

Political and Social News of the Old World Reported by Special Cable and Correspondence

FOX SKIN SELLS AT FANCY PRICE

Twenty-Five Hundred Dollars for an Undressed Skin Paid in London.

OTHER SIDE OF PICTURE PLAIN

One Hundred and Twenty-Five Persons Starve to Death.

LORD KITCHENER A FATALIST

Famous Fighter Strong in His Own Little Beliefs.

TWELVE HUNDRED WARSHIPS

Keels of More Than that Many Have Been Laid at Royal Navy Yards in Thames in Four Centuries.

BY PAUL LAMBETH.

LONDON, April 30.—(Special Dispatch to The Bee.)—Twenty-five hundred dollars for an undressed foxskin seems almost incredible and yet that sum was paid at the recent spring sale in London. Another skin of the same sort went at the bargain price of \$2,500 because it had a few more white hairs in it than are permitted to enable a skin to rank as a "Furrier's Laird." By the time this \$2,500 skin reaches its destined wearer it will be worth \$4,000 and it would take two skins to make a stole. The color fades in the wearing, so that this costly fur will very shortly be worth only a third of its present value. Vanity, they name as really man's foe, truth to tell, it is only in a country where the magnificence of his woman's clothes flatters a man's self-esteem that colossal sums will be spent on them.

While these are the most valuable furs, there are others estimated to make an ordinary man think he is dreaming when he knows the value paid for them. Next to the costly furs are the long moose-gray or dark sea otter skins. Sea otters once abounded in the Bering sea and even as far down as Vancouver. But they are not prolific, and more than a century of slaughter has rendered them scarce. The Russians buy these skins for 500 apiece and will take them in part payment for their wealthy nobles.

Dark Siberian sables, about a foot long and nearly as wide, sold for from \$150 to \$200 each. All furs are advancing enormously in price. Silver foxes, with a skin of 100 per cent. Since March, 1909, the rate and upward came next with 25 per cent. Real skins, worth only 50 each, forty years ago, are now worth \$50 each. So it goes through the entire list. My lady if she would be far clad must pay for it.

Sordid Tragedy of Life.

In cold prose a return just issued by the local government board, tells a series of stories as terrible as ever made hideous the pages of the realistic novelist. The tragic fact that no fewer than 125 persons died of starvation or had their deaths accelerated by privation, in England and Wales in 1909 is revealed by this return. Of these deaths fifty-two occurred in London and seventy-three in the provinces. Details of each case are packed in a reading, and in one case that of a former bank manager of Southwark, aged 61, fainting from the results of starvation and exposure, he fell on a stone corridor, fractured his skull and died of the effects. Another example of distress is given by the case of an old agricultural laborer. He had been employed in a brewery, which had pensioned him off. But about three years before his death the pension had to cease, owing to the financial difficulties of the brewery. "Since then," grimly states the return, "he had only obtained occasional work, and he was unable to work through rheumatism. He was perished with cold, without applying to his children or to the relieving officer for any help or assistance." In two cases the jury returned a verdict that death was caused solely by starvation. In sixteen cases death was ascribed to starvation in conjunction with other causes.

King to See the Rear.

When the king returns to this country he will proceed against immediately to Newmarket to see the race for the 2,000 guineas, and will then return to town, where he will remain almost entirely throughout the season, paying but a brief visit to Windsor. His majesty hopes to pay several week-end visits to his personal friends this summer, and intimations of his already been conveyed to several whom his majesty proposes to honor.

Monks on Roller Skates.

Chimpanzees that roller skate are the latest society craze. They are being broken in and trained by a firm of London importers and supplied to fashionable people as pets. After a few months' training the chimpanzee is said to be as far as any monkey and an acquisition in any home. Roller skating is an "extraneous" of his education. He is taught primarily to dress himself, to eat and drink, and to comport himself generally like a little boy.

Record for the Navy Yard.

The laying out of the keel of the new (Continued on Page Three.)

MORGAN BEARS IN ART MARKET

American Collector Declines to Be Victim Any Longer.

TIRES OF EXTORTION BY SHARPS

European Dealers Finally Kill Game that Laid Golden Eggs by Raising Up Prices on Pictures and Other Art Objects.

BY CLEMENT J. BARRIETT.

ROME, April 30.—(Special Dispatch to The Bee.)—Pierpont Morgan intended to spend in Europe within the next year or two not less than \$20,000,000 in art treasures to take to the United States. He has according to those friends here of the great American financier and art collector, decided to change his plans entirely and will probably spend practically nothing.

This change of plan, I was told today by a close friend of Mr. Morgan, is due to what appears to be a widespread conspiracy on the part of European dealers and owners of art objects to put the price of artwork at absurdly high prices. Mr. Morgan does not count dollars when it comes to getting anything he wants, but he has fully developed the American business man's objection to being held up.

Of recent years a movement has been growing in Europe, headed by Germany, to stop the alleged denudations of the public and private art collections by American buyers and it has resulted in the placing of absurdly high values on art objects when an American is the prospective purchaser. Now that art, at least in 1910, is admitted for duty in the United States, it was anticipated that the "American drain" would be greater than ever, but in view of the "hold up" policy advocated by Germany it is doubtful if this will be the case for a while at least.

It is believed here that other rich Americans will follow Mr. Morgan's lead, and will stop the market for a while until art prices reach a reasonable level.

New Portrait of Christ.

A new portrait of Christ—new to the modern world, though executed probably in the second century of the Christian era, and buried all these 1,900 years in the tombs of the early Roman founders of the faith—has been brought to light at Ravenna.

We have no really historical portrait of Christ or of his apostles. Otherwise the oldest artistic productions would agree in type, which is far from being the case. The portrait found at Ravenna is plainly one of the oldest known. Here are traces of the earliest type of the ideal portrait of Christ we see the youthful God without an aureole, seated upon the royal throne, at which an apostle bows. He is exalted as a prince above his servants, but the king is indicated not only by the royal character of his pose, but especially by the same golden crown he wears. This crown is so marked a sign of royalty that it goes back even to the time of Julius Caesar.

Fight at Murder Trial.

During the trial for the murder of Count VII at the Berlin assize court, a slight quarrel was witnessed. There were twenty witnesses and evidence was given to the effect that the murdered nobleman had been carrying on an intrigue with a married woman living near his estate. This was every ready to suppose that his death was an act of family vengeance.

Actress' Big Hat Causes Real Row

Princely Escort of Liane de Poogy Gets Punched by a Plebeian First.

PARIS, April 30.—(Special Dispatch to The Bee.)—The well-known Parisian actress, Liane de Poogy, and a remarkable hat of the suspicious proportions which fashion at present decries were the cause of a violent altercation near Paris, which is to be settled in the police court. At St. Germain-Laye recently the actress was walking with a friend who bears the title of prince and prefers to remain anonymous. They had appeared strange in the eyes of the simple inhabitants of that ducal retreat and the wife of a local doctor and the wife of an attorney's clerk, who passed by with their husbands, commented in a manner too frank and too audacious on the "creation." Mme. de Poogy's princely companion demanded an apology from the husband of the critic and a discussion ensued. As the prince's hands encumbered with packages, was attempting to extract a card to hand to his interlocutors, the attorney's clerk struck him several times. The deputation was called before the Versailles court.

ENGLAND'S NAVY ON PARADE

Great Display of Sea Power Ends the Cruise of the North Sea.

LONDON, April 30.—(Special Dispatch to The Bee.)—The great naval cruise in the North sea, now drawing to a close, is perhaps the greatest demonstration of England's naval power ever made. There are well over a hundred ships engaged.

BAD OUTLOOK FOR THE TERRORISTS

Plot Against Roosevelt in Paris May Mean Ending of the Radical Anarchists.

ENGLAND AND UNITED STATES IN

Formation of World-Wide League to Exterminate Reds.

LENGTH OF BEARD IN THE NAVY

Most Important Question that Now Divides France.

SEVEN HAPPY COUPLES IN PARIS

Some Singular Statistics Just Made Public Show Remarkable State of Affairs as to Marriages.

BY PAUL VILLIERS.

PARIS, April 30.—(Special Dispatch to The Bee.)—The arrest of an anarchist who was evidently on the trail of former President Roosevelt, the discovery that a group of Reds had evidently marked this distinguished American traveler for assassination which has only been prevented by extraordinary precautions will, I am informed, result in the most widespread and drastic campaign against the anarchists, which has not been undertaken before. The two points in the whole preventive police system of Europe have been England and the United States, which have offered asylum to these men who claim to be merely political offenders and afforded them safe places in which to plot. It is asserted by the police here that nearly a political assassination of recent years but what has been plotted either in America or England, most generally the former.

It is believed the plot against Mr. Roosevelt will at last bring America into true and ultimately will lead England to join hands with the continental authorities in a world-wide crusade against anarchistic, nihilistic, and similar organizations which will be effective.

Important Questions Up.

France is just now re-creating important questions. The navy is split into factions over the case of a petty officer, who wants to wear a long beard, and has not left his ship nor shaved for eight months. His beard is now fourteen inches long. Court-martial and dismissal will probably attend the man growing two inches and a quarter of hair upon his chin. The duty of measuring beards every morning with properly tested rulers will no doubt fall upon commanders.

This is not all. The socialists have adopted the Latin quarter cap, and there is consternation among the students. The latter have formed a police corps to meet the crisis, and anyone wearing a cap without the accredited badge of a faculty will be well, the students have not decided what they will do to him, but the uncertainty surrounding his fate does not necessarily make it less alarming.

Seven Happy Couples.

There are only seven really happy married couples in Paris, according to some singular statistics just published of the relative state of conjugal felicity in the French capital. There are 1,302 wives who left their husbands for other men, and 2,511 husbands who have run away from their wives. 4,120 couples are separated amicably, while no fewer than 39,422 "menages" live at warfare under the same roof. The number of those who "hating one another cordially, make it public ferocious enemy beneath appearances of assumed politeness" is very large, amounting to 18,220, while the record in the list is held by couples who are wholly indifferent to one another—namely, 28,122.

Why French Trains Are Late.

All France is laughing at an order just issued by the government that prohibits kissing at railroad stations for the novel reason that the railway trains are delayed by lengthy good-byes and farewell kisses. Here is the official notice translated.

Defenses de s'embrasser—it is strictly forbidden to exchange kisses upon the platform of the carriage of the State railway, seeing to the delays frequently occasioned by the tardiness of the departure of trains, and which is thus fraught with inconvenience and even danger to the public, as the first condition of safe traveling is punctuality. Persons discovered kissing will be liable to prosecution.

Now we know why every train on the French State railways is always late. There is so much kissing when it was the start that it could not get off in time. Two Paris cab drivers, Jean Thibaut and Pierre Ross, who occupied the same stand in the Boulevard de Batignolles and had been on excellent terms, quarreled on making the hapless discovery that they were in love with the same washerwoman. Neither of them had proposed to Marie Marnand, the all-omniscient object of their affections, and they decided to fight the matter out to settle who had a better claim before either of them approached the object of their affection. A combat took place in a quiet street. It was a duel on totally novel lines. They wore no accoutrements, and the weapons used were whips, with which the combatants mercilessly lashed each other. They were exhausted and bathed in blood when a policeman arrived on the scene and took them to the police station. Next morning they were dismissed with caution, and happily their comradery has been again turned to friendship, for the washerwoman, on hearing of their story, hastened to their neighborhood, where she expressed her regret at having caused the trouble, and added that she had already been engaged for some time to a plumber.



From the Washington Star.

T. R. IN GAY PAREE

ROOSEVELT'S NEXT SPEECH

Will Deliver Nobel Peace Address at Christiania Thursday.

KING OF SWEDEN A MODEST MAN

Popular Ruler and Good Man of Business, Gustavus Does Not Seek Publicity by Ordinary Methods.

BY ERIC GRUNDMARK.

COPENHAGEN, April 30.—(Special Dispatch to The Bee.)—All of Scandinavia is on tip-toe for the reception of former President Roosevelt. Nothing will be left undone at Copenhagen, Christiania and Stockholm to show the great American in what esteem he is held by Scandinavians, and further than that, to show through his friendship for America, which has furnished a home for so many of the best sons of Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

Most interest in Mr. Roosevelt's northern visit attaches to Christiania, where he will deliver next week his Nobel Peace address.

The impression is very general that in this speech Mr. Roosevelt will make some statements which will attract world-wide attention. Mr. Roosevelt will be met at Christiania on Wednesday by King Haakon and the highest dignitaries of the kingdom and will be the guest of his majesty while in Christiania. The Peace address will be delivered at the National theater on Thursday, and on Friday he will be formally given the doctors degree by the university.

It is expected that the czar will visit Christiania, and possibly Copenhagen also, by couples who are wholly indifferent to one another—namely, 28,122.

Since his accession to the throne, King Haakon has not had an opportunity of seeing the czar, but it is rumored that he may visit St. Petersburg before the end of the spring.

King Gustavus Is Modest.

The recent severe illness of the king of Sweden has served to direct attention to the monarch who remains singularly in the background. He does this by his own desire, since he has a horror of anything approaching publicity and shuns it whenever possible. For this reason the Swedish court is often described as somewhat "inconspicuous" by the press.

Youthful Love Tangled.

A tragic love drama has been staged at Copenhagen. A boy of 12 and a girl of 12, both well grown children, had been playing at sweethearts for some time. When loosed about the affair by her comrades the girl had said that if she could not be allowed to love her friend in peace they should soon bear news about both of them. The affair morning the two children were found in a cellar of a house. The boy had shot the girl with a revolver and afterwards had turned the weapon against himself. The girl died almost immediately, and the boy is dangerously wounded at the hospital.

Ireland to Grow Tobacco for Its Users

Experiments Prove Successful and the Crop May in Time Permit Exportation.

BY THOMAS EMMETT.

DUBLIN, April 30.—(Special Dispatch to The Bee.)—That Ireland will in the not distant future become a tobacco growing country about in a few years not only will it grow enough for its own consumption, but will become an exporter of the weed. A report just issued by the Irish Department of Agriculture contains some very interesting and significant facts and figures concerning this new industry.

The season of 1909 was an average one for tobacco. The quality of the leaf, so far as it was determined by the season, was better than in either of the two preceding years. The final weight of the crop had not been ascertained, but the crop for 1909 was larger. Funds, it is explained, have been placed at the department's disposal for a period of five years from April 1, 1908, out of which grants at the rate of 50 per acre cropped with tobacco will be paid to the growers. The conditions prescribed are complied with.

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RUSSIANS EAGER TO SOAR

National Defense Committee Plans for Aerial Fleet.

NO BETTER USAGE FOR THE JEW

Premier Stolypin Offers Very Little Encouragement that Persecuted People Will Be Better Treated in Russia.

BY GEORGE FRASER.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 30.—(Special Dispatch to The Bee.)—Russia does not propose to be left behind in the race for the supremacy of the air. The national defense committee has presented to the Duma proposals which have been acted on favorably which will provide for a comprehensive fleet of air warships, the training of a corps for aeronautic service and for the providing of means for defense against hostile air craft.

POWERS UNITE OVER CONGO

According to Sir, Great Britain, Germany and Belgium Are About to Get Together.

BRITAIN'S POLICY

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GERMANY'S RULE IS BENT ON PEACE

Policy of Kaiser Looks to Prevention of War in Europe for the Present.

TURKEY TO QUELL ITS PROVINCES

Revolution in Albania and Macedonia Must End.

BERLIN WOMEN AND THE BLACKS

Extraordinary Fuss Made Over Troupe of Senegalese Performers.

KING IN SEARCH OF A BRIDE

Denmark or Austria to Provide Royal Consort for the Young Ruler of Portugal in the Present Program.

BY MALCOLM CLARKE.

BERLIN, April 30.—(Special Dispatch to The Bee.)—It is an interesting approval, if not indeed as his suggestion that the Turkish government has taken steps to put an end to the revolutionary unrest in Albania and Macedonia with a firm hand. The situation in European Turkey has become a menace to the peace of Europe. It is at least partially straightened out and the great influence of Russia was used to keep Bulgaria and Serbia quiet.

While it is believed the strong measures taken by Turkey to deal with the Albanian uprising will be effective it is recognized that the situation in the Balkans is still a near eastern situation, and that all the powers of diplomacy must be exercised to keep the peace.

Blacks Make Impression.

An extraordinary scene was witnessed at the departure from Berlin of a troupe of Senegalese blacks, who have been appearing at an exhibition in the Unter den Linden. The blacks had apparently endeavored to make the hearts of feminine Berlin. At midday, as they prepared to drive to the railway station, a crowd of 1,000 persons, mostly men and young girls gathered under the building. Eight policemen tried to keep order, but the women and girls drove through the cordon and demanded angrily a last farewell from the blacks. Many of the women were pretty and well dressed, and when the scene was over they departed in hired automobiles. The Senegalese will conduct all their business affairs, tenderly embraced and kissed their admirers, and drove away to find their "come back soon." The newspapers comment bitterly on what they call "A typical picture of Berlin manners and morals."

Kaiser Changes Plans.

The Kaiser has abandoned their intended visit to Corfu, and after a stay at Hamburg of three weeks at the Royal Schloss, they are now at their chateau in Lorraine. The emperor and empress are to spend the first week in May at Wiesbaden, after which they will settle for some time at the Koenigs Palace, Potsdam.

Countess Under Arrest.

Social circles at Munich have been shocked by the arrest of the Countess Friederich von Schonborn-Ruchheim (born Princess Sophia Cantacuzene) on suspicion of complicity in the murder of the Austrian Emperor. The countess is a member of the Bohemian branch of the great Schonborn family, which was founded in the thirteenth century. The heads of it were barons and later counts, of the Holy Roman empire. The countess comes of the yet more ancient Russian family of Cantacuzene, which is of Byzantine origin.

Bride for Young King.

It is regarded here as probable the young King of Portugal will get either of Copenhagen or St. Petersburg for a bride.

FRENCH QUIT LEASING MINES

Public Coal from State Mines to Make a Profit for the Government.

MELBOURNE, April 30.—(Special Dispatch to The Bee.)—The Victorian state government has decided to suspend the total coal requirements of the state and lease 1,200,000 tons yearly of which the railway consume 20,000 tons. In an interview, Mr. Murray, the state premier, said that it was becoming more and more recognized that coal was an absolute necessity in the life of a civilized community. The government would ask for Parliament to see the public coal from the state mines make a profit, and would require a return which would defray working expenses and provide interest and a sinking fund.