PRUSSIAN NOBLES LOSE PRIVILEGES

Diet Law Withdraws All Special Advantages Enjoyed by "Higher Nobility."

ALL TITLES NOT ABOLISHED

Names Indicating Sovereignty Prohibited—"Lower Nobility" Retains Cognomens.

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Berlin, July 23.—The law abolishing all special privileges of the nobility, prescribed by the Prussian and German constitutions, has passed the Prussian Diet almost without attention or debate. With it disappears in Prussia such predicates as Royal or Serene Highnesses; the right of conferring titles of nobility; and the various traditional legal advantages of the higher nobility, such as exemption from arrest, trial only before special courts, and control over the conduct of members of the family, particularly in the matter of marriage. The law applies in its wording to the entire nobility, but as the so-called "lower nobility," including counts, countesses, barons and baroness possessed no special privileges, it seriously affects in practice only the members of the "higher nobility," as members of ruling or former sovereign houses ar estyled.

The provision by which the special "house laws" of such families, governing marriage, divorce, and placing under tutelage of family members, are abolished, is of special interest to a number of American women, married morganatically or "by the left hand" to members of sovereign or mediatized houses, and their descendants. As not "equally born," they were denied the full-effulgence of their consorts, and of wives qualified by the necessary "sixteen quarterings" (high nobility parentage for four generations) to marry with the elect; they were not entitled to bear the family name and title, but were compelled to pass through life as countesses or baronesses by the side of their royal or princely consorts. All distinction between regular and morganatic marriages now disappears, and with retroactive effect, so that the American woman who has married, or marries, in the future, a Prussian prince of unequal birth, her descendants are entitled to the designation of prince and the family name, instead of the lower title hitherto assigned to them.

The law does not abolish titles of nobility as such, but only those indicating sovereign rights, so that princes and princesses, counts and countesses, barons and baronesses, are still privileged to distinguish themselves by the old titles, though with one minor and rather amusing restriction, arising from the federal constitution. According to this, the predicate of nobility now is considered only as a part of the name so that it is no longer legally correct to speak of a "Princess," "Countess" or "Baroness" of So-and-So, but only, for example, of "Mrs. Prince Hohenzollern," "Mrs. Count Elphberg" or "Mrs. Baron Berckheim."

The exception, abolishing titles based on rights of sovereignty, is to obviate the present legal abnormality, under which there was nothing in the law of republican Germany to prevent William of Hohenzollern or his descendants from calling himself "King of Prussia." The Minister of Justice is also given a right of control over the action of formerly sovereign families, who are entitled to choose as the future appellation of the family one of the various designations which the families have accumulated in the course of the centuries, so that the minister could, should he think fit, lay a veto against selection of a particular designation tending to keep alive territorial pretentions of the monarchist houses. He might perhaps hesitate to approve the use of the word "Prussia" as part of the title of the Hohenzollerns.

Such is the law and such the future legal status of the Prussian nobility. What, however, no law and no decisions of "the masses" can probably affect is the social position and the inner relationship of these old dynastic families which, as the example of France has shown, persist in the hearts of the family members and of their followers, despite all legislative enactments to the contrary. The leading members of the Hohenzollerns, the Wittelsbachs, the Guelphs and other royal families will probably be as particular to keep alive their prestige and the pretensions of the family by contracting only the prescribed kind of marriages with their "equals" and observing the abolished "house law," as the Bonapartes and Bourbons. The barons and countesses in Germany will continue to enjoy the old social efulgence and thei rtitles the old matrimonial value, as is the case of their counterparts in republican France.

GENERAL TUAN HAS RESIGNED COMMAND

Turns Over Authority in Pekin to President Hsu Shi Chang — Fighting Ceased for Time.

Public Ledger Far East Cable Service
(Copyright, 1920, by Public Ledger Company.)
By ROGER AMOS BURR

Pekin, July 23—General Tuan, commander of the Anfuite troops, has suddenly resigned authority and responsibility in Pekin in favor of President Hau Shi Chang. It is unknown whether his action is a ruse or due to weakness following recent victories of the Reformists.

There is a lull in the fighting and President Hau Shi Chang is sending a mission to mediate between the factions. Pekin remains isolated, the Tientsin railway not having yet been opened.

MRS. M. E SMITH, prominent Tampa, Florida, woman, who says, thanks to Tanlac she is now able to walk around without the help of a cane after eight long years of suffering.

"I am so glad my health is being restored after suffering for over eight years with indigestion and rheumatism that I felt like telling everybody about Tanlac," was the enthusiastic statement made recently by Mrs. M. E. Smith, one of the best known and most highly respected women of Tampa, Fla., residing at 906 Morgan St.

"The rheumatism from which I had suffered for years even before I had stomach trouble, pained me worse than ever and until recently I was not only unable to walk without the use of a cane, but I was so weak at times I could hardly get out of bed. I tried many medicines but nothing helped me and I almost despaired of ever getting any better.

"Then Tanlac came along and in just a few days after I began taking this grand medicine, my appetite began to improve and in only a short time I was able to enjoy my meals and everything semed to agree with me perfectly.

"My rheumatism is so much better and I have so much more strength I am now able to walk all about the house and up and down the stairs without my cane. Friends who have become so accustomed to seeing me walk with my cane are astonished when they see me now walking around without it.

"I will always praise Tanlac for what it has done for me."

Tanlac is sold in St. John by Ross Drug Co., and F. W. Munro under the personal direction of a special Tanlac representative.—Advt.

OBITUARY.

W. S. D. Moore

The death of Mr. W. S. D. Moore, a prominent resident of Waterford, Kings County, N. B., occurred in the Moncton Hospital about six o'clock Thursday evening. Mr. Moore had been ailing for some time and was brought to the City Hospital at Moncton about two weeks ago for special treatment. Complications developed and the patient gradually declined death being due to heart failure.

The late Mr. Moore was well known in the Parish of Waterford and other sections of Kings County and was very highly esteemed. His death will be deeply regretted by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. He was a Past Master of the Orange Lodge, an active member of the Methodist church and took a deep interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the community in which he had resided so many years

Deceased was a carriage maker by trade and those who had business dealings with him learned to respect and admire him for his honorable dealings and courteous manner.

The late Mr. Moore was 67 years of age. His wife predeceased him some seven years. He is survived by three sons and two daughters. The sons are James, of St. John; Robert, at home, and Richard, of Toronto, who had a highly creditable record in the late war. The daughters are Margaret, who recently graduated as nurse from the Moncton hospital and who was in attendance upon her father while under treatment at Moncton and Annie, at home.

The remains will be taken to the family home at Waterford and the funeral will be held on Sunday afternoon, interment taking place at Sussex Corner cemetery.

Anthony Nobles

Anthony Nobles, one of the most highly respected citizens of this community, passed to his eternal reward very suddenly on the morning of July 18th at Hatfield Point, N. B. For some time Mr. Nobles had been in failing health, but nothing serious was anticipated. However, without warning he suddenly dropped dead from heart failure as he was preparing to attend church service. The place of the deceased will be hard to fill as he occupied a large place in the life of the community. Of a modest and retiring disposition, he was yet always foremost in all that made for the betterment of mankind. In religion he was a Baptist and at the time of his death was the oldest member of the First Springfield United Baptist Church. Born at Springfield in 1844, he soon manifested the fact that he was the possessor of a keen intellect. He began his public career as a teacher in the public schools of the province where he made good and at the time of his transition he was a successful farmer. Besides a host of relatives and friends he leaves to mourn her loss one sister, Mrs. Agnes Woodbury now of Boston. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. E. J. Barrass of Marysville, a former pastor of the deceased.

Mrs. James Calvin Colpitts

Salisbury, July 22—The entire community was shocked at the sudden death of Mrs. James Calvin Colpitts, of Binghampton, New York, which occurred at the City Hospital, Moncton, on Tuesday, July 20. Mrs. Colpitts was formerly Miss Ina M. Steeves, Salisbury, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Steeves. She first followed the profession of school teaching and later that of nursing, her last employment being in the Military Hospital at Halifax. She was married less than a year ago at the home of her parents to Mr. James Calvin Colpitts a prominent business man of Binghampton New York, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lane Colpitts of Colpitts, Albert County. A few weeks ago Mrs. Colpitts arrived home to spend the summer. On Monday evening Mrs. Colpitts was rushed to the City Hospital at Moncton, and underwent a maternity operation and died from the effects. She is survived by her husband and little son, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Steeves and three brothers, Chauncey, Gurney and Leigh Steeves of the Canadian West. Mr. Colpitts will arrive here Thursday night. The funeral will be held on Friday. Great sympathy is felt for the bereaved families. Mrs. Colpitts' mother, who has been seriously ill is completely prostrated with grief.

Herbert O Stuart.

Lambert's Cove, Deer Island, July 20.—The friends of this community were shocked to hear of the death of Herbert O. Stuart on July 9th, at the hospital in Calais, Me., following an operation for appendicitis.

He will be greatly missed by the young men of the place, with whom he was a favorite. Beautiful floral emblems in profusion testified to the esteem in which the young man was held.

The funeral was largely attended. The Orangemen of Lord's Cove, of which lodge deceased was a valued member, marched in a body having charge of the services at the grave.

He leaves to mourn their loss his father and mother, three sisters, Mrs. Edgar Butler, of Lambertville; Mrs. Edward Morrell, of Lowell, Mass., and Mrs. Horace Fountain, of Stuart Town; four brothers, James and Merton, of Lord's Cove; Cecil, of Lowell, Mass.; Lloyd, at home; also a host of relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Stuart have the sympathy of the entire district. He was laid to rest in the family lot, July 12. His age was 22 years.

"Long after a beautiful life is gone
To that fairer world on high,
Our lives are bright with the lingering lights,
For a true life cannot die."

Mrs. David Maxwell.

St. Stephen, July 23.—Announcement was made late this evening of the death of Mrs. David F. Maxwell, wife of the well-known civil engineer. Mrs. Maxwell left last week on an automobile trip, but was taken suddenly and severely ill at Houton and compelled to return home. Her death followed a surgial operation and is the cause of sincere sorrow for she was universally esteemed. She is survived by her husband one daughter, Mrs. A. E. Vessey, of St. Stephen, and two sons Reginald at home and Allen of Seattle also one brother, Charles McKenzie of Rumford, Me.

W. S. D. Moore.

Sussex, N. B., July 23.—The death of W. S. D. Moore of Waterford, Kings County, who passed away yesterday in the Moncton Hospital, was learned of with deep regret this morning. He was one of Kings County's most prominent citizens and always took an active interest in matters pertaining to the welfare of the community in whih he resided. The funeral will take place from his late residence at Waterford on Sunday at 10 o'clock, interment in Waterford cemetery.

FUNERALS.

The funeral of John O'Neill was held yesterday afternoon at 3.30 o'clock from Fitzpatrick's undertaking rooms to the Cathedral, where service was read by Rev. Zoel Landry. Interment in the new Catholic cemetery.

The funeral of Charles DeForest Fowler will take place this afternoon at 2.30 o'clock from Knox church.

R. R. GROUP RULING PLANNED IN BRITAIN

Government Proposes Giving Workers Part in Management — Directors Oppose Scheme.

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London, July 23.—According to the American Chamber of Commerce in London, the proposals of the British Government for the future working of the railways involve the amalgamation of the whole into a number of groups limited to seven.

Each of the groups will be controlled by a board of management, consisting of shareholders, who will form the majority, administrative officials and workers. The latter will thus have a direct share in the management of the industry.

Rates and fares will be fixed at such a level as to enable the railway companies to earn a revenue equivalent to the combined net pre-war revenue of the campanies absorbed in the group. Of any surplus revenue, of the companies absorbed, the government will take a share to form a fund for the development purposes and for other purposes in connection with transport.

The protection of the general public will be assured by the right of the state to demand adequate services and adequate facilities, and in order to obtain economical working, compensation between the groups will be stopped. No financial guarantee will be given by the government.

The new plan, says the chamber, has already been severely criticized as unworkable. The railway board of directors will hold a meeting at an early date to consider what action will be necessary to convince the government that it will not accept the scheme or even agree to help in its working.

THE GREAT IMPERSONATION

By E. Phillips Oppenheim

Starts on Page 11.

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