

## British and Foreign

## HIGH FINANCE IN RUSSIA.

The Czar has no civil list. When he wants some money he goes to the big chest and helps himself very much as they used to do in the Equitable building. All the money in the Imperial Treasury is regarded as the Emperor's personal property. Alexander II. drew \$30,000,000 one day and gave it to his morganatic wife, the Princess Dolgorouki for herself and her children.—Harper's Weekly.

## EARLY CLOSING OF SHOPS IN GLASGOW.

There is every prospect that the Shop Hours Act, which came into force in Glasgow on Monday night, will prove to be unworkable. Some extraordinary anomalies have been witnessed since the Act came into force. Not only are several shops, such as barbers and china merchants, open when they should be closed, but other shops are open for the sale of certain articles only. Thus a licensed grocer may sell alcohol until 10 o'clock, but he cannot supply customers with cheese or ham and similar articles after eight.

Confectioners, fruiterers, and dairy-keepers may keep open after eight o'clock, but are not allowed to sell tea or other groceries. A baker may sell fancy bread, but not an ordinary loaf. There is much irritation among the grocers, because the stores in model lodging-houses are allowed to remain open after the outside shops which sell the same articles are closed. It is possible, however, that these lodging-houses will be placed under the same conditions as other shops. Vigilance committees of traders are being formed for the enforcement of the Act among all shopkeepers.

## GENERAL BOOTH'S DREAM.

Five hundred young men and women enrolled as "cadets" for training in the international training institutions of the Salvation Army were publicly "received" by General Booth at Exeter Hall, on Monday. The general gave an address on "The Salvation officer the world needs to-day." He said by night and by day he cherished the dream of the establishment of a university of humanity, in which men and women would be instructed in the best modes of dealing with social problems.

The Salvation Army, continued the General, was doing a great deal more than their friends imagined. They had 1,337 cadets in training throughout the world, and 7,676 were in the corps preparing to go to the training homes.

Two months ago 400 cadets were commissioned as officers, and were sent to various places in the United Kingdom, India, Japan, Java, Holland, Malta, South America and the West Indies. The General also stated that officers were badly needed by the Army, and if he had 1,000 of them he could dispose of them in different parts of the world where they would be able to earn good livelihoods and do good work.

**School Teachers Strike.**—Some 200 children attending the National schools at Caerphilly, Rhymney valley were refused admission on Monday, the whole of the teaching staff having declined to resume duties after the Christmas holidays. Some months ago the Glamorgan County Education Committee ordered certain repairs to be done at the schools. The local managers did not complete the work, and after repeated threats by the County Committee the salaries of the 17 teachers were stopped five months ago. The managers have offered to complete the work if the salaries are paid, but the County Committee declines any overtures of this nature.

## SUNDAY CLOSING IN SYDNEY.

A telegram from Melbourne states that the new liquor legislation of New South Wales, rendering customers as well as publicans found in hotels on Sunday liable to prosecution, has been wonderfully successful. Last Sunday in Sydney, where the law was tried for the first time, the marvellous change astonished the police in the metropolitan area. There were only six arrests for drunkenness, and only four persons found on licensed premises. It was, in fact, the soberest Sunday within the memory of Sydney people.

## APPEAL TO POSTERITY.

Mr. Chamberlain, in the course of a speech in the Theatre Royal, Wednesday, on Monday, declared that he wanted, as the last act of his public and political life, to do something which should be remembered long afterwards. He had given up petty ambitions in order to take up a much greater and a much more important issue. Other countries defended their manufacturers and their workers against unfair competition, and we should do likewise. There was not a single State in Europe, except Turkey, that allowed unrestricted free imports.

## STATEMENT WITHDRAWN.

In his speech at Derby, on January 4, Mr. Chamberlain said we had something like one million able-bodied men, or men not at all events in old age, who were being maintained at the expense of the

rates of the country in our workhouses and infirmaries.

This statement was denied by Mr. John Burns in a letter, which appeared in Wednesday's Times, figures being quoted to show that the number of able-bodied men in workhouses on July 1 last was 7,615.

"I admit he has caught me out," said Mr. Chamberlain at Birmingham on Wednesday. What Mr. Chamberlain meant to say was that there were at least a million paupers in this country who were in receipt of pauper relief indoor and outdoor. He withdrew altogether the statement he made in the middle of a turbulent meeting, but it did not alter the argument.

## MR. ASQUITH.

Mr. Asquith, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his address to the electors of East Fife, refers to fiscal reform as the issue that overshadows all other questions. He points out that under Free Trade the cost of production is as a rule lower here than in any of the Protectionist countries of the world, and adds: "The real motive of the large majority of those who wish to set up a general tariff here is not so much to force open other markets as to close our own. They are victims of the antiquated fallacy that the imports which come here by way of interest on British capital, or in payment for British goods and services, involves a displacement of British labor. Upon these proposals, which now form the avowed policy of the great bulk of the Tory party, I invite you to pass an emphatic and decisive condemnation. Remember that a Tory majority means a Protectionist majority, and that against Protection the House of Lords affords no defence."

## LABOR QUESTIONS.

Speaking at Huddersfield on Monday, Mr. Asquith said the whole Liberal party was united in desiring that the law relating to trade disputes and combination should be brought back to the state which Parliament originally intended, but which, owing to the interpretation of the courts, was not being practically carried into effect. He could assure them, on behalf of his Majesty's Government, that they were at this moment engaged in devising the best means of securing the necessary modifications and amendments of the law.

The other question affecting particularly the interests of labor was the amendment and extension of the law of compensation to workmen. They wanted to get rid of illogical technicalities and limitations. He wished to see the Act extended without qualification to all industrial employment, and he was sure if the country would give them time and

would be patient, they would find before they were many years older a really satisfactory law upon that subject placed upon the statute book (Cheers.)

## CONTROL OF EDUCATION.

If Liberals received the authority of the country at the polls, said Mr. Asquith, at Stockton on Tuesday, they were going to submit to the House of Commons that it should bring public education wherever it was supported, out of public funds under complete public control; and, as a corollary of that, they were going to put an end to the state of things—injurious to the conscience and still more detrimental to the interests of the public service—by which a great and honorable profession was subjected to denominational tests.

## PROTECTION NO REMEDY FOR DISTRESS.

Criticizing tariff reform at Montrose on Monday, Mr. Morley said the party asking their votes for Protection had launched on a great economic ocean without a rudder and without a compass. Once let Protection get in its little finger and we should find it our master. No doubt there was suffering in particular districts and trades, but this was due to large general causes which we could no more arrest than we could arrest the tides. If we went and played the fool with economical things, with our industries, markets, merchants, and bankers, then we should have misery at our hearth.

Heckling followed the speech, and to one question Mr. Morley replied. "There is no opinion I hold more firmly to-day than I do the opinion expressed in 1902 that if you had had at the Conference at Bloemfontein a British agent of discretion and prudence the war would not have taken place."

## WOMAN'S ACTIVE PART IN THE CAMPAIGN.

Women are playing a prominent part in the present campaign, the wives of candidates in particular. Mrs. Herbert Gladstone and Lady Edmund Talbot are doing good work for their husbands. Noble names who bear the names of Willoughby, Tweeddale, Dalrymple, Denman, Helmsley, Vincent, Bentinck, Pole-Carew, Kerry, Castlereagh, Jersey, Aberdeen, and Guinness are pervading the constituencies of their respective favorite champions.

Miss Violet Brooke-Hunt, an ardent tariff-reformer, held an audience of 5,000 respectfully silent for over an hour, and Miss Dorothy Hunter drew 2,000 listeners into the town hall of Chichester, which is built to seat only 800.

Mrs. Rea, the wife of the Liberal candidate for Scarborough, caused huge

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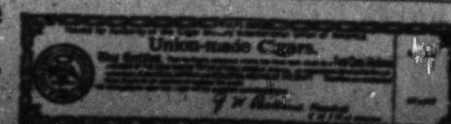
NELSON; MONTH, 1905.

Minister of Agriculture.

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