

Political and Social News by Cable and Correspondence from the Old World

RADICAL SCHEME
TO CHANGE TIME

Alteration of the Calendar is Under Consideration in the British Parliament.

WOULD SHORTEN YEAR ONE DAY

Easter Would Become a Stationary Holiday.

ANTI-MORMON CAMPAIGN IS ON

Wife of Bishop of Hull is Taking a Leading Part.

CLAIMS GIRLS ARE DECEIVED

Chancellor Lloyd George Improving in Health So Steadily that His Wife, Says No Further Danger Exists.

BY PAUL LAMBETH.

LONDON, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—A radical, novel and interesting change of the calendar is under consideration in Parliament. The author is Robert Pearce, who proposed to push the clock on one hour so that people might have more daylight. His new scheme is to make 364 days constitute a year and also to make Easter a stationary or fixed holiday. The government of European countries have received an invitation from the Swiss government to take part in an international diplomatic conference on the subject of fixing Easter and generally reforming the calendar.

There is now before the House of Commons a calendar reform bill designed to serve the purpose. This bill proposes to regularize the quarters of the year, adjust days of the week and of the month and fix holidays depending upon Easter. With this view the first day of the year would be a holiday, but it would not be a day of the week or of the month or of the quarter. This leaves for the rest of the year 364 days, which divide exactly into four equal quarters of ninety-one days each and into fifty-two weeks.

Each quarter would contain thirteen weeks, divided into two months of thirty days each and one of thirty-one days. The ordinary quarter days would not be interfered with.

Easter Sunday and all the movable feasts, fasts and dates dependent upon it would be fixed so as to fall regularly on the same day of the same month, as well as on the same day of the week. April 14 would always be Easter Sunday, Christmas day, December 25, would always be on a Monday. To provide for leap year, one other holiday, called Leap Year day, would be inserted between June 8 and July 1.

Investigating the Mormons.

Newspapers attacking respecting Mormon activities have induced the home secretary to make a full investigation of the circumstances under which English women are induced to go to Utah. Hans P. Freese, who is organizing an anti-Mormon campaign in this country has forwarded evidence on the matter to Mr. Churchill.

One of the most emphatic declarations against Mormon missionaries has been made by Mrs. Kempthorne, wife of the bishop of Hull. On addressing a large meeting at Sheffield, she took the opportunity of warning her hearers of the dangers which exist in the presence of Mormon missionaries in this country.

"I do not know the extent of their activities in Sheffield," said Mrs. Kempthorne, "but the Mormons are everywhere, and we must see to it that our girls are guarded against this subtle danger. Half the servants who do not know the difference between the Latter-day Saints, or missionaries, or Mormons." Mrs. Kempthorne continued, "These men talk to them on quite orthodox evangelical subjects; they do not bring the teaching of polygamy into the outside world at all. The danger is real, not imaginary."

Lloyd George Improving.

One of the most notable features of this Parliament has been the absence of Lloyd George, the chancellor, during the debates on the new financial clauses.

A letter from Mr. George was read at a meeting of Welsh Calistinic Methodists recently. In this he said: "The chancellor is improving very much. He is taking more care of himself, and I mean to try to keep him quiet until after Easter. Then he will have a task in front of him."

Meanwhile Mr. George is resting at Beaconsfield in the country house near Folkestone. He keeps in touch with the Parliament position. His constant companion is his little girl Megan, whose fond high spirits and girlish charm are a constant delight to her father. The two go for rambles and have those wondrous adventures which are dear to the heart of little girls.

Labour Leaders to Confer.

Labour leaders throughout the British empire are arranging for a new departure in policy and are bound to have an important bearing upon the interests of the working class. During the summer the colonial labor statesmen who are to be here will meet the labor leaders of the kingdom. They will decide, if possible, upon a uniform course to be taken by labor all over the empire.

Scotland Losing Its Best.

Scottish members of Parliament say Scotland is being drained of her best people in order to swell the growing tide of prosperity in Canada. According to the Board of Trade 63,132 persons left Scotland from Scottish ports last year. This does not include the immense number of Scottish emigrants who leave by English ports.

London Declaration Condemned.

By an overwhelming majority the chambers of commerce has protested against the ratification of the declaration of London. A motion to postpone any expression of opinion until the proposed change in the laws governing naval warfare could be admitted to the imperial conference was swept aside and the great industries of the country put on record the verdict of the declaration is a disgrace to the national food supply in time of war.

The chamber of shipping of the United Kingdom passed a similar resolution, and urged the government to refuse ratification to the declaration. It has now been condemned not only by the commercial and shipping community, but by admirals, international lawyers and members of Parliament.

Germans Restless Under the Burden of War's Demands

BY MALCOLM CLARKE.

BERLIN, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg's speech in the Reichstag on the armament question has been received with some surprise, which has, however, on one side, taken the form of disappointment; on the other, that of relief. The inference had been drawn from the comments of the *Allgemeine Zeitung* on Sir Edward Grey's speech that the German government had, to some extent at any rate, modified its attitude. The chancellor's statement, his, however, effectively dispelled this idea. The radicals and socialists are vaguely convinced that something can and should be done to diminish the burden of armaments, while the conservatives and the bulk of the national liberals keep to the maxim that preparation for war is the surest means of maintaining peace.

The dilution of the democratic press is finely shaded off from the Vorwärts, which calls the chancellor's speech a "declaration of war against the disarmament idea," to the meek resignation of the *Vossische Zeitung*, which finds no harsher word than "disappointment" to express its chagrin. On the other hand, the conservative and super-patriotic press announces its satisfaction with the speech.

IRISH TO WELCOME RULERS

George and His Consort to Occupy Viceregal Lodge.

WILL TOUR THROUGH THE ISLAND

Scotland Will Also Be Visited on the Trip and Holyrood Palace is Being Renovated for Their Reception.

BY THOMAS EMMETT.

DUBLIN, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—During the proposed visit of the king and queen to Ireland, they will reside at the viceregal lodge. On the last visit of Queen Victoria she occupied the viceregal lodge during the whole period of her visit and on two of the three occasions on which King Edward visited Ireland the viceregal lodge was selected as his place of residence. At present alterations and improvements are being carried out at both the viceregal lodge and the castle.

While this will be the first visit of King George with his consort to Dublin since his accession to the throne, he is well acquainted with Ireland. Six years ago, while prince of Wales, he was the guest of Lord Ardilaun in county Galway. Upon leaving Galway he went to Dublin, where a state ball was given in his honor at the castle by the viceroys.

The king and queen visited Ireland, when Duke and Duchess of York in 1897 and their state entry was marked by most enthusiastic scenes. The duke received addresses in the throne room of Dublin castle and afterward took the oath as a member of the privy council of Ireland. Subsequently he and Lord Roberts were invested as Knights of St. Patrick. They were received with expressions of the good will from the wealthier classes and there is no reason to fear that their welcome will be less hearty when they come here in July.

The announcement, already made, has been made of their intention to visit Scotland soon after the coronation, when they will hold a levee and a court in Holyrood palace. This will be the king's second visit to the northern part of his kingdom since his accession. During last autumn he spent over two months with the queen and the members of his family at Balmoral, owing to the recent death of King Edward the time was spent quietly. In anticipation of the forthcoming visit to Holyrood extensive alterations are being made at the palace. Troops will be massed here while the monarchs are in this city.

Three intoxicated British soldiers narrowly escaped lynching at Kilkenny for insulting a Catholic sister who was on a mission of charity. The men, who belong to the Royal Artillery, were held for examination last Sunday in the magistracy court. Two civilians stated that on the previous day the prisoners followed a nun belonging to the nursing order of St. John of God, who was proceeding to duty at the bedside of a patient. The nun was frightened at their behavior and attempted to run away, but the soldiers followed until she took refuge in a church, where they threw holy water about judging by their appearance the soldiers were roughly treated by the crowd. Reports of the occurrence spread through the town and intense indignation was manifested, culminating in a hostile demonstration against the prisoners in the court house. Fearing an attack by the crowd the prisoners, after being remanded, were removed in a covered van under guard of cavalry.

Asylum Attendants Kicked.

At the recent meeting of delegates from the various Irish asylums M. H. Trophy, secretary to the meeting, enumerated the chief grievances of asylum attendants as being low pay, long and monotonous hours of duty (often fourteen to sixteen hours a day), lack of proper accommodation for married attendants or an adequate allowance for lodging, insufficient dietary and clothing, and the unsatisfactory working of the superannuation act. The speaker pointed out the effect which would accrue to the attendants by the proposed change in the laws governing naval warfare could be admitted to the imperial conference was swept aside and the great industries of the country put on record the verdict of the declaration is a disgrace to the national food supply in time of war.

Slavonian Lovers Kiss, THEN QUARREL AND DIE

Girl Demanded Money for Kisses and When Pushed Into River She Pulled Man with Her.

BUDAPEST, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—A quarrel about the price of a kiss led to the loss of two lives in Esseg, in Slavonia.

Two young people, George Michelsch and Marie Hippich, who had just become engaged, were walking in the evening on the bank of the Drau river when Michelsch was heard to ask the girl for kisses on account of their impending marriage.

Hot words and boxes on the ear followed, but the spectators only laughed at the lovers' quarrel until they saw the man push the girl into the river. As she fell she caught hold of his coat and dragged him in after her. The swift current soon carried them away and both were drowned.

HOME RULE FOR ALSACE-LORRAINE

Center Party in German Reichstag is Pushing Measure to Grant Concessions.

PROVINCE TO BE FEDERAL STATE

Government Leaders Say Plan Cannot Be Endorsed.

ROW OVER THE ROYAL OPERA

Question of Armament is Again to the Front.

CHANCELLOR'S TALK THE CAUSE

Press Engages in Discussion with Avidity and Forcing of England's Hand is Urged by the Most Radical.

BY MALCOLM CLARKE.

BERLIN, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—The German center party has been using its power for the purpose of conceding to Alsace-Lorraine a genuine measure of home rule. The government brought forward in the Reichstag proposals of a half-hearted character, which were referred to a committee. The center has thoroughly amended them. It has secured the adoption of a motion constituting Alsace-Lorraine a federal state, and of another motion providing for the appointment by the emperor of a governor for life, on the nomination of the federal council. The object of making the appointment for life is to give the governor independence. The national liberals endeavored to limit the appointment to a definite period, but failed. The action of the center has brought them into conflict with the government. Herr Delbrueck, secretary of state for the interior, has affirmed that the center's plan cannot be accepted, as it would deprive the emperor of executive power, and a member of the center has replied that the party are resolved not to abandon their position. Ultimately a compromise may be arrived at, but however the dispute may terminate, it is evident that the center has been victorious throughout as friends of freedom and do not apprehend any injury to the empire from the extension of the right of self-government.

AUSTRIA HEARS RUMBLINGS

Early Accession of a New Ruler the Cause of Growing Anxiety.

RUMOR FERDINAND MAY DECLINE

Heir Apparent of His Warlike Suit and Many of His Future Subjects Fear the German Influence.

BY EMIL ANDRASSY.

VIENNA, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—There are rumblings of a discordant nature both at home and from foreign nations. The emperor-king, Francis Joseph, has reached very advanced years in life and must soon be succeeded by a new ruler and a reorganization of the political affairs of the country. From Hungary it is reported that the Archduke Ferdinand is contemplating stepping from the line of succession in favor of his second son, the duke Charles Francis Joseph, who, in the ordinary course of things, would follow his uncle as head of the house of Hapsburg.

The dual kingdom at present is simply seething with political discontent. But the aged emperor, daily growing feebler, recognizes all too well that the respectability of the empire is at stake. He has, therefore, quickly turned to Austria's dreadnaughts into being and now he is demanding increased expenditures on the army. His foreign policy has been the government's policy of building a great navy. Certainly the young archduke Charles would be infinitely more acceptable to the people of both countries. He is exceedingly popular in Hungary, where he was brought up, and is as amiable as his uncle is the contrary.

It is believed that with the unrest at home there is threatened danger from both Italy and Turkey. It is said it was this shadow of war that prompted the government's policy of building a great navy. Certainly the young archduke Charles would be infinitely more acceptable to the people of both countries. He is exceedingly popular in Hungary, where he was brought up, and is as amiable as his uncle is the contrary.

Large Navy Warmly Supported.

Able defense of the policy of the government for the building of a large navy has developed on all sides and many predict the shadow of war can be seen in the distance. Speaking in the course of the debate on the budget the premier denied the assertion that Austria-Hungary was building dreadnaughts under the influence of a foreign power. Their fleet, he said, was only just adequate to protect their own coast. In proportion to the strength of the other great powers it was not large. It would be fully occupied in the defense of their own shores and would scarcely be able to afford any assistance to a foreign fleet.

The program for enlarging the navy is being carried out as authorized. The Stalwart Technico of Austria has already been commissioned to build the third Austrian dreadnaught. The material, including steel ribs, has already been dispatched to Trieste, while the office work is being hastened, as the new ship will be laid down on the slip from which the first dreadnaught will be launched in June. About \$1,000,000 is provided for the new ship in this year's budget.

Albanian Revolt Likely to Cause Serious Complications

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—Led by an old favorite of Abdul Hamid, the deposed sultan, a large number of Albanians have openly revolted against the Young Turk regime and severe fighting has taken place. Four tribes, numbering 1,000 or 1,500 fighting men, are in the movement and the situation is grave. The Turkish government is sending 4,500 troops to the scene of the outbreak and is mobilizing troops as far away as Asia Minor.

Already the rebels have captured seven block houses on the frontier between Turkish and Montenegrin territory. The town of Tush has been taken and three guns, many rifles and much ammunition have been captured. Desperate resistance was offered to the advancing rebels at Fort Hum by a small garrison of eight men, all of whom were overpowered and slain.

The rebels refuse to pay taxes or to perform military service for the government. They were exempt from both these duties under the old order.

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Stolypin's Triumph Shows Strength of Russia's Rulers

BY GEORGE FRASER.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—The complete triumph of the premier Stolypin in the recent crisis causes very general satisfaction in conservative quarters, both Russian and foreign. The attempt to destroy Mr. Stolypin was undoubtedly due to his activity in unweaving graft in high places and the inauguration of administration reforms which will at least mitigate, if not abolish, the graft system which honeycombs Russia.

The fact that Stolypin's victory is due to the direct intervention of the czar is taken as an assurance that his majesty will back the prime minister in carrying out the reforms which he deems necessary. It is understood that Mr. Stolypin said before the czar the full results of his investigations and that his majesty was amazed and horrified at the corruption shown to exist in practically every branch of the government, implicating some of the highest-placed men in the country.

It is not likely that there will be any public exposure. It may stir up a dangerous feeling, but may a high official be quietly dropped. It is said that

VITERBO TRIAL DRAWS WELL

Many Americans Curious to See the Camorra Men.

SOCIETY ORIGINATED IN PRISON

Pope Pius Expresses Opposition to Extravagance in Dress and is Explicit in Forbidding it in Children.

BY CLEMENT J. BARETT.

ROME, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—Many Americans have attended the Camorra trials at Viterbo and it is said two New York detectives, one an Italian-American, have kept close watch on all the suspicious looking men in or near the court house.

The hope is entertained that some light will be thrown on the assassination of Police Lieutenant Joseph Petrosino, the New York detective, which occurred in Palermo a few years ago. His murder is attributed to the Camorra, which in turn has been called the Mafia, the Camorra, the Black Hand and the Italian Vengeriote. The name Black Hand was purely an invention, there being no such organization in Italy.

The Camorra, which is now so prominently in the public eye, had its origin 150 years ago in the filthy dungeons of old Naples, where it originated as a blackmailing association among the prisoners themselves. Thence it spread outside, until its very name became a byword and a terror to law abiding folk. All had to subscribe to its funds or suffer death.

Mostly the victims were poor people, whose taking off attracted but little attention. A cabman refused to hand over a percentage of his takings; a small shopkeeper declined to be blackmailed. Each was found stabbed to death, and on each slash in the form of a cross, as a sign that the murder was the work of the Camorra, and not the outcome of mere private vengeance. Or the victim's face would be branded with a capital "B," showing that the dead man had himself been a Camorrist who had incurred the vengeance of his associates by giving information to the police.

Occasionally, too, Camorristists fell at higher game. Thus, Micali, the "Gladstone of Italy," was assassinated for daring to attack them, and Italy's foremost journalist, Signor Notarbartolo, was murdered for exposing the Camorra.

Seaside Views of Pius X.

The pope, who is proud of the fact that in his younger days, he was a plain country parish priest, is opposed to all that is extravagant. Hence the recently suggested that children on first communion day dispense with outward display in order that the mind and heart may dwell undividedly on the act of the first reception of the sacrament. He adverted to the fact that the children of the poor have often been sad and first communion day because their attire compared meagerly beside the more costly garb of their more fortunate companions. Many pastors are therefore recommending that children dress plainly when about to receive the Lord's supper.

Two Exhibitions Open.

It is fifty years since the crown was offered by the first Italian Parliament to Victor Emmanuel, king of Sardinia, and accepted by him. The jubilee was celebrated throughout the peninsula by ceremonies. The most conspicuous was the opening of two international exhibitions, that of art in Rome and that of industry in Turin. While a third, an exhibition of Italian portraits, has been organized in Florence. Turin will demonstrate to visitors the extraordinary progress in industry which has been made during these fifty years in Italy.

Dangerous Agitations.

Socialist agitation and anarchist activity are dangers which vary in magnitude from time to time, but they are always there, and with the development of manufactures and labor-saving machinery and the continuance of low wages, they are not likely to disappear. That is one of the main difficulties of government. Another is the state of civilization in the south, resulting in the preference given to the Camorra system as against regular government.

MONEY IS NO OBJECT WHEN ROYALTY IS VISITING

Labour Paper Declares the Question of Expense Must Not Interfere in Entertaining King.

LAHORE, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—The Civil and Military Gazette protests emphatically against the implication made in the House of Commons that the expenditure on the Durbar is too great. India, it declares, does not calculate its loyalty in annas; the Indian people are only concerned to give their majesty a truly royal reception. India does not wish to stint its expenditure or to get a charitable grant from England for the entertainment of the king-emperor.

FRENCHMEN LIKE GOOD WOMEN

Newspaper Test Brings Out Solid Judgment of People on Best Womanly Qualities.

GOODNESS IS PLACED FIRST

Orderliness is the Second Quality to Win Men.

ELEGANCE "INDS LITTLE FAVOR"

Romance of Mile. Hamet Shattered in Rude Fashion.

CAUGHT HER INTENDED STEALING

Seceders from Party of the Left Are Trying to Form a New Liberal Party—Boy Murderers Get Life Terms.

BY PAUL VILLIERS.

PARIS, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—The idea that Frenchmen, especially residents of this city, have loose ideas about the marriage tie and womanhood in general is dispelled through a unique newspaper test.

Roald Amundsen is Heading for the South Pole

Noted Norwegian Explorer Gave a Misleading Impression of His Intentions.

COPENHAGEN, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—Norway in particular, and all Scandinavia incidentally is stirred with the news that Captain Roald Amundsen is actually making for the south pole, instead of being, as was generally supposed, on his way for another drift around the northern point of the western hemisphere.

When the Fram, the famous arctic ship commanded by Amundsen, left Christiania it was supposed it was to go to San Francisco, there to prepare for its northern journey, which was to last for several years. It now appears that those backing the expedition, including the Norwegian government, knew of his antarctic plans and that he is thoroughly equipped for the expedition to the south pole.

Amundsen is one of the hardest and most intrepid of the race of Scandinavian arctic explorers. He is as much at home in the far north as he is in Norway. He understands every trick of travel over the ice fields, and it is confidently expected here that he will repeat in the farthest south Peary's feat in the farthest north.

Romance Sadly Shattered.

Mile. De Hamet's romance is over. Her fiancé, who she had seen no more in the gay society in which they moved. The young man is in prison.

Maurice Lescant, though this is not his real name, was the son of a judge who died years ago at Polters. Maurice was sent to study law on an allowance insufficient for his tastes. He led a happy life until debts became too pressing and accumulated just the reverse. To complicate matters still further, he fell in love, not as a respectable young man should place his affections, but with a lovely girl without a penny. And it was one evening when both had consumed a lot of champagne that a casual friend of the young man told Maurice of the girl's arrest. Maurice had told Pedro Gonzalez that he was in love and had explained that money was the only bar to marriage. Gonzalez, who claimed to be the son of an ex-president of a South American republic, explained that in Paris money was to be had quite easily. "If you will join me," he told Maurice, "you can in a few months make sufficient to marry." So Maurice became a gentleman burglar. His name proved him admission everywhere, and his Mephistopheles was always at his elbow.

Francis Ferdinand Does Signal Honor to German Ruler

Heir Apparent of Austria Takes a Fleet to Sea to Serenade Wilhelm.

VENICE, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—While the Kaiser, was on his way from Venice to Corfu on his recent visit a pleasant surprise was given him by the Austrian Archduke Francis Ferdinand, who, with his family, is staying at the island of Briuni.

A command of forty-seven ships in two divisions, the archduke went to sea to meet the Kaiser. On reaching the imperial yacht Hohenzollern, with the Kaiser on board, all the bands in the Austrian flotilla played the German national anthem and fired a salute.

As the Hohenzollern passed between the two lines the Austrian sailors cheered heartily and the ships followed for some distance as an escort.

Cordial and complimentary messages were exchanged between the Kaiser and the archduke and then the Austrian squadron withdrew.

New Tunnel Open Through the Alps

Required Five Years' Work and the Expenditure of Ten Million Dollars in Money.

KANDERSTEG, Switzerland, April 22.—(Special to The Bee.)—The colossal task of piercing the Bernese Alps between the Kander valley on the north and the Rhone valley on the south has just been completed. The new tunnel, known as the Lotschberg tunnel, is about nine and a half miles long entering the mountains at Kandersteg and emerging at Goppenstein, near Gampel on the Rhone.