

REICHSTAG'S TALK ON LIVE QUESTION

German People Keenly Interested in Discussion to Begin Today

Berlin, Dec. 1.—The discussion to begin in the Reichstag tomorrow morning concerning the possible legal regulation of ministerial responsibility is being looked forward to by the German people with considerable expectancy. The leaders in the chamber have agreed to avoid bitterness as far as possible, and they will limit the discussion to theoretical lines.

The two conservative parties are opposed to any renewal of the discussion at all, while the National Liberals think that the matter had better be postponed until some incident arises which would bring about further deliberations in the Reichstag.

The Socialist parties, however, persist in their determination to discuss the fundamental question on ministerial responsibility and the power group of the Centre party has pending a resolution with a similar aim.

Chancellor Von Buelow will not be present, and it is said that he has nothing further to add to the imperial communication already made public. It is probable that the chancellor will be represented in the Reichstag by Dr. Bethmann-Holweg, Minister of the Interior. The plan of the government is to leave the question of ministerial responsibility referred to a special commission.

FOUGHT FOR ADMISSION

Society Women in Paris Eager to Hear Counsel Discuss the Case

Paris, Dec. 2.—The Princess Sagan had her innings in court today in the hearing of the case brought by her former husband, Count Boni de Castellane, to have the three children of the union placed in the custody of his mother, the Marquise de Castellane. The first hearing took place last week, and M. Bonnet, counsel for the count, set forth by statement, allegations and denials that the atmosphere of the de Sagan household was detrimental to the proper bringing up of the three de Castellane boys.

During the afternoon hundreds of women, including some of the most prominent members of French society and the American and English colonies in Paris, literally fought the corridors in the Palais de Justice to gain admittance to the crowded courtroom where the side of the Princess was pleaded by M. Clemenceau.

Without ceasing the impassioned oratorical role played by M. Bonnet, last week, M. Clemenceau today coolly and calmly, but with cutting irony and keen ridicule, met the accusations brought against the Princess de Sagan, whose character, he insisted, was blameless. He mercilessly scored the record and character of the count, and Castellane said he was wholly unqualified to have the custody of his children. He charged that the real purpose of the count was to raise money and satisfy his vengeance on the Princess de Sagan, even at the expense of the interests of his children, whose mother, he said, had finally tried to poison. Neither the Princess de Sagan nor the Count was present in court.

MUCH PERTURBATION AMONG SPORTSMEN

Prohibitive Measure Enacted By North Saanich Council Disliked by Hunters

There is much perturbation to the ranks of the hunters of Victoria over the declaration of the North Saanich council that there shall be no more shooting in that district.

"It's too bad," mournfully remarked one ardent disciple of the chase the other day in the course of conversation. "This means that one of the choicest of my happy hunting grounds is cut away from under my feet. The pheasants will thrive there in undisturbed peace, no doubt, providing none of us care to disturb them. I am vexed by the solons of that section and I don't know but what some will be inclined to act in that independent manner."

The concluding sentence was accompanied with a slight smile and an almost imperceptible wink.

Another knight of the shot-gun, after an introduction of much the same kind, went on to talk of the possibilities of the future. "I am extremely pessimistic," he said. "What is the land coming to?" he said aggressively. "Here we have the farmers organizing their district and shutting us out of hunting, not only on their own land, but on any of the property embraced by the boundaries of the district. When they started enforcing the Trespass law it was bad enough. But I must say from their viewpoint they were justified. However, it's coming rather strong that they should say, laboring under the exuberance of the knowledge of newly acquired municipal powers, they can't carry firearms anywhere in North Saanich. And, think of it, the thing's not likely to stop at Oak Bay and Saanich. Doubtless the people living in Cowichan and other nearby sections will take the same course and then what will we do? Might as well stop at shooting paraphernalia right away and be done with it. Pleasant outlook, isn't it?"

The last was delivered with a bitterly sarcastic intonation.

Coal and Steel Dispute

London, Dec. 1.—The consolidated appeal of the Dominion Coal company vs. the Dominion Iron and Steel company was heard before the judicial committee of the privy council. The steel company's case was that the coal company failed to supply them with coal suitable for steel-making purposes in pursuance of a contract, in which enormous damages are involved.

Ends His Life

Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 1.—C. G. Cowie, 40 years old, formerly a well known cotton buyer and prominent in Memphis society, was found dead at home with a bullet hole in his temple this afternoon. The police declare it was a case of suicide. Mr. Cowie's friends say he has been in financial straits of late.

TRIBE OF NEGROES IN DUTCH GUIANA

Strange People Are Discovered By an Exploring Expedition

New York, Dec. 1.—A strange tribe of negroes were discovered by Lieut. R. H. Wilman, of the Holland navy, who arrived here today from an expedition into hitherto unexplored parts of Dutch Guiana in South America. They have been one of the most interesting of the discoveries his party made.

Lieut. Wilman was sent out by his own government on the tour of exploration. The negroes were encountered after the explorers had proceeded a hundred miles up the Surinam river and then cut across country to the boundary line between British and Dutch Guiana. They appeared never to have seen a white man before, and while perfectly black, yet were not of the thick-lipped type.

After considerable effort their language was found to be a mixture of several tongues, Dutch, Portuguese and English predominating. Lieut. Wilman was of the opinion that they were the descendants of slaves who had escaped from the coast, doubtless many generations ago. Gold was found to abound in the country, but catarracts and other natural features of the sort that would prove serious obstacles to the opening up of the land, also were found in great numbers and of formidable character.

JAPANESE STEAMER LOST WITH ALL HANDS

A Kobe despatch says the Japanese steamer Ginsei Maru has foundered off Wei-Hai-Wei. The entire crew and all the passengers on board were lost. The Ginsei Maru is a new steamer built last year by her owner, U. Nakamura, at Osaka shipyards. She was a wooden vessel, sloop-rigged, of 487 tons gross and 301 tons net register, and was 152.9 feet long, 21.8 feet beam and 16.7 feet deep, equipped with compound engines built in England with cylinders 14 1/2 and 37 1/2 inches in diameter, with 28 1/2-inch stroke. Wei-Hai-Wei, the former British garrison point, is on the Shantung coast to the north of the Gulf of Pechili. The water in this section is comparatively shallow and during the winter months heavy storms are frequent.

The increasing number of accidents to Japanese shipping is creating a reputation in British marine insurance circles. Last year the tonnage of Japanese steamers lost amounted to 30,000, against an average yearly loss of 25,000. This year, from April to August, the losses already reach 25,000 tons, so it is feared that, when the losses during the dangerous period between October and March are added, the toll for the twelve months will be found to be exceptionally heavy. In some quarters this increase in the number of accidents is considered to be the indirect result of the general trade depression, which has prompted Japanese shipowners to take more risks, while in others the opinion is held that they are partly due to mishaps occurring to inferior boats, which were acquired in large numbers during the Russo-Japanese war. A Shanghai newspaper published some time ago some correspondence on this subject, in which it was suggested that the competency of the majority of the Japanese master mariners left a good deal to be desired, owing to the lack of sufficient experience. The granting of masters' certificates to men without proper experience—if it is done—is a matter for which the Japanese government is responsible, and it is urged that an investigation should be made as to the truth of the allegations against Japanese captains.

Mr. Matsumoto, a prominent Japanese shipowner, blames the situation upon the owners rather than the seamen. He says, according to the Japan Chronicle, "that there are some people who attribute the frequency of maritime disasters of late to the want of ability and experience of Japanese seamen. In this respect, however, the shipowners seem to be more worthy of blame than the seamen. In point of ability and experience Japanese mariners are not inferior to Europeans. At a time of business depression as at present, the owners, for economical considerations, are not infrequently led to take a larger quantity of cargo than is proper for a vessel or to select a dangerous route on account of its cost. Hence the frequency of accidents. It has been a subject of much comment that many Japanese mariners discard their caution for good after a few years of actual service. Unfortunately this is true. The fact is that with regard to high-class mariners their education at the Mercantile Marine school begins at the age of twenty or thereabouts after they have completed their course of ordinary education, and they do not join the ship until they have graduated from this school, several years later. Some are compelled to quit the sea on account of health, others owing to the scanty respect paid to mariners by the public. There seems lacking in the Japanese the attraction to the sea and the love of sea life which are displayed by British people. In order to inculcate a more healthy spirit among the Japanese officers it is necessary that more respect to mariners and to education of prospective mariners should begin at an earlier age than is the case at present. At the same time the public should be taught to pay more respect to mariners and to accord them a better social position."

Struck by Street Car

London, Ont., Dec. 1.—Simon Schwartz, a prominent business man while driving today, was struck by a street car and sustained injuries which caused death.

Took Acid By Mistake

London, Dec. 1.—Fred Jennings, Princess avenue, took carbolic acid yesterday in mistake for medicine and is now in the hospital in a critical condition.

New Brunswick Bye-Elections

St. John, N.B., Dec. 1.—Daphne, Liberal, was elected in Carleton by 137, and Burdell, Independent, was elected in Northumberland by about 180 in today's provincial bye-elections. These elections were caused by the resignation of the Liberal government candidates for the Commons.

STEEL RAIL DUMPING

British Firms Object to Being Underbid by Dominion Iron and Steel Company

Montreal, Dec. 1.—A special London cable says: Two leading British steel rail makers were interviewed today regarding the alleged "dumping" of the Dominion Iron and Steel company. They say Canada could not undercut the International Steel combine, for the point is:

One firm threatens that the combine may retaliate by dumping into Canada.

Another firm says that the combine will not long tolerate paying buyers prices for rails than foreign consumers pay.

Old Magistrate Retires

Windsor, Ont., Dec. 1.—Magistrate Alex. Bartlett today resigned, having completed thirty years on the bench. He is 71 years of age.

Application Withdrawn

Ottawa, Dec. 1.—Senator Tiesler has withdrawn his application to railway commission for a bill of "free transportation over the Ottawa Electric Railway company's lines."

Killed by a Tree

Breslau, Ont., Dec. 1.—C. E. Close, of this place, was killed today while cutting wood in the bush. A high wind toppled over a tree, where he was working and struck him on the head, killing him instantly.

FIND NATIVE SILVER ON TEXADA ISLAND

White Metal Occurs Along With Rich Boronite Ore Late Discovered

Vancouver, Dec. 1.—Native silver has been struck in quantity at the Marble Bay copper mine, Texada Island. The find was made at the deep level where a shoot of remarkably rich boronite was encountered several months ago. Native silver occurs in the ore in conjunction with the boronite, and some of the specimens of rock are literally studded with tarnished argentiferous ore.

While the discovery of silver was not quite what was looked for, the possession of some people who are anxious to have secretly procured specimens and it is alleged that reports of rich finds of native silver and silver ore of the island have been spread.

So far as the mining men of Texada Island are aware, no native silver is known to occur on the island save in the Marble Bay workings.

DECLINED DOUBTFUL DECISION AND LOST

Powell's Sportsmanlike Conduct Lost Him Tennis Championship of England

A description of the big tennis match between R. Powell, formerly of this city and son of Dr. I. W. Powell, of Victoria, and J. G. Ritchie, who holds the Olympic championship, is contained in a private letter received from Mr. Powell the other day. It explains that he was within a point of capturing the title and might have had it had he cared to accept a doubtful decision on the part of the umpire. The communication in part is appended:

"Last month I competed in the London covered court championship at tennis, (that is indoors on wood) and though I did not win, I had a terrific battle with Ritchie, who was lately selected to represent England against America in the Davis cup matches, and who had beaten in the United States, quite easily. Ritchie is also the Olympic games tennis champion. Ritchie and I played the best of five sets and I lost him by two sets to one, 6 games to 5, and had 30 all, that is only 2 points required to give me the match. At this stage the umpire gave a doubtful decision in my favor, but I looked to me to be Ritchie's point and I refused to take it. Of course, really was within rights, but I had accepted the umpire's decision, but I felt I would rather lose than win except on my merits, without any doubt whatever. Curiously enough I won the Wimbledon, which would have given me the match, but it was not in fact to be, and I was too close to let it go. But the crowd appreciated that I was trying to "play the game" and cheered me for quite five minutes on the conclusion of the match. As my rate, my conscience was clear, and afterwards I had the satisfaction of defeating Ritchie and his partner in mixed doubles, and the next day won the final and my district championship of London in mixed doubles."

Engineers' Grievances

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 1.—While it is not believed the trouble between the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Pennsylvania Railroad, which resulted in a strike on the lines west of Pittsburg, it is apparent that relations are seriously strained. General Manager W. W. Atterbury, of the Pennsylvania road, arrived here today from a tour of inspection of the road, and he asserted that their general board has not been given proper recognition in efforts to relieve the situation, while the company maintains that the difference is entirely over a matter of discipline. Several days ago a vote was taken, but before the result was announced it was decided to submit the case to mediation, which will hold a number of conferences during the week in Washington.

NOTE AND COMMENT

In an address delivered a short time ago at Waterbury, Connecticut, Prof. Hadley, of Yale University, made some observations on the subject of mental discipline and of particular interest.

Having shut out these unnecessary and unfruitful studies, what remains necessary to prepare the pupil for citizenship is a certain breadth of vision. He must know something of the history and thought and ideals of other peoples besides his own. The student of a general we call culture. Second, he must have the power to work hard for a remote end—not to demand hourly pay in the doing, but to be content to build for the future. This is what we call mental discipline. In the third place, he must be ready to put his own work as part of an organization—a member of a body politic, where he cannot make it his object to get all he can out of it, but must try to put all he can into it. This is called public spirit. Any education which gives a reasonable amount of culture, mental discipline and public spirit is a good one, no matter what the specific methods used. Fundamentally speaking, it is not the subject which counts, but the placing of the student in a position of knowledge learning, but the specific form of power created.

The Montreal Witness grows sarcastic on the subject of the attitude of the members of the House of Lords towards the Licensing Bill, in its issue of a few days ago, of course before the announcement that the Lords had thrown out the Bill—the Witness said:

"The gentlemen of England have never as an individual body, as a body, been so much interested in the members of the House of Lords towards the Licensing Bill, in its issue of a few days ago, of course before the announcement that the Lords had thrown out the Bill—the Witness said:

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PROVIDE MEALS FOR POOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

The London Local Authorities Grapple With Pressing Problem

London, Dec. 1.—The local authorities in London persist in their determination to raise the funds needed to feed the poor school children in the coming winter by voluntary means, instead of through the machinery provided by the two-year-old legislation. Nearly \$150,000 will be required, which is about \$50,000 more than last year, when, of course, the amount of unemployment was less, and the pinch of poverty was not felt so soon. But even in London \$150,000 cannot be raised by magic. It will "take" a good deal of time, and the London Mayor has put himself at the head of the movement. A meeting has been called to be held in the Mansion House tomorrow, when representatives will attend from the county council, which led the way twelve months ago in the policy of raising the funds for the provision of meals, from the borough councils, and from the agencies which have given voluntary aid in the schools in the past. Little doubt is felt as to the success of the appeal which will be sent out from the conference.

Miners' Narrow Escape

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 1.—A telephone message from Central City, Kentucky, says the coal mine of the Central Coal and Iron company caught fire from an explosion. The latest word was that 100 miners were making their escape through an air-shaft.

Heavy Revenue Decrease

Montreal, Dec. 1.—The total customs collections on imports for the last seven months of navigation show a decrease of \$3,013,935.25, as compared with the same period a year ago. The total was: 1907, \$10,515,867.58; 1908, \$7,502,784.25.

Becomes Despatch Boat

Naples, Dec. 1.—The American gunboat Scorpion left here today for Constantinople, where she will be stationed as a dispatch boat for the American embassy.

All advocates of the hereditary rights of Sovereigns should, says the "Manchester Guardian," be much interested in King Gustav and Queen Victoria of Sweden, who have landed on our shores. For, though the King is the fourth successor of Gustav XIV (Johan Baptiste Jules Bernadotte), who was elected son and successor to Charles XIII.—the rights of Charles's Vasa kindred being thus passed over in order to put Napoleon's General on the Throne—the Queen represents, though in the female line, the elected house of Vasa, and, in case of the death of her brother Frederick, Grand Duke of Baden, who has been married 28 years and is childless, would be the Queen "de jure" of the many people of Sweden. For, though the King is the fourth successor of Gustav XIV (Johan Baptiste Jules Bernadotte), who was elected son and successor to Charles XIII.—the rights of Charles's Vasa kindred being thus passed over in order to put Napoleon's General on the Throne—the Queen represents, though in the female line, the elected house of Vasa, and, in case of the death of her brother Frederick, Grand Duke of Baden, who has been married 28 years and is childless, would be the Queen "de jure" of the many people of Sweden. 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