

MRS. POTTER PALMER WINS

Triumph of Chicago's Social Queen Over Waldorf Astor.

PRIMA DONNA SINGS FOR HER

Mr. and Mrs. Astor Entertain Royalty—A Fair Slow Because of Death of King Oscar.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—(Special.)—Mrs. Potter Palmer has scored over William Waldorf Astor. The wealthy Chicago widow, who spends only half her time in England, was triumphed over the expatriated American plutocrat, who has sworn that he will never revisit his native land again.

And this is how it comes about. For some years past Mr. Astor has been in the habit of giving two or three private concerts during his London sojourn at his town residence in Carlton House Terrace. His aim has always been to make his private concerts superior to any other that takes place in England. And he generally succeeds by virtue of his great wealth, which enables him to engage the best professional talent procurable, regardless of the fees demanded.

It was natural, therefore, that after Tetrazzini had made such a tremendous hit at Covent Garden, he should seek to engage her for one or more of his own forthcoming private musical entertainments. Possibly he might have succeeded, as he has done in other terms, but for the fact, so the story goes, he wanted the prima donna to agree that she would not sing at any other private concert during the season. In other words he wanted to make a "corner" in Tetrazzini. The prima donna, however, at this time, is a high-spirited woman and declared that she would not submit to any restrictions as regarded her private engagements, no matter how big the fee that might be offered her.

Steals March on Astor.

Mrs. Potter Palmer, who is in America, may have heard something of this. She has friends in London, who keep her posted on what is going on in the social world here while she is filling her winter role of Chicago's social queen. Anyhow, she conceived the notion of getting Tetrazzini to sing for her at two private parties, which she intended giving at her London residence, Hampden House, this summer. She cabled over to the Florentine nightingale, so I am told, and the arrangement was made. Tetrazzini will sing twice for Mrs. Palmer and will not sing at all for the Waldorf Astor. Just now Hampden House is being made up and span in readiness for the honeymoon couple, the hostess's son and his bride-to-be, Miss Kohlsaat of Chicago. Rumor has it that Mr. Potter Palmer means to have a London house of his own, but I cannot say if this is true. Hampden House is such a big mansion—though externally a hideously plain one—that his mother would have no difficulty in providing accommodation for both him and his wife whenever they want to take a fling in London.

The party that assembled at Cliveden at the invitation of Mr. Astor, Jr., and his wife "to meet" the duke and duchess of Connaught was distinguished, but I am told that for sheer unmitigated dullness the affair was a record one. Of course this was in consequence of the death of the king of Sweden. At first it was intimated to the Astors that the Connaughts could not go. Mrs. Astor, however, wrote and said it would be a very quiet gathering and that if the duchess wished there would be neither music nor bridge. So they went. As my friend explained to me, "One was made to feel all the time that the Connaughts were doing something very wrong and were afraid of being found out." The result was that all the rest of the guests felt it incumbent on them to assume an air of dignified gravity and the host and hostess must have been thankful when the day for departure arrived and they saw their royal friends off the premises. As a rule the Connaught family are a breezy crowd and they love Americans because of their liveliness and unconventionality.

Mrs. Astor's Jewels.

One pleasure at least Mrs. Astor had. She was enabled to exhibit her amazing jewels, which showed up all the more gloriously because of the black dresses she was wearing out of deference to the fact that the Connaughts were doing something very wrong and were afraid of being found out. The result was that all the rest of the guests felt it incumbent on them to assume an air of dignified gravity and the host and hostess must have been thankful when the day for departure arrived and they saw their royal friends off the premises. As a rule the Connaught family are a breezy crowd and they love Americans because of their liveliness and unconventionality.

Lady Page's Bodice.

At her royal dinner party the other night Lady Page's bodice, which was practically composed of diamonds, aroused more interest than the king himself. Even her shoulder straps were of diamonds, with just a softening of white tulle. She wore no hair, only a single crimson rose in her hair. She was the observed of all as she went in to dinner on the king's arm. Though still lame, it is hoped she will not be so always. But I think she looks younger than before her accident. She makes no secret of the fact that she is delighted to have her daughter settled down and off her hands. Daughters are an affliction to a really smart mother and the office of chaperone is a most trying one.

The Duchess of Roxburgh.

The duchess of Roxburgh was one of the guests at the dinner. She wore a spray of white robes in diamonds which reached across her bodice from shoulder to shoulder. It was a gift from her mother, Mrs. Ogden Goulet. Its effect, however, was nothing like so sensational as that produced by the diamonds of the American hostess. The king has never cared for flowers on the dinner table, considering them a nuisance, as they interfere with his vision. Before all things he likes to have a good view of everyone sitting at his table. This having come to the knowledge of Mrs. Lolla Harcourt, she decided to revive an old notion for the king's delectation. The dinner table of the American hostess when she last entertained the king was entirely bereft of blossoms. Instead there was a superb display of exquisite old cut glass, the dinner service being of old Sevres. A kind of conference of the kind in vogue among the French aristocracy about a century and a half ago was used. LADY MARY.

POLICE CAPTURE TERRORIST

Parisian Officers Take Woman Believed to Have Assisted Band at Tills.

PARIS, Jan. 18.—The police of this city have captured a woman named Rosalia A. Empastak, who is believed to have been a member of the Russian terrorists' band that in July last year secured \$200,000 for its cause.

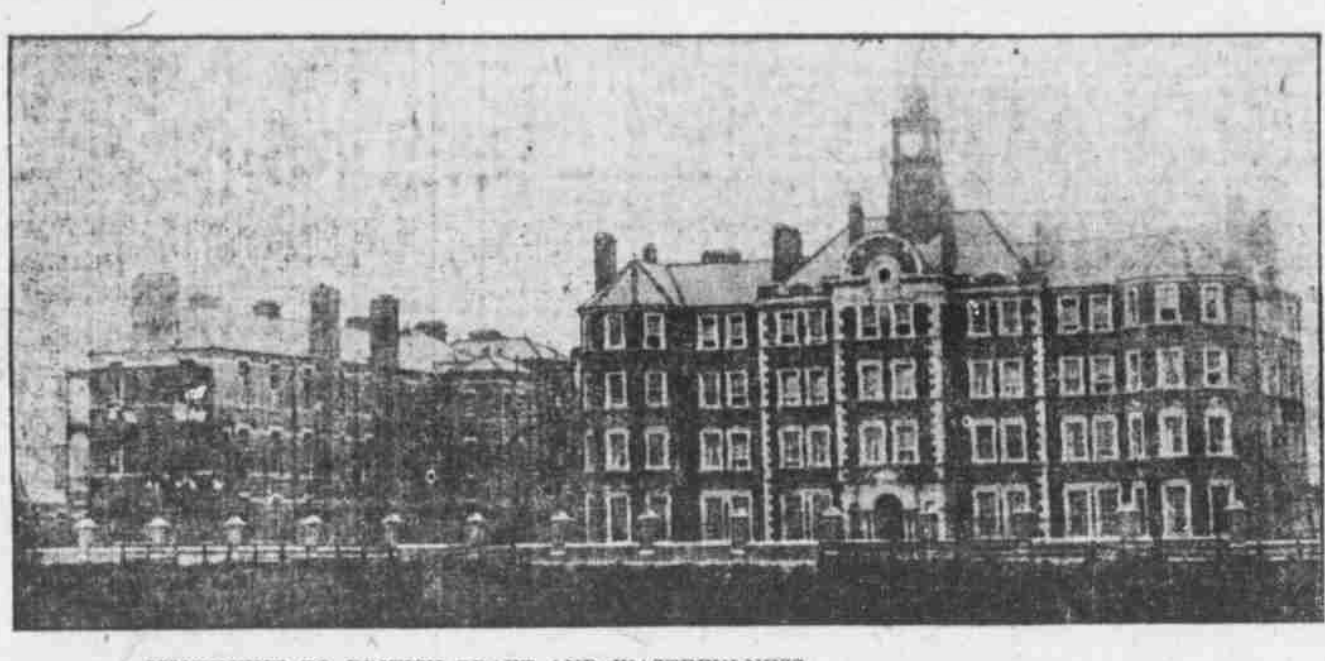
Standard Times of the Moon's Rising, Meridian Passage and Setting, at Omaha, During 1908.

Table with columns for months (JANUARY to DECEMBER) and rows for moon phases (Rise, M.P., Set). Includes a small table for 'Computed at the Creighton University Observatory.'

Computed at the Creighton University Observatory.

The dot between the hours and minutes indicate P. M. We are not done, however. We all know that vast sections of the same country, say exactly the same time to the second, as, for example, the whole Mississippi valley uses what is known as nineteenth meridian, or central time. Now, it is evident that when I see the sun set behind a hill, a friend of mine, living some miles to the west of me, surely does not see the sun setting at the same moment; his day will come a little later, while it has closed some minutes sooner for my eastern friend. We will, therefore, without calling in expensive experts for consultation, consider the case closed, and with perfect unanimity admit, that while the almanac we have in hand is not correct for Omaha, it may be, and let us say it magnanimously, probably is, surely is correct for the places for which it was computed. As it is, or ought always be, the case in a reconciliation, when one party is generous and noble in yielding up what it considers its sure right, the other party will not permit itself to be outdone. With this idea in view, we present herewith a table giving the times of moonrise and moonset for Omaha for the year 1908. It has entailed a large amount of computation, but the cause was worth it. Now, to prevent the possibility of a re-

Graft Rampant in English Municipal Undertakings



MONUMENT TO BRITISH GRAFT AND WASTEFULNESS. The palatial Hammarham work house, which cost \$1,625 for each of the paupers it was designed to house. It is equipped with baths, that cost \$75 each and a system of electric lighting King Edward thought too expensive for Buckingham Palace.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—(Special.)—Englishmen who enjoyed talking about the corruption and dishonesty in American municipal life are singing very small just now. Even the most patriotic Briton is apt to feel that for him to abuse America on this score is dangerously like the pot calling the kettle black.

It has always been the boast of Englishmen that all departments of their government were free from corruption and to a great extent this has been the case. Lately, however, there has been a rude awakening. Investigation after investigation into the workings of various Boards of Guardians has disclosed a state of affairs which would put to shame the greatest grafters that Tammany Hall or the Philadelphia ring ever produced. It is true that the amounts of money involved in the English disclosures were smaller than those that



JOHN BURNS, Ex-labor leader, who, as president of the local government board, has taken the lead in exposing municipal graft in England.

we are accustomed to hear about from America, but the only reason that this was so was that the amounts that could be stolen were smaller. Working on the percentage basis, the British grafters have far eclipsed his American cousin. The one man to whom the credit for all this house-cleaning is due is John Burns, the ex-labor leader and socialist, who is now a member of the Cabinet as president of the Local Government Board. This board has jurisdiction over the work of all the local elected bodies and is expected to watch them and exercise a check on their expenditures. Until the advent of John Burns, however, it was chiefly conspicuous for its inaction.

Market Price Doubled.

This was not the end of the graft in connection with the wretched houses. When the houses were bought it was discovered that they were badly in need of repairs and experts testified that the repair work was done by the only contractor who could save for at just twice the market price. Some of the contractors were paid as much as 100 per cent more than the original value of these houses on their repairs, and one member of the board who was asked why this was so, gravely explained that pauper children were very hard on houses.

Political Workhouse.

At Greenwich an investigation showed that checks for \$125 had passed between contractors and guardians and that there was irregularity of much the same sort as that proved at West Ham. At Hammarham, where a palatial workhouse, superior in many respects to the king's palace, has been built, the grossest extravagance was shown, and officials whose duty it was to watch the work of contractors admitted that they had received presents from them. It was shown that the building and equipment of this workhouse cost \$1,675 for each of the paupers it was designed to house. Baths which cost \$75 each were fitted, and a system of electric lighting and wiring was installed which had actually been rejected by the king when it was proposed for Buckingham Palace, because he considered it altogether too expensive. Experts swore that \$5,000 had been wasted on this lighting system alone. The total cost of the workhouse was nearly \$1,500,000, and it was stated that it could have been built for little more than \$1,000,000 and that a building which would have been in every way as serviceable could have been secured for \$500,000.

The investigation into the affairs of the Mile End Board of Guardians, which is now in progress, has shown an equally amazing state of affairs. The guardians there had a system of maintaining the pauper children in what are known as scattered homes, which means that a dozen or more children in charge of a matron and superintendent are installed in an ordinary dwelling house and form a sort of poor law family. The Mile End Guardians a few years ago wanted half a dozen more houses for their scattered homes. Six houses were offered to them at \$150 each. They refused the offer, and a few weeks later

newly misunderstanding, a few precautions must be premised. The first is that this table is computed for the city of Omaha. For every fifteen miles east or west of Omaha the difference will be one minute, sooner for the east, later for the west. For every twelve miles north or south the difference will be one minute or fraction thereof, sooner or later, wherever the moon happens to be. More accurate terms cannot be used here, since they would prove uninteresting and technical. Secondly, all hills are supposed to be removed, and, of course, the houses on the horizon line, and the sun and moon are always seen to rise on schedule time. To the west the hills are about two lunar diameters above the horizon, so that the heavenly bodies set obliquely, sunset and moonset occur about six minutes too soon. Thirdly, about once a month the moon does not rise at all. What becomes of it? Well, there is nothing to be alarmed at; everything goes on in its usual way. Let the reader look at the first column, which gives the time of rising for January. He will notice that, as an average, moonrise occurs about an hour later every day.

PEER WITH MANY HOBBIES

Lord Blythwood at Work on New Flying Machine.

PRECIOUS STONES BY CHEMICALS

In a Pine Laboratory He Pursues Numerous Experiments in Chemistry and Mechanics.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—(Special.)—When the famous French noble "La Patrie" betrays and went voyaging on its own account it had been seen sailing over Clydebank in Scotland. It subsequently turned out that it was a huge box kite with which Lord Blythwood had been experimenting that had been mistaken for the French aerial derelict. That has called attention to the scientific hobbies and achievements of this remarkable peer. If there were many more men with the brains and ability of Lord Blythwood in the House of Lords little would be heard of the popular clamor for the abolition of that venerable institution. As it is, he is one of the exceptions, which proves the rule that mediocrity is the mental characteristic of most of the hereditary legislators.

OTHER BANKS TAKE BUSINESS

Bankers' Association of Canada Handles Affairs of Sovereign Institution.

TORONTO, Ont., Jan. 18.—When customers of the head office in Toronto and seventy-six branches throughout Canada called at the Sovereign Bank of Canada, they found other banks in possession as a result of a transferance of all business of the Sovereign bank to the Bankers' Association of Canada, consequent upon the decision of the Sovereign bank to go into liquidation. There will be no interruption so far as the Sovereign bank's customers are concerned. Other banks will take care of the bank's business. Difficulty may be created, however, in the case of the borrowers of the Sovereign bank. From early last evening until early this morning meetings were held in all the banks to discuss the situation created by the liquidation. The officials of the banks interested in the financing of the various branches of the Sovereign bank were engaged in making arrangements to obviate any panic following today's announcement.

Russian Discount Lowered.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 18.—The rate of discount of the state bank was lowered today from 7 1/2 to 7 per cent.

Advertisement for Newbro's Herpicide hair treatment. Includes text: 'GOING! GOING!! GONE!!! HERPICIDE WILL SAVE IT. HERPICIDE WILL SAVE IT TOO LATE FOR HERPICIDE. SAVE YOUR HAIR WITH NEWBRO'S HERPICIDE. The time to save your hair, is while you have hair to save. Newbro's hair, after which the hair is bound to grow as nature intended (except in cases of chronic baldness.) Herpicide stops itching of scalp almost instantly. Herpicide kills the germs that causes dandruff, itching scalp and falling cases of chronic baldness. Herpicide stops itching of scalp almost instantly. You very kindly sent me a bottle of your Herpicide and I gladly answer your inquiry as to its qualities. I have used it now for some time and know it to be the best thing for the hair I have ever used. It keeps my hair free from dandruff and as soft as silk. I have induced several of my friends to use it and they are pleased with it. (Signed) W. S. SHOOK, Washita, Tenn.

big box kite which was mistaken for the "La Patrie" was one that he used for testing wind pressure. The artificial manufacture of precious stones is another matter to which he is devoting much attention. It has been discovered that when the mineral corundum, which is a colorless crystal of exactly the same nature as the topaz, amethyst, ruby and sapphire, is placed close to radium for a period of about two months, it changes to the color of one of these gems. Two specimens of Hithwood, which have been under the influence of a speck of radium for several weeks, are already of a beautiful topaz color. The permanency of the color has not yet been proven, but under every possible test these stones are indistinguishable from the gems they represent.

Lord Blythwood is 72 years old, has white hair, with little about him, save his snow-white hair and beard to suggest the typical savant, which may be accounted for by the fact that he has other interests besides science. He is a keen sportsman and particularly fond of fishing. He goes actively for politics and is one of the bulwarks of the conservative party in the west of Scotland. Before a peerage was conferred upon him in 1882 he was for



LORD BLYTHWOOD IN HIS WORKSHOP.

MASTERS AND MEN WILL ACT

Commercial Parliament Convenes in Paris to Resist Encroachments of Revolutionists.

PARIS, Jan. 18.—The significant events marking the growing determination of the conservative classes to resist the encroachments of revolutionary socialism were observed here today. The first is the initial meeting of the "commercial parliament." The chief aim of this parliament is to meet the socialists on their own ground by promoting joint action between masters and men. The second event is the appearance in Paris today of a weekly paper called Opinion, on the model of the London Spectator. The purpose of the publication is to marshal conservative republican opinion of all shades against the demands of collectivism, such as premature aspirations for disarmament, etc. The prime movers in this movement are Paul Doumer, former president of the Chamber of Deputies, ex-Premier Ribot and Alexander Miller, former minister of commerce.