

## SERVIAN COURT.

MUCH OF COMIC OPERA ABOUT THRONE OF PETER.

Garlic State Pertume—Balls Rank With It, But the Women in Short Skirts, Hair Down, Don't Mind It.

Belgrade, Servia.—To a foreigner the Servian court seems like a comic opera. What is usually deemed essential to a court (an aristocracy) is wanting in Servia. Every Serb is a peasant, or, if he is a shopkeeper, the son of a peasant. If he is a farmer he has a few acres of land, lives on a little corn, a little pork, and some brandy which he makes at home out of a great deal of corn, garlic, and if his income exceeds \$2 a year he has a vote. If he has \$1,000 he is a rich man, much envied by his neighbors. Only one man in Servia has \$200,000, and those with \$20,000 can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

The man now engaged in tilling his big ground keeps a shop in one of the towns. Those who keep shop in Belgrade go to court. They look on it as a right, not a privilege.

"We put the King on the throne and we pay for his palace and his houses and servants," the members of the court, a bootmaker explained, "to go and see what he is doing." This bootmaker goes to all the court balls.

Those balls are a sight. Two large rooms are thrown open to the guests, who begin to arrive at about 9 o'clock. The King is there in uniform and shakes hands with all his guests. Evening dress is not necessary. Some ladies go in short skirts and with their hair down their backs. They are accompanied by their husbands in frock coats and waistcoats of many colors. One of the most elegant men in Belgrade goes to court balls in a silk shirt.

KING ENDURES COARSENESS.

"One cannot remain long in the room where the dancing goes on," a foreign diplomat remarked. "The odor of garlic is all-pervading. The room gets hot, the windows are kept closed and the effect is overpowering. The members of the diplomatic corps find it convenient to stay in another room, which the very few 'civilized' Serbs go to as well. From time to time one of us darts into the other room, takes a turn around with one of the ladies and hurries back. When at home the guests sleep, eat, cook and dine in two rooms, never open their windows in the winter and the ballroom air is not oppressive to them. I admire the old King, who stands about and talks to the people as calmly as if he was in the fresh air."

Princess Helen, the King's daughter, is nearly always away, and, therefore, escapes these functions, but when she is present she makes herself agreeable to everybody.

Some of the guests do not wait. They only dance the national dance, Kolo, a wild sort of thing, unknown outside of the Balkans.

"It is the only court in Europe, I think, where the King and his tailor meet at dinner or at a ball," a courier said. "We are used to it, being a very democratic people, but foreigners are amazed. Yet it is not so funny as they suppose. In every other court one meets rich merchants. There are no rich merchants here, so the poor ones go because they are no poorer than other people about the court. Look at the peasant deputies. They go in their peasant clothes, and are proud of it. They are just as proud of their peasantry as the King is of his throne. Go to the Parliament. Any day you see the King there you will find him standing talking with a deputy who remains seated, his legs crossed and his arms folded. Such a thing would not be tolerated in any other court in Europe, but the deputy sees no harm in it, and if the King does he dares not say so. The deputy pays him to be King and there's an end of it."

INSULTED KING'S COUSIN.

No courtier thinks it necessary to stand when the King talks to him. Foreigners are much more respectful, and it is said that the King avoids talking to his subjects in the presence of strangers because there is such a difference between the way they treat him and the way his own people do.

A foreigner whose business had called him to Belgrade was walking about with a friend who knew the place fairly well, having lived there some years. They met a big untidy-looking fellow, who slouched about smoking a cigarette. His clothes were soiled, his linen more than rumpled, his boots "rusty."

"That chap looks like a valet out of work—look at his side whiskers," observed a foreigner. "No," who happened to be in want of a servant.

"He must be," announced foreigner No. 2.

Next day foreigner No. 1 met the man again and offered him a job of valet.

The man stared in astonishment and the offer was repeated.

"How dare you make me!" shrieked the "valet." "I shall challenge you. Don't you know I'm the King's cousin? And you dare to offer me a situation as your servant?"

The foreigner collapsed and apologized. The King's cousin wanted to fight a duel, but the King advised him to let the matter drop.

WOMEN DO THE WORK.

Women in Servia have very little liberty. They take no part in public life and are by no means emancipated. They spend most of the day indoors in dressing gowns, smoking cigarettes or doing needlework. They are gay by nature and very talkative. The peasant women do most of the work and let their husbands sit at home, drink plum brandy and talk politics.

Everybody talks politics, from beggar to banker, from child to old man. The court circle is always engaged in political intrigue.

Whenever the more democratic party has had the upper hand it has been bad for the King. The former Crown Prince hated this, and said so. Those who were powerful determined that he should not reign, and they have had their way. They set about making him very unpopular.

"The Prince behaves so badly at court parties," they said, "that the King has had the chairs placed as far apart as possible, so that he can't annoy the ladies next to him."

Word was passed around that no father or mother ought to take a daughter to a court dinner because the Prince behaved disgracefully. But the facts were distorted. There is only one huge dining table at the Konak, as the royal palace is called, and that is screwed to the floor. The King does not want to go to the expense of taking it away and putting in a new one; so when a dinner party is small the guests sit four or five yards apart and conversation is next to impossible.

The late King, being a good judge of cooking, gave good dinners. King Peter does not. The dinners are bad and miser-

ably served. The dishes come to the table cold; the meat is of bad quality and indifferently cooked. Vegetables are almost unknown in winter. The floral decorations are either absent or so ugly that people wish they were dispensed with. But the coffee is admirably made and served in Turkish fashion.

## SMALL FRUIT.

PRICES FOR STRAWBERRIES FELL PRETTY FLAT.

Cherry Crop Will be Good—Raspberries Will be Better After Yesterday's Rain and Gooseberries Are Coming In.

Mr. P. W. Hodgetts, director of the horticultural branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, has prepared a fruit crop report up to this week, which shows that the crops of small fruits are very good. The report follows:

The strawberries are practically over. The crop this year was a good one, and prices in some cases fell pretty flat. "The demand for berries is very low in consideration that it is the end of the season, fancy berries only realizing from 7 to 8 1/2c. The returns of the shipments of strawberries by the St. Catharines Association to the Western markets are nearly all in. Those sent by express, and which arrived in good condition, netted the growers \$1.50 per crate. These results may be considered encouraging, and much better success may be looked forward to next season. As these are the first and only experimental shipments made by the association, they have every reason to be congratulated on their initiative and success.

The cherry crop promises to be very good. The Swets and Richwoods are getting off rapidly and the Montmorency will be in full picking this week, and when the northern sections commence to ship cherries will be very plentiful. Sour cherries are fetching from 60 to 75c per 11-quart basket; small sweets from 75c to \$1; and fancy sweets from \$1 to \$1.25. A quantity of sweet cherries have been shipped into the Toronto markets which have not been ripe enough, and the market has strongly discriminated in favor of the fit fruit. Hence the low prices this week.

The raspberry crop promises to be from fair to good. However, the prolonged dry weather has commenced to show its effect. A few crates were shipped in last Saturday and sold at 20c per box. Some of the canning factories now contracting at prices ranging from 7 to 9c per quart.

The currant crop promises to be a good one, and is now coming on the market. Prices are as follows: Cherry currant, 11-quart baskets, \$1; small reds, 11-quart baskets, 75c. Last week in Toronto there were two carloads of California fruits, while Montreal received fourteen. One of the commission men accounts for this by the fact that Toronto is more plentifully supplied with home fruits than Montreal, and therefore the trade is more cautious in handling foreign fruits.

Gooseberries are commencing to come on the market, and are selling well, smalls fetching 75c per 11-quart basket; large ones, \$1 to \$1.25.

## SOCIETY QUESTION.

What Should be the Social Status of a Hangman?

An American paper puts the question, What should be, in a civilized country, the social status of a hangman? The hangman has been asked before now, but is surely a somewhat idle query. Nevertheless, the position of the executioner has undoubtedly varied at different periods and in different countries. In France, "Monsieur de Paris," as the representative of the haute justice was called, seems usually to have been held in some esteem, and students of French history are familiar with the tradition that the executioner Tristan was one of the favorites of Louis XI. In France, a recent execution in France, at the manipulator of the guillotine, Diebler, was cheered both on entering and on leaving the town. In Russia at the present day an executioner would scarcely be received on these terms, but the minimum of the law ought not to be blamed for the law's unrighteousness. Dr. Mercier discusses the subject in the chapter entitled "Wrongdoing," in his treatise on "Criminal Responsibility." The hangman does not merit execration as such if he fulfills his ugly duty in a proper and seemly manner. It was rightly held to be misbecoming when an executioner, some years ago, pretending to lecture on his business, exhibited his ropes, straps and white cap, and attempted to show how a victim was "worked off"; but this was an abuse of the hangman's office and position. Dr. Mercier says:

"No doubt a hangman deserves a certain satisfaction from turning off his victims in a workmanlike manner—the satisfaction that we all derive from dexterity and success in whatever undertaking we occupy. We do not regard him as a wrongdoer, so long as his primary motive is to earn his wages, to carry out the contract he has made, or to perform a public duty. But the man who should hang, merely to gratify his own desires, merely to obtain gratification by so doing, or to obtain his victim's clothes, or any way to obtain satisfaction to himself would do wrong. The case of the hangman is, of course, an especial one. We should not, as Dr. Mercier says, care to shake hands with him, or to shake hands with him; but, though we may and do look askance upon his calling, we cannot fairly class him with the bravo who stabs in the dark to satisfy the private vengeance of the person who has hired him. We feel, or should feel, that the hangman, though he works for hire, does not work solely for hire. He undertakes to kill, or to perform some person whom society, as personated by the law, has decided must be slain for the welfare of the community. The hangman who acts thus is merely giving effect to the wish expressed by society—in fact, and to this extent, co-operating with society.—Law Times.

Cooling Medicines For Summer.

English fruit salts, 25c bottle, or 40c lb. Persian sherbet, 40c lb. English citrate magnesia, 25c bottle, or 50c lb. Phosphate soda, 25c bottle. Pure West India lime juice, 25c large pint bottle. Junken tablets, 10c bottle. Renet wine, 25c bottle. At Gerrie's drug store, 32 James street north.

A son was born on Thursday to the Princess de Segon, who was Miss Anna Gould, of New York.

## The Martian Invader

(By Frank H. Williams.)

The townspeople stood in wonderment about the big, ball-shaped, metallic object which had fallen on the commons near the town during the night. As they watched, the top of the object began to slowly revolve.

"Look!" cried Harry Crawford to his pretty sweetheart, Bertha Dunbar, "there's something or someone inside!" In a moment the top had been unscrewed sufficiently from within to enable the living being inside to topple the cover off into the ground. Then from the interior stepped a being fashioned in the shape of a man, but covered from



HARRY GRABBED A REVOLVER AND TORE THROUGH THE TOWN FOR THE COMMONS.

head to toe with a peculiar, tight-fitting metallic appearing suit. On this being's back rested a tank, and in his hand he carried the end of a tube attached to the tank.

The town policeman, officious as always, stepped up to the invader and grasped him somewhat roughly by the arm. "Here, what're you doing here, boy?" the policeman asked.

For answer, the invader pointed the muzzle of the hose at the official. Frapp the nozzle issued a thick, heavy, black vapor. As the policeman inhaled this he toppled over, writhing in a frenzy. Fear seized on the townspeople and they turned to run. The bloodshot eyes of the being swept the ranks of the multitude before the people ran and fastened themselves on the fair face of Bertha Dunbar. The look which the invader gave Bertha sent a cold shiver up her lover's back.

"Come," cried Harry, somewhat gruffly, "let's get away from here." As he urged Bertha onward, the girl, as though fascinated against her will, cast many backward glances at the Martian.

Not until Harry had seen Bertha safely in her home did he breathe freely again. Then he left her hurriedly to see what the town authorities intended to do about ridding the municipality of this dire invader. He had not been gone from Bertha over fifteen minutes when a fear-stricken citizen ran up to him. "Your girl has been kidnapped by the Martian!" the citizen cried.

Harry, with a few quick, stern questions, learned that the Martian had followed him to Bertha's home and, after Harry had left, had grabbed Bertha and made off with her for the ball-shaped object. Harry rushed into a nearby shop, grabbed a revolver and tore through the town for the commons. On the commons he saw a little ring of people gathered around the invader's ball, and he also saw the Martian roughly throw the girl into the interior of the ball and then turn to face the people.

"Bertha!" Harry cried in frenzy, as he dashed up. A weak cry from his sweetheart spurred him onward.

Harry jerked his revolver from his pocket and fired it time and again at the Martian. The shots had no effect. Then Harry sprang for the invader. The latter directed the fatal black vapor at Harry. Harry staggered backward, nearly overcome, then again rushed in, tackling the Martian about the legs in football style. Back and forth the two struggled. Finally, with a quick, nifty movement Harry threw the Martian. Quick as lightning Harry grabbed the nozzle of the hose and directed the vapor at the invader until the latter, with a final struggle, died. With a little, thankful cry of relief, Bertha weakly clambered from the ball and fainted in Harry's arms, while the crowd cheered mightily.

## AEROPLANE'S RIVAL.

New York Infant Drops Safely to Pavement From Fifth Storey.

New York, July 15.—Possibly it was because little Rose Zuckerman is the seventh daughter of a seventh daughter that she was able to sit up and giggle after she had fallen from a fifth floor fire escape last evening and hit the pavement in front of her home.

What made Rose giggle was the fact that she hit slantwise on the side of a wicker baby carriage. The baby was taking an after-dinner nap, and when Rose dropped in to see him so unexpectedly, the springs tossed him in the air and he awoke with a bump in the gutter.

## SEIZED ON BORDER.

Pearl Worth \$23,000 in Hands of United States Customs.

New York, July 15.—There is a pearl in the safe of Collector Loeb here which was seized on the Canadian border. It was surrendered on the demand of the Customs authorities. Its value is given as \$23,000 and it belonged, or belongs, to Mrs. Fremont B. Chesbrough, whose husband owns the Chesbrough coastwise line of steamers with headquarters in Boston. Mrs. Chesbrough is in a sanitarium near Boston. She is under indictment for smuggling.

Abertown to Retire? London, July 15.—A despatch from Dublin to The Daily Express says it is rumored that the Earl of Abertown will retire soon as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and that the Earl of Granard may succeed him.

The Toronto Board of Control has accepted an offer of a syndicate for twenty-one acres in Ashbridge's Marsh, the site to be used for iron and steel works.

## NEW OFFICES.

Palatial Building For Grand Trunk in London England.

The crowning importance of the Grand Trunk Railway System, the expansion and extension of business, has necessitated the building of a new Grand Trunk building in London, Eng. The need for more room has been made all the more apparent since the Grand Trunk Pacific was projected. The company has been fortunate enough to secure a site at No. 17-19 Cockspur street, S. W., from the London County Council. Upon this site they have erected a splendid building. The Canadian Government emigration offices are at Charing Cross, but a stone's throw from the Grand Trunk building. It is at the very hub of London. It is within five minutes of half a dozen leading hotels and near the intake to the tube at Trafalgar Square station. Motor busses pass the door every few seconds to all parts of London, north, south, east and west.

The inside furnishings of the new building are luxuriously complete; mail is picked up every hour of the day.

The public offices entered from Cockspur street, through the great central doorway, is a fine room, forty feet long and eighteen feet high. The floor is marble, the walls are paneled in teak, with inlays of ebony and holly.

The new offices were opened on Dominion Day, and hereafter the European traffic department of the Grand Trunk Railway System and the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway will occupy these new premises, which have already become one of the sights to be seen in London.

## SHOVEL PRICES.

Manufacturers Object to Wholesalers Cutting Rates.

Montreal, July 15.—There was a conference here to-day between the wholesale hardware people and the shovel trade, in which an over stocking has been alleged, brought about a deal of price cutting. So much so, in fact, that the manufacturers threaten that they will do the retailing themselves, instead of selling to the wholesalers and jobbers.

It is understood that while not coming to a definite agreement, the wholesale men gave the manufacturers a good assurance that prices would be maintained in future.

## NO DREADNOUGHT.

Australia Wants Fleet to Ply in Home Waters.

London, July 15.—In a Melbourne despatch of July 14 Minister of Defence Cook states: "I am thoroughly in favor of a local squadron provided it becomes the Australian section of the Imperial navy. The offer of \$10,000,000 is uncommensurate, but would the home authorities prefer to employ the money in building swift cruisers for the protection of Australian trade routes, so much the better. These could train Australian sailors and work in conjunction with local destroyers."

## SCANDAL DEVELOPS.

Pittsburg Strikers Say They Paid For Their Jobs.

Pittsburg, July 15.—This was another day of rioting at the McKee's Rocks plant of the Pressed Steel Car Company, where almost 6,000 men, principally foreigners, are on strike. The authorities are satisfied to-night they have on their hands a strike almost as serious as that of Homestead. The illiterate foreigners at the McKee's Rocks plant were like so many savages to-day when they first caught sight of the khaki-clad State constabulary, who came in during the night to take charge.

It was not yet noon when all over McKee's Rocks there was a wage a battle between strikers and officers. There were seventy or eighty mounted State constabulary three hundred armed Deputy Sheriffs and about five hundred armed special officers against about four thousand strikers. The battle was fought in perhaps a dozen different localities about the same hour.

It is impossible to tell how many persons were injured, for, like yesterday, as soon as a striker would fall he would be helped away by his friends or women of the household. It was said to-day that three of yesterday's wounded had died in the night, but if so the number of deaths would be increased. The defense succeeded in showing by the number of witnesses that it did rain about 11 o'clock on the night of January 4th, as testified to by Miss Gingles, but the attempt to impeach the testimony of witnesses from Canada was not successful.

Chicago, July 15.—Taking of testimony in the case of Ella Gingles, charged with larceny by Agnes Barrette, which has proved one of the most sensational trials ever held in criminal courts, concluded at noon to-day, and with the opening of the afternoon session the State began its arguments to the jury. Attorney P. H. O'Donnell made a strong effort to impeach the testimony of witnesses from Canada, and attacked the character of Miss Gingles. The defense succeeded in showing by the number of witnesses that it did rain about 11 o'clock on the night of January 4th, as testified to by Miss Gingles, but the attempt to impeach the testimony of witnesses from Canada was not successful.

Scandal has developed over the strike. Friends of the foreign workmen assert that they have been beaten out of all their earnings and their labor for years past at the plant. The workmen say they have been compelled, on application, to pay to some one from \$10 to \$50 for a job.

## ELECTORAL REFORM.

Earl Grey Gives Evidence Before Royal Commission in London.

London, July 15.—Earl Grey to-day gave evidence in favor of proportional representation before the Royal Commission on Electoral Reform. He mentioned that after Premier Asquith's speech at St. Andrew's in February, 1906, and his reply to a deputation, he (Earl Grey) said to Sir Wilfrid Laurier that if Mr. Asquith really intended to bring forward a new reform bill, based on a single transferable vote system, he regarded it as important that he would be tempted to resign from the Governor-Generalship of Canada, which, he believed, was the most enviable billet in the service of the Crown, so that he could come back to England and support Mr. Asquith. The present system, said Earl Grey, was government of the people by caucus for the party.

Sudden End of Galt Man. Galt, Ont., July 15.—Death came suddenly to Michael Fitzgerald, a resident of Concession street, to-day. He set out to visit one of his neighbors and had just reached the kitchen door when he fell and expired.

## The Right House

"HAMILTON'S FAVORITE SHOPPING PLACE"



## New wash dresses and suits

In a great price reduction sale to-morrow

NEARLY our entire stock—an immense variety—of this season's beautiful new Wash Dresses and Suits on sale to-morrow morning at greatly reduced prices. Styles are exclusive and becoming; materials are good; fit is perfect and any necessary alterations quickly made. Secure an extra Summer Wash Dress and Suit or two to-morrow. Come in morning if you can.

\$3.50, formerly \$5.00 \$4.88, formerly \$7.00  
\$6.88, formerly \$10.00 \$7.50, formerly \$11.50  
\$12.50, formerly \$20.00 \$15.00, formerly \$27.00

An immense variety to select from. Beautiful Princess one-piece and two-piece Dresses in muslins, dimities, mulls, linens in plain shades, stripes and checks, simply to elaborately trimmed with embroideries and laces; fine pintucked, button trimmed, pretty yokes; nice shades of pink, sky, green, tan and white. The suits are in tailored 2 and 3-piece styles; mostly of plain linen and repps; very swell with inset point Venise medallions and insertion; large self-covered buttons; some suits are more strictly tailored. Nice shades of white, sky blue, pink, green, tan, grey. Included are some shapely suits and also two lines for misses.

THOMAS C. WATKINS

## English "Admiralty" serges are the best

Strictly confined to us for sole sale in Hamilton are English "Admiralty" Serges—the best made serges in all the world. Correct and fashionable new finishes for summer outing and holiday wear. Guaranteed fast sun-proof dye; will wear well, keep shapely and easily sponged and cleaned without injury to material. Full range of weaves and qualities, in navy and black, at 50c, 65c, 75c, \$1 up to \$1.75 yard

THOMAS C. WATKINS

## Summer stockings &amp; underwear

FROM sharp at 8.30 to-morrow morning and continuing all day we will offer at greatly reduced prices great quantities in vast assortment Women's and Children's Summer Stockings and Knit Underwear—surplus quantities and manufacturers' samples in good comfortable sorts. Lay in a Summer's supply and save money to-morrow.

## Save money to-morrow

Lisle and cotton stockings

12 1/2c, reduced from 20c  
25c, reduced from 35c and 40c  
35c, reduced from 50c  
50c, reduced from 75c and 85c  
3 for 50c, formerly 25c pair  
All sizes (including out sizes) in a great variety of regular makes, reduced, because there are too many. Hermsdorf fast dye.

There are plain, embroidered, spotted and lace open work styles in black, white, tan, navy, Copenhagen, sky, pink and grey, in lisle mostly—some few in cotton. A few in mercerized, a few with cashmere, also Balbriggan feet.

## Lisle and cotton knit underwear

13c, regular 20c 19c, regular 25c  
25c, regular 40c 35c, regular 50c  
50c, regular 75c

A great special purchase for this July sale of best White Cotton Knit Vests and Drawers, and an outright reduction sale of beautiful Swiss made Lisle Vests. Styles are short sleeves, no sleeves and long sleeves. Plain and lace trimmed. Assorted sizes and altogether an immense Summer underprice sale of much merit.

COMMER KING EAST AND HUGHSON STS. THOMAS C. WATKINS HAMILTON, ONTARIO

## GINGLES CASE.

Evidence All in and Both Sides Are Confident.

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