns engaged in manufacturing artificial flowers, leaves, plants and fruits, the largest firms employing from 250 to 1,000 persons.

Practically the entire population of Sebnitz is employed in the industry, which affords agreeable and light occupation for women and girls.

A special report on this interesting subject has been received by the department of state, and estimates the total exportation of artificial flowers from Sebnitz to foreign countries other than the United States at over \$1,600,000 per annum. Practically no machinery is used in the industry, though hand presses are employed for cutting out and embossing leaves and petals. Also quite an ingenious device is utilized for making cotton fruits, and an exception to the above statement is furnished by a machine that turns out stems for leaves and flowers.

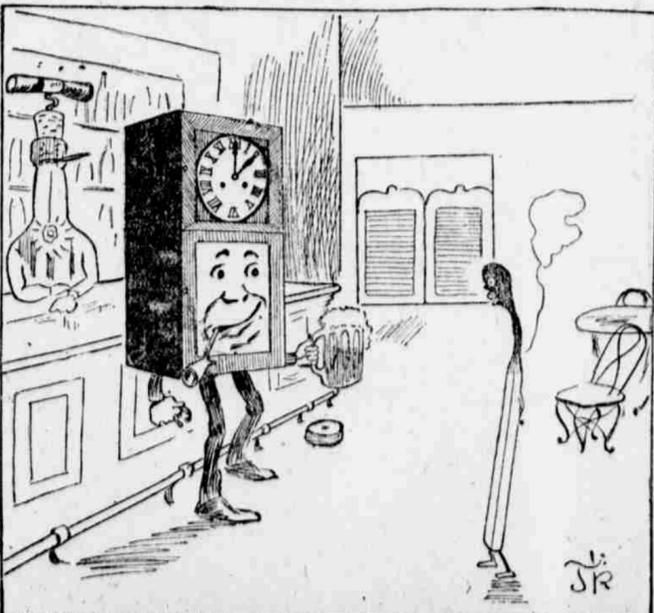
All the rest of the work, such as dyeing, coloring, stemming, shaping, shading, mounting, waxing and binding, is done by hand. Work is paid for by the dozen or gross, and earnings of the workpeople vary from \$7.50 to \$12.50 a month for women to \$8.75 to \$20 for men, according to age, kind of labor, skill and diligence. Children under 14 years of age are prohibited by law from working in the factories.

The making of artificial flowers in Saxony is a household industry, fully two-thirds of all the work being done at home by the employes, who are supplied with the cut materials ready for stemming, shaping, binding, etc. Thus a factory employing 100 persons on its premises will give out work to 200 to 400 people outside. There is hardly a house in the town or its neighborhood where artificial flowers are not made, and even the farmer, who works in the field in summer time, makes flowers during the winter. The tools used for cutting out the petals, leaves, etc., are made in Sebnitz and in Dresden, and they are quite elaborate and expensive, particularly those employed for cutting delicate fern leaves.

Law Helps Wives.

Husbands in Lunenburg, Prussia, must be home at 11 o'clock at night, or pay a fine of about \$2.50, half of which goes to the complainant, who is usually the wife.—N. Y. Sun.

MORE LABOR TROUBLES.



The Match—I have just gone out on a strike. The Clock—That's funny. I've just struck two.

BEAUTIFUL WOMEN WHO ENDORSE PERUNA.



Miss Lenore Allen, 407 Dowell Street, San Francisco, Cal., writes: "I consider Peruna an infallible remedy for catarrhal diseases. For several years I have been troubled with influenza, especially during our rainy season. I used to catch cold so easily that I was afraid to be out when the weather was the least bit inclement, or in the evening air. But since I have used Peruna I have nothing whatever the matter with me. I am in perfect health, and find that Peruna acts as a tonic, and seems to throw all sickness and disease out of the body. I go anywhere now and in all kinds of weather, seem to have an iron constitution and enjoy life because I enjoy perfect health."

Miss Mattie Douglass, 138 Thomas ave., Memphis, Tenn., writes:

"From my early womanhood I have been troubled with occasional headaches. I took different powders and drugs, at times getting temporary relief. One of my friends advised me to try Peruna, which I did. I soon found that my general health improved, and my entire system was toned up.

"I felt a buoyancy of body and lightness of mind I had not known before and my headaches have completely disappeared, and I have enjoyed perfect health for over a year. I gladly endorse Peruna." MATTIE DOUGLASS.

Women from all parts of the United States and Canada are testifying daily to the virtue of Peruna. Only a few of these letters can ever be published.

Write for a book of testimonials of the cures Peruna has made.

Peruna Makes Clean, Healthy Mucous Membranes—Catarrhal Diseases Disappear Permanently.

The mucous membrane is to the inside of the body what the skin is to the outside of the body. It lines every organ duct and cavity. Catarrhal inflammation attacking one part is liable to spread to other parts. A neglected cold or slight catarrh is often the cause of lingering and dangerous catarrh.

Women are naturally more susceptible to inclemencies of the weather than men. With them a cold is often the starting point of some severe pelvic derangement, causing much pain and suffering.

Every woman needs a remedy upon which she can rely to keep her system fortified against the trying weather of winter and early spring. If Peruna is taken at the first symptom of a cold it will cure it before it develops into some annoying catarrhal derangement.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case, and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, O.

REFLECTIONS OF A SICK MAN.

When the doctor comes, he always laughs at you.

When the medicine makes you sick, and you complain to the doctor, he says: "That's what I expected; that's what I intended it to do."

When you are hungry you are ashamed to acknowledge it, and, if your nurse is very particular, you are liable to suffer from hunger.

When there is a knock on the door, you think it is an inquiring friend, and try to look as pale and wan as possible, and then discover that it is a little girl who wants to borrow butter.

A STRONG STATEMENT.

Star, Wis., Feb. 10th.—Mr Samuel S. Hook, one of the most highly respected residents of this neighborhood, has given a very hearty recommendation to Dodd's Kidney Pills, a remedy recently introduced here. He says:

"I have been a sufferer from Kidney Disease for some time and found nothing to help me till I began to use Dodd's Kidney Pills. They gave me almost immediate relief, and I am now well. I have recommended them to many friends and in every case with splendid results.

"They are the very best pills for all kinds of ailments, but especially for Kidney Complaints."

This is a very strong statement, and coming from a gentleman of Mr. Hook's standing and reputation, it has had a tremendous influence in Vernon county.

THE GENUINE TOWER'S FISH BRAND POMMEL SLICKER. BLACK OR YELLOW. WILL KEEP YOU DRY. NOTHING ELSE WILL. LOOK FOR ABOVE TRADE MARK. TAKE NO SUBSTITUTES. CATALOGUE FREE. SHOWING FULL LINE OF GARMENTS AND HATS. A. J. TOWER CO., BOSTON, MASS.

OPIUM WHISKY and other drug store cases. Read and references. P. P. P. Dr. H. H. WOODMAN, one of the best...

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 For 10c—Worth \$10
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Allen's Ulcerine Salve
 Cures Chronic Ulcers, Bone Ulcers, Scrofulous Ulcers, Varicose Ulcers, Indolent Ulcers, Necrotic Ulcers, White Swelling, Mill Lows, Fever Sores, and all sores of long duration...
DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY; gives quick relief and cures worst cases...
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 CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.
 Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.