

British---Latest News From Across the Atlantic Ocean---Foreign

Husband's Slip May Be Accidental, Forgivable, But Wife's Is Fatal, Declares Learned Judge

Remarkable Opinions on Marriage and Divorce Given in Evidence Before Royal Commission of England—One Standard for Man, Another for Woman—Sir John Bigham Stirs Country.

LONDON, April 2.—"I do not believe—I am speaking on a subject I don't care much to speak about in public—I do not think that an act of misconduct on the part of a man has any significance like the same significance as an act of misconduct on the part of a woman."

"Most—I think all—men know perfectly well that an act of misconduct on the part of a man may be more or less accidental. It does not diminish—very frequently at all events, and I am not speaking of continuous misconduct—it is not inconsistent with his continued love and esteem for his wife."

"Some people may say that it is inconsistent. I do not agree. On the other hand, an act of impropriety on the part of a woman is, in my opinion, quite inconsistent with continued love and esteem for her husband."

These words of Sir John Bigham, senior divorce judge of England, have raised a storm through Great Britain. No controversy of recent years has been so bitterly debated as that aroused by these opinions.

Sir John Bigham was giving evidence before a royal commission appointed to enquire into the working of the divorce law in England. The commission included leading lawyers, social workers, newspaper editors and highest representatives of the churches. Regarded as the strongest personality on the English bench, also exceedingly popular, Sir John Bigham expressly



remarked that his evidence was given apart from religious considerations, and merely as that of a man of great worldly and legal experience.

Asked what should be considered due grounds for divorce, he said: "I would not give relief to a man who habitually lived in open misconduct, but, looking at it from a man's point of view, I do not think that if in the course of 30 years' married life, a man once made a slip, that ought to take away his right to separate himself from a dissolute and bad living woman."

Asked whether, if as a result of an isolated act of misconduct, a child should be born, that should entitle the

wife to a divorce, the reply was: "No—on the bald facts, I do not think that the fact that a child comes into the world should justify a divorce. A wise wife, in my opinion, shuts her eyes to her husband's mistakes."

The significance of these statements can be easily understood when it is remembered that for many years a strong agitation has been going on in England for sex equality in matters relating to divorce. At present the law stands as follows:

A man can obtain a divorce solely on the ground of misconduct on the part of the wife.

A woman can obtain a divorce only if she can prove both misconduct and cruelty toward herself on the part of the husband.

For many years now the tendency of the courts has been to ignore the cruelty question as far as possible, and the law has been strained so that two acts of cruelty, however slight, on the part of the husband, coupled with misconduct will justify the grant of a divorce to the wife. This is in accordance with the trend of English opinion.

But now, Sir John Bigham, with all the weight of his position behind him, has gone back to the old view which regarded a wife as part of a man's chattels. He believes that women and men, in respect to sexual matters, stand on different planes.

Ministers of religion of all denominations, suffragettes, divorce reform associations and women's societies generally are all up in arms against the judge and they finally forced his resignation the other day.

Briefly the following is the position of his antagonists: "At the present time, many men lead immoral lives, knowing that, so long as they are actually cruel to their wives, they cannot be divorced. Justice Bigham's words simply encourage them in their ways, and even afford them justification. Opinions of this kind simply put a premium on immorality."

No "mission" for English-speaking people exclusively has been held on the continent in twenty years. To meet natives it is a thing altogether new. The "Gipsy" Smith neither speaks nor reads French he refuses to preach through an interpreter, because he believes that a sermon loses force in repetition in another tongue. The series of meetings which he has just begun is by no means intended for the American and English colonies only.

A Nobleman in Charge.

Every French Protestant church in the city is represented on the committee which brought the evangelist from London, and Count Jacques de Pourtales, a full-fledged nobleman, is the chairman of the organization. Many of the best-educated Frenchmen understand English, of course, and through them "Gipsy" Smith hopes to reach the Frenchmen of every class. He believes that he can interest Parisians, who do understand him to the degree that they will be able to hold meetings in French after he has gone.

The first of the special services was held two weeks ago in the Salle Gaveau, and it is there that all the principal meetings will be conducted. This is far removed from both the American and English quarters of the city and is a hall where recitals of a high order of merit and "conferences," or lectures, by men who are authorities on intellectual subjects are given frequently.

But "Gipsy" Smith confesses that if he is unable to reach those whom he seeks by means of these gatherings, he will "go into the highways and hedges," which, in this instance, means the drawing-rooms of the homes of Parisian society folk. In his efforts he has a faithful second in Count Jacques de Pourtales.

Politics Didn't Bring Him.

Mr. Smith was asked last night if political conditions in France had influenced him in his decision to come to Paris at this time. The general elections are to be held in a few weeks and the question of the relationship between church and state will be a leading issue. The government has not yet effected a separation of the two but forbids any religious instruction in the public schools.

"I know very little about political conditions here and the political situation had nothing to do with my coming," said the evangelist. "I don't preach politics. The man who subscribes to my religious ticket is not likely to be far wrong when he gets an

GYPSY SMITH HAS FAITH HE WILL SAVE FRANCE

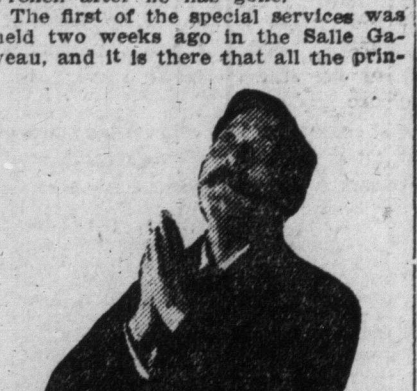
Noted Evangelist Says He Will Go Into Streets If Necessary to Reach the People.

PARIS, April 2.—(Special.)—Paris, the capital of the world of fashions and fancies, has just discovered that there is something new under the sun which did not originate here. An old-fashioned religious revival meeting is being held in the city, with "Gipsy" Smith, who conducted a series of meetings in Toronto, last year, in charge.



PARIS, April 2.—(Special.)—Paris, the capital of the world of fashions and fancies, has just discovered that there is something new under the sun which did not originate here. An old-fashioned religious revival meeting is being held in the city, with "Gipsy" Smith, who conducted a series of meetings in Toronto, last year, in charge.

PARIS, April 2.—(Special.)—Paris, the capital of the world of fashions and fancies, has just discovered that there is something new under the sun which did not originate here. An old-fashioned religious revival meeting is being held in the city, with "Gipsy" Smith, who conducted a series of meetings in Toronto, last year, in charge.



PARIS, April 2.—(Special.)—Paris, the capital of the world of fashions and fancies, has just discovered that there is something new under the sun which did not originate here. An old-fashioned religious revival meeting is being held in the city, with "Gipsy" Smith, who conducted a series of meetings in Toronto, last year, in charge.

PARIS, April 2.—(Special.)—Paris, the capital of the world of fashions and fancies, has just discovered that there is something new under the sun which did not originate here. An old-fashioned religious revival meeting is being held in the city, with "Gipsy" Smith, who conducted a series of meetings in Toronto, last year, in charge.

PARIS, April 2.—(Special.)—Paris, the capital of the world of fashions and fancies, has just discovered that there is something new under the sun which did not originate here. An old-fashioned religious revival meeting is being held in the city, with "Gipsy" Smith, who conducted a series of meetings in Toronto, last year, in charge.

PARIS, April 2.—(Special.)—Paris, the capital of the world of fashions and fancies, has just discovered that there is something new under the sun which did not originate here. An old-fashioned religious revival meeting is being held in the city, with "Gipsy" Smith, who conducted a series of meetings in Toronto, last year, in charge.

PARIS, April 2.—(Special.)—Paris, the capital of the world of fashions and fancies, has just discovered that there is something new under the sun which did not originate here. An old-fashioned religious revival meeting is being held in the city, with "Gipsy" Smith, who conducted a series of meetings in Toronto, last year, in charge.

Pitiful Efforts of London's Poor to Make a Living



The woman was a widow with four children.

In the early part of 1908, I was commissioned by an influential London newspaper to investigate into the conditions under which women home workers lived in various parts of the great British metropolis. During recent years in Great Britain there has been much agitation against what is known as "sweated labor," that is work performed in circumstances which forces the worker to toil for a scarcely living wage, and which is in all respects harmful to health. Of all forms of sweated labor, home work is the worst paid and most injurious to the health of the workers themselves and to the general public. Such work is done almost entirely by women and girls. The first example of the manner in which home work is carried on was witnessed by me at a sweated industries exhibition, which took place at the Bishoppes Institute, in the east end of London, in the winter of 1907, and where, by the way, I foregathered with Robert Blatchford, the editor of The Clarion, and whose writings have been recently making so great a stir in Great Britain and with other well-known socialists. Altho the exhibition conveyed a good idea of the intensity of the evils of home work, and that by visiting the homes of the workers themselves a far clearer impression of the true state of affairs would be obtained, I was not prepared to procure introductions to the homes of women home workers in the north, south and east of London from the Women's Industrial Council in the Strand and from Mrs. Ramsay MacDonald, wife of the labor M.P. for Leicester, and herself an advocate for reform of the sweated industries. Fortunately, I have kept notes of my many visits, and will choose some typical ones to describe to Toronto readers. The first district visited lay in that part of London where the evils of home work in its worst forms might be expected to occur, and I am free to confess that I was not disappointed in my expectations. The first house entered was a small, dark, dingy room, with a long street of mean houses well known to all east-enders as the Old Ford-road. The woman who lived here was a widow with four children, and working at the trade of trouser finishing. She was paid at the rate of 60 cents per 12 pairs, and was able to earn about three cents an hour. She generally worked for 13 hours daily for five days of the week and earned \$2.50. This woman hired two small rooms at a weekly rent of \$1.25. Needless to say she found it impossible to support herself and four children upon such a wage, and received relief from the poor rates to the extent of \$2.50 weekly. Even with this aid, she had to scrimp and keep warm herself and four children on less than \$4 a week. The room in which she worked was small, untidy and stuffy. In this instance both woman and children appeared in good health, but no doubt I chanced to light upon a very favorable specimen of a trouser finisher, whose work is very badly paid, hard and monotonous. The next house visited was inhabited by an altogether different type of home worker—that of the woman who works to add to her husband's wages. In this particular case, the husband earned six shillings a week, and the wife, a single woman, who, with an aged mother, occupied one small room. They were engaged in sewing beads on shoes, and were able to earn from two cents to three cents per hour, with help of mother in two days she could earn about 15 cents. The condition of the room in the house visited next was disgusting; it was filthy, hot, stuffy and smelt offensively. The woman was married, but husband earned small wages. She made blouses, for which she was paid 25 cents for 12. She could make a blouse in one hour, but would have to work 12 hours to earn 25 cents. I think in this case drink had something to do with the miserable condition of home and family. Other houses in the locality were visited, but

the visits noted are good criterion of what was generally observed. Woolwich was the next objective, where the government army factories are, and for which place Mr. Will Crooks, the National Labor member sat in parliament until recently. The first names on the list were two old-fashioned women, one a widow, the other a younger one, both making army fannel shirts, for which she was paid at the rate of 15 cents a piece. Ten of these were given out to her in two weeks, so that, when able to procure work, she was given the opportunity to earn more than \$1 a week. The other old lady, aged 75, had been refused home work, and was compelled to work in a factory to earn the meager pittance of twelve pence per week. Her husband was given, I made many visits in Woolwich and Plumstead, and found about all the home workers were abjectly poor and lived and worked in a single room. The Old Kent-road, Peckham, Deptford and Haggerston were visited. Most of the women were very similar. Many of them were married and had families, and worked either because their husbands were unemployed or earned paltry wages. From Haggerston I went to Hoxton, Hackney-road, Poplar and Rantonville, returning to the Holborn district, and discovered the same state of squalid poverty and unsanitary environment everywhere. In one of these districts a really conspicuous case was met with of home work being carried on under conditions which might be a menace to the public health. The workers were at home making brush-brushes. She was married and bore many children, some of whom were in institutions, while the two youngest were at home. Her husband, who was in an advanced stage of consumption, was also at home, with the workers in the same room. In my short tour of investigation I went to the houses of workers at trouser finishing, match-box making, bead sewing, blouse making, basket making, box making, shirt making and finishing, button sewing, tennis ball covering, toilet brush drawing, and convinced myself by personal observation that home working was badly paid and unhealthy. Of the persons I visited, two-thirds lived in one room, many of them with children with them. There are said to be between 300,000 and 400,000 people living in one-roomed tenements in London. Some of these home workers' employments are both unhealthy and laborious. Trouser finishing sometimes means manipulating a sewing machine for ten or twelve hours daily. The work, too, of the home worker is irregular. There are times when she is busy, and at other times she is idle. She is informed that in some of the trades for about half the year no home employment can be obtained. Home work is obviously bad for the health of the workers and to some extent a menace to the public health through disease spread by means of clothes infected in the home. In England and Scotland considerably more than half a million people, chiefly women and girls, engaged in home work. Their maximum earnings are less than 8 cents an hour, with a minimum of 2 cents and an average of about 4 cents. Considered from all points of view, it is an appalling situation. It affects the people engaged in the work prejudicially morally, physically and mentally. A bill is in a future paper which may amend matters in some degree. It will provide that no one is to be paid less than a fair living wage. On the other hand, home workers desire no legislation which may deprive them of the opportunity for earning their own money. They are averse from appealing to the law to better matters. The truth seems to be that foreign competition has so lowered the earning powers of the British working classes that internal legislation will do little or no good. In my peregrinations in the east end and in other poor districts of London, I was struck with the incurable cheerfulness, as a rule, of the workers. They appeared for the most part, to be content to be allowed to live — it might have been apathy or resignation to their lot. In some cases, drink had much to do in regard to their poverty, but whether this was cause or effect it would be hard to decide. In a future paper I shall have something to say as to drinking in London, amongst the poor.

"Men know where their neighbors live when the elections come on and they are able to bring them to the polls. If they were anxious to save their neighbors' souls as they are to get their votes we would fill the churches. Let's attend to that first. Then we have no reason to complain of political conditions."

France is virgin soil for the evangelist but the Frenchman is not hostile. If he is indifferent, the so-called Christian is to blame. A form of religion, without power behind it, is the incubator which hatches infidelity. It is

the failure of the professing Christian to live his Christianity which creates scepticism. It is not sufficient for a man to fall on his knees and pray "Thy kingdom come." He must live the prayer after he rises to his feet. France has had enough of forms of religion. It is ripe for demonstrations now. I have an abiding faith that France will yet be won.

Mr. Smith said that some of his meetings in Toronto, several months ago, were among the most largely attended he has ever held. He expects Canada to be a leader among the nations in the onward movement toward righteousness.

France is virgin soil for the evangelist but the Frenchman is not hostile. If he is indifferent, the so-called Christian is to blame. A form of religion, without power behind it, is the incubator which hatches infidelity. It is

"Men know where their neighbors live when the elections come on and they are able to bring them to the polls. If they were anxious to save their neighbors' souls as they are to get their votes we would fill the churches. Let's attend to that first. Then we have no reason to complain of political conditions."

France is virgin soil for the evangelist but the Frenchman is not hostile. If he is indifferent, the so-called Christian is to blame. A form of religion, without power behind it, is the incubator which hatches infidelity. It is

SOUTH AFRICA'S COURSE OF EMPIRE

Plan Followed for Consolidation of States Should Be Followed for an Imperial Convention.

LONDON, April 2.—"We South Africans quite regard the United States as a British colony," said Sir Pieter Barm in a review with The World correspondent.

"I am sure you look awfully American," I replied somewhat irreverently. "Ah, you're mistaken, I'm a Canadian by descent," altho a naturalized African citizen.

"There you are," said Barm. "It wasn't so long ago that the Krickerbockers and Vanderbilts of the United States and the Bullers and Bams of South Africa were smoking together before their old Dutch friends. No wonder we still think of you as brothers, as colonials."

Sir Pieter is an entirely Dutch-descendant and he was the first South African without English blood in him, to be knighted. Furthermore he is an imperialist.

The "consolidation of the Empire" has long been a by-phrase in present day politics. Sir Pieter is the only man who has offered a practical solution of the problem of colony representation.

Scheme of Representation.

In most cases, the suggestions have been based on the idea of the colonies having some sort of representation in the house of lords. Sir Pieter's scheme, however, is simpler, more feasible and more practical.

"Let me take as a precedent what has been accomplished in South Africa," he explained, "where less than ten years ago a big war was in progress. To-day, the colonies are thoroughly settled and a union in existence of all its colonies. This has been done because all sections of the community in South Africa realized that whatever their opinions on politics might be, in a question of union there must be no division of view; and that in order to bring about a union a convention should be held in which all parties should be represented."

The initiative was taken by the oldest colony, Cape Colony. A scheme for a national convention was drawn up, deciding that there should be two representatives from the Cape Colony, eight from the Transvaal, five from Natal and five from the Orange River colony. Prime ministers of those colonies consulted with all sections in their parliaments with a view to ensuring a selection of men that would be representative of all parties.

"When the convention met it not only had representatives from all parts of South Africa but at the same time members representing each political party in each colony. The result was a unanimous decision by all present."

Too Sectional.

"In the past whenever public men from the various colonies have met in England to discuss matters with the British government, it has always happened that they represented only a certain section of the community. They came from one or other of the colonies, and represented only that section of the community in each colony, all sections of the British parliament, the British parliament and the British people."

"In the scheme I now put forward for an imperial convention, the lines followed should be the same as those adopted by South Africa. All sections of the community in each colony, all sections of the British parliament, the parliament of the mother-country with a resolution that it is desirable to have the colonies represented in an imperial senate. Then, let a convention be called on entirely non-party lines, thoroughly representative of the Empire. Get the best brains of the Empire, irrespective of race, creed or politics, to decide what ought to be done that the mother-country and the Colonies may exercise mutual influence or, imperial affairs."

On Imperial Basis.

"In the main, the lines of this scheme are analogous to the state representation in America. Nevertheless, the government of South Africa on its imperial basis is a lot better than a republic. If there had been an imperial parliament from the beginning the United States would still be a colony of Great Britain."

Sir Pieter goes at once to South Africa in order to be present when the election of senators for the union parliament takes place. There is no doubt among political leaders that the adoption of Sir Pieter's scheme for consolidating the Empire would effectively settle the Irish question, the problem of national defense, the labor distribution of any natural surplus within the Empire, and roughly speaking, all questions coming within the scope of international law.

Straw Braiding By Machinery.

British Supremacy at Sea Still Unquestioned by Powers

World's Greatest Naval Power Will Build Dozen Dreadnoughts Within Next Year—Will Maintain Offensive Standard.

(By Staff Correspondent.)

LONDON, April 2.—Those, in high places in Germany at the present time view the future with obvious alarm, and are now asking openly how long the German Empire can stand the strain of its endeavor to become at one and the same time all-powerful on land and sea. Only those intimate with the finances of the British Empire at the moment realize to the full how deeply the national purse has been dipped into in recent years in order to maintain its colossal army, on the one hand, and to challenge naval supremacy on the other. Sooner or later a halt must be called somewhere, and Berlin is wondering when this will take place.

For Imperial Defence.

Great Britain has the bat at her feet at the present time. She has only to make it unmistakably clear that she intends to maintain to the full the Two-Power Standard, but is prepared to go beyond that if necessary, and Germany must give up the present competition. Under these circumstances, the announcements that a Naval Defence Act, to be spread over the next five or seven years, providing for twelve Dreadnoughts to be laid down year by year, together with their proper complement of smaller craft, is much to be desired, and it is good news to hear that this is a step that is now receiving the consideration of the committee of imperial defence.

If it can only be forced home upon the German authorities that, whatever naval program Germany brings forward, Great Britain is instantly prepared to double it, and that, no matter which political party be in power, both shall go resolutely forward along the path they have marked out for ourselves, the competition will end.

Napoleon's Idea.

It was the great Napoleon who realized that it is impossible for any state to be both a supreme naval and military power. "Had I a navy like Great Britain, and my own army, I could conquer the world," he once remarked to one of his marshals. He clearly recognized, however, that France could not be all-powerful on both land and



SENAGALESE SHARPshooters UNDER THE FRENCH FLAG.

France is depending more and more upon the loyalty of her black troops to maintain her authority in her West African possessions. The devotion of the Senegalese sharpshooters to the French flag has been repeatedly proved since the formation of the first company, in 1824, and cases of treason or desertion among them are unknown.

SURVEYORS NEARLY STARVED

Supplies of Food Were Stolen From the Cache.

VANCOUVER, B.C., April 2.—(Special.)—Thrilling in the extreme were the adventures of a Canadian Northern survey party engaged during the past winter in locating a preliminary line in northern British Columbia.

On a return trip from Yellowhead, the engineers found that previous caches of food had been stolen by Cree Indians. In the season of the year, the forty-four of their horses perished of starvation. C. F. Hannington, surveyor in charge, lost 28 pounds in weight in marching the homeward trip. All experienced the pangs of famine as they dragged the toboggans over the snow and slush. Over the last ninety miles, the 22 men subsisted on one hundred pounds of flour, being on short rations.

Quicker Ship Building.

Time was when it took nearly six years to build a battleship in private yards in the United States; but, says The Scientific American, the construction of the "Connecticut" at the government yard at Brooklyn set a pace which has steadily accelerated. The "Mississippi," whose trials took place as recently as October, 1907, took 44 months to construct. The "New Hampshire," December, 1907, was built in 36 months; the "North Carolina" (cruiser), January, 1908, in 26 months; "Michigan" (battleship), 1909, in 34 months; the "Delaware" (battleship), October, 1909, in 27 months.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

In June of last year, the last semi-official estimate, there were 239,233 Indians in the United States.

Considering the whole of Europe, there are nearly 107 inhabitants to the square mile.

John Bull's diet is not exclusively one of beef and mutton. Last accounts Great Britain had 1,500,000 turkeys.

The 652 registered trade unions of Great Britain have a total membership of 1,374,560.

About 5200 trade marks are registered during the course of the year at the patent office.

The Carnegie Steel Company pays about one-seventh of the entire taxes collected by the city of Youngstown, Ohio.

The number of horses in the United States January 1, 1909, was nearly 14,000,000.

In New York proposed extensions of the subway are contemplated which represent an expenditure of \$100,000,000.

During the last seventeen years, 22,340 men have lost their lives in U. S. mines and 11,000 of these deaths have occurred during the past six years.

The grand total of all federal employees at present is 370,065, as against 206,141 in 1907, an increase in the two years of about 64,000 persons, or about twenty per cent.

Upholding Rule of France in West Africa.



SENAGALESE SHARPshooters UNDER THE FRENCH FLAG.

France is depending more and more upon the loyalty of her black troops to maintain her authority in her West African possessions. The devotion of the Senegalese sharpshooters to the French flag has been repeatedly proved since the formation of the first company, in 1824, and cases of treason or desertion among them are unknown.

election ballot in his hand. I simply seek to arouse the people to faithful service in Christianity. That is my sole mission, whether I happen to be in France, England, Canada, the United States, or Australia.