

HOLLAND AWAITS AN HEIR

ation Ready to Welcome Its Future Ruler.

FUTURE OF COUNTRY AT STAKE

Should Queen Wilhelmina Give Birth to a Son the Rejoicing Will Be Unbounded—Royal Nursery Has Been Prepared.

THE HAGUE, March 19.—The advent of an heir apparent to the throne of Holland is a prospect which causes the heart of every patriotic Dutchman to beat higher. For Holland, of course, the question of the continuation or the extinction of the house of Orange-Nassau is of paramount importance inasmuch as the latter contingency would mean either the blotting out of the kingdom as The Netherlands as a separate entity or else a return to its seventeenth century status of a commonwealth.

Since Germany inaugurated a more ambitious naval policy some few years ago these possibilities have formed the subject of grave considerations in more than one European chancery. Twice already the hopes of the young queen have been disappointed, and her subsequent state of health gave rise to all sorts of rumors as regards her ability to ever give an heir to the nation.

British Succession Simple.

The Dutch succession is really a simple enough question, seeing that, contrary to the state of affairs in many other European countries, there are no pretenders or claimants to the throne. Fate indeed has not dealt kindly with the house of Orange during the last half century. King William III, the present queen's father, saw the sons of his first marriage die childless after they reached majority, and his brother and uncle also died without leaving male heirs. With what tense expectancy the son of William's second marriage with Princess Emma of Waldeck Pymont was awaited those who were in Holland at the time of Wilhelmina's birth can testify.

"Apart from the purely technical origin of the reigning house of Holland, it has on several occasions received further admixture of German blood since the congress of Vienna in 1814 remodelled the map of Europe and William I assumed the style of king of The Netherlands. For this monarch married a Prussian royal princess, and his grandson, William III, went for his two consorts, first to the court of Wurttemberg and then to the principality of Waldeck Pymont, while the union of Queen Wilhelmina, the last direct representative of the Orange-Nassaus, with Duke Henry of Mecklenburg in 1901 is of too recent date to need comment.

Collateral Heirs.

Falling an heir, male or female—for the Galle law does not operate in Holland—the nearest candidate in line of succession would have been Prince William of Veld, whose mother was the only daughter of William III's uncle, Frederick. But the prince of Veld died in 1907, leaving an offspring of very tender age. Since then the chances of the grown-up sons of the late Prince Henry VII of Reuss, whose consort was a daughter of Princess Sophia, William III's only sister, have been considered. These are, of course, purely German princes, holding commissions in the German army and navy, and their willingness to press their somewhat remote claim on the Dutch throne if occasion arose has so far been understood to be doubtful in the extreme.

Reasons of state prescribe precautions to be taken in view of the possibility of the queen dying childless. A council of state would take the reins of government, but it is unlikely that Prince Henry of the Netherlands, the queen's consort, would have more than the courtesy title of president of the assembly.

Of Queen Wilhelmina's personal popularity among her subjects there cannot be the slightest doubt. For the majority of the Dutch she has since her childhood presented the hope of the nation, and even those whose leanings are toward the re-establishment of the United Provinces sympathize with her over her disappointed hopes of motherhood.

All Holland and the Nursery.

And so all Holland is waiting eagerly for the event which is to affect its destinies so powerfully. Everything is ready for the arrival of the expected little stranger at the unpretentious royal palace at The Hague.

The nursery occupies part of the second story of the palace, comprising six wide and spacious apartments, besides separate rooms for the attendants. The wing of the castle has been remodelled in its entirety.

The walls and ceilings of all the rooms have been scraped, and new woodwork, as well as new floors, heating apparatus and hot and cold water have been put in under the queen's own supervision. She decided the plans from English and American models, ordering that everything old-fashioned about the nursery be abolished, and updating that she would have none of the old-time nursery with its unsanitary surroundings.

The only old-fashioned things about the nursery are the various cradles, heliconas in the Nassau royal family, some of them nearly as large as a state coach. The queen had them thoroughly overhauled and only their elaborate shells remain.

It is the custom in Holland to use pink ribbons and pink lining for the cradle curtains when a girl would be most welcome, light blue when a boy is hoped for. So the Hague women inquired what color the queen would prefer for the cradle. The dip-

ALONG THE GOLDEN HORN

Constantinople, Too, Has Its Bridge Crush.

DAILY JAM BECOMES NUISANCE

Patchwork Structure on Which Many Races Meet—Beggars, Peddlers, Priests, Porters, Officials in the Crowd.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 21.—Every year or two the European inhabitants of Constantinople are aroused to a certain amount of enthusiasm by the prospect of having a new bridge to take the place of the patchwork structure that now serves as the main connection between Stamboul and Pera—the Turkish and the European quarters of the city. At the request of the Ottoman government various engineering firms throughout Europe have frequently made proposals, and laid down plans for this undertaking; but with the Turk's customary reply that he would look into the matter the government has carefully docketed and pigeonholed each plan without giving it any further attention.

Under the old regime an American once offered to build a suspension bridge from the heights of Stamboul to those of Pera in exchange for concessions to lay electric tramways throughout the city. But Abdul Hamid wanted no such improvements. Dynamite sounded to him suspiciously like dynamite and the entrance of all machinery into the country was strictly prohibited. The old pontoon bridge was good enough for his ancestors, and so, continually patched and repatched, it is quite good enough for the present day Turk, many thousands of whom, with their clothes hanging together in mysterious manner, resemble externally the ancient bridge.

Adventure of a Steamer.

Since the construction of a new bridge has again arisen, and a firm of engineers recently offered to rebuild it for \$300,000. While this proposal was "under consideration" by the Turkish government an English steamer in leaving its anchorage last month had the effrontery to carry away a portion of the Stamboul end of the bridge. And for this little exhibition of its prowess its owners had to pay \$20,000, which amount naturally comes in very handy for some long needed repairs.

For several days after the accident no attempt was made to construct a temporary passageway, the Turk contenting himself with exclaiming "Kismet die" (it is fate)! But when the thousands of boatmen, pack drivers, beggars and carriages that daily use the bridge were forced to cross the Golden Horn either in caiques or make a long detour round the Azab Kapou bridge further up the stream, which meant a loss to the government of from \$1,000 to \$1,500 a day, the Turk awoke to the fact that something must be done.

And though today carriages are still unable to get across, pedestrians are able to get to the other side by means of a triple flight of narrow steps and a passage connecting with the shore. At the head of these steps you are frequently obliged to wait for the passage of a heavy flock of sheep, bewildered and dazed, is induced to ascend, or while four hamals, getting their long poles entangled, leisurely proceed to solve the difficulty of lifting their heavy burden to the bridge.

About a week after the departure of the English steamer a huge umbrella, twenty feet in diameter was set up near the former entrance to the bridge, an here some half a dozen workmen began repairing operations. But perhaps owing to intense cold and incessant falls of snow or to the fact that there are three days of rest in honor of the Jews and Sundays for the Greeks and Armenians—the progress of their work is very slow.

Crossing the Bridge.

When in its customary everyday working order it is a source of wonder to many people how the London bridge of Constantinople (as the old pontoon bridge is often called) manages to keep together its unequal planks of ancient timber and how it supports the constant flow of heavy traffic which abates only at nightfall, for a hundred thousand fares are taken daily from carriages, and pedestrians, exclusive of the soldiers and police, the maimed, the lame, the halt and the blind, and all sick persons, to whom the bridge is free. An American girl recently visiting Constantinople for the first time was amazed at having her metallic (1 cent) returned politely by the collector, who, pointing to the crutch with which she was walking, indicated by his gesticulations that her "wooden leg" exempted her from the toll.

To Announce the Event.

As soon as the doctors go to the palace a battery of artillery is to be put up in the Malleveld, a large open space at the entrance of the Hague Wood. Men with flags will be stationed along the route from the palace to the Malleveld. As soon as the royal baby is born they will communicate the news from one to another with different signals for a prince or a princess. Then the cannon will boom forth the happy news of the queen's deliverance. Telephones and telegraph will convey the news to every part of the country and the colonies.

As soon as the queen has regained her strength the royal family will go to the queen's country residence of "Loe," where she spent the greater part of her happy childhood, under the old trees in the healthy Gelderland air.

Plagues of the Passages.

It is practically impossible to walk upon the narrow footway, for when it is not occupied by hamals, who frequently stand and chat with a friend while resting their load and one of the stands placed here for their benefit, it is covered with loathsome looking beggars of all ages.

One of the young Turk's first attempts at reform was to banish these plagues from the bridge. But they were unsuccessful. For one short week only were pedestrians allowed to pass unmolested, then every beggar was back in his place and the popular and legitimate business of begging grew on as before. It is said that one man makes it his business to collect from all over the empire such monstrosities as are to be found and to bring them to the capital; and all the deformed beggars acknowledge him as their chief. Many poor women injure their infants in the sure knowledge that they can then earn a good living later in this country where labor is so plentiful and ill paid.

Side by side upon the footway are round faced, wide eyed babies, hardly able to walk, but having been taught by their mothers, they repeat over and over again mechanically a verse from the Quran intended to move passersby to pity. There are too blind boys, boys without legs, youths with shriveled arms and men

Miller, Stewart & Beaton 418-15-17 South 16th Street Sale of Room-Size Rugs Tomorrow we offer three hundred room-size rugs at prices cut 33 1-3 and 25 per cent. You will find a remarkably pretty collection of domestic rugs. Patterns in all sorts of artistic color effects; sizes for parlor, reception room, library, hall, den, dining room and bed room. Patterns shown to suit nearly all schemes of decorations:

Table listing various rug types and prices, including Brussels Rug, Wilton Velvet Rug, Axminster Rugs, and German Saxony.

Sale of Printed and Inlaid Linoleum The greatest attraction for this week's showing is the Clearance Sale of Printed and Inlaid Linoleum. We have nearly one full car of these goods which must be disposed of.

Draperies and Curtains Every kind of curtain, nothing that the spring season calls for is omitted from this, largest of all drapery stocks—either for door or window. The variety in styles is almost endless. Plenty of pretty patterns whether you are outfitting a new home or replenishing. The expense need be trifling and nothing adds more to the beauty and attractiveness of your home than pretty curtains and draperies.

Stamboul, silhouetting the great Suleimanet mosque with its six graceful minarets, business men swell the crowd bending its steps toward Pera, where buildings of every description—imposing embassies, houses of wood and colored plaster—are seen between the masts of thousands of boats at anchor. Tongues of fire shoot out from the horizon, and while the heavens change gradually from red to brilliant orange, gold, yellow, green, purple and soft blue, you realize how the narrow horn of water stretching in the distance came by its name—for at the moment even this is turned to gold.

The Blood is the Power That Defends the Body This is the greatest and most important discovery of modern medical science. It ranks with the discovery of the circulation of the blood, which was made centuries ago. The blood protects the organs and tissues from disease, but it does so only when it is healthy itself. Healthy blood is pure blood, and at no season is it more necessary than IN THE SPRING when there is so much exposure to disease germs. Hood's Sarsaparilla makes healthy blood. It is the medicine that purifies and enriches the blood and makes it normal in red and white corpuscles and all other constituents.

Slightly Disfigured But Still in the Ring All coal orders will be filled from our South or Central Yard until we can accumulate a new supply at the North Yard where the fire was. If you order from us you will receive dry, clean, high grade coal just the same as ever. Our stock of Building Materials at the North Yard was not touched by the fire and we can take care of North Side business right.