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A PAGE OF SPECIAL FEATURES FOR TIMES READERS

ENCOURAGING OF SPORT IN FRANCE

Movement For The Good of The Nation

PENSION ACT FAILURE

It is Being Remodelled — Balkan War Result Pleases Frenchmen; Allies' Victories Attributed to Superiority of French Artillery Used by Little States

(Times Special Correspondence)

Paris, Dec. 12—The poor figure cut by France at the last Olympic Games has very naturally caused much perturbation in athletic circles, but a less-expected consequence has been the very serious consideration of physical culture, not as a means of winning cups and laurels, but as the first step towards regenerating the French race. This question has been very seriously taken up by scientists and statesmen, as well as by sportsmen and athletic societies, and the result is shown in an appeal made by the Marquis de Polignac for the foundation of a "College of Athletes," and by athletes he is careful to explain that he means "normal" men. He says:—

"At the present time there is a growing taste for sport, not only among the middle classes, but among the population generally. The transformations effected by this new tendency are enormous, and are as much psychological as physical. Existing societies, whose extensive work is admirable, have endeavored to co-ordinate their efforts and initiative, but there is a national and social necessity for the generalization of the sporting taste for the following reasons:—Physical sport is the best antidote to alcoholism, by exciting in the individual a superior kind of pleasure, and the need of exercise in flagrant contradiction to the life of the publichouse. Experience proves this every day.

"Moreover, sport is a prophylactic against tuberculosis, and the Faculty of Medicine shows this by its attitude in favor of sport. It also constitutes a means of fighting depopulation, for where it does not give quantity it gives quality. At the present day nearly 30 per cent. of conscripts are rejected on the score of physical infirmity. From the social standpoint sport is a factor for moral healthiness. It permits of popular violence finding vent in a normal and courteous struggle. It fortifies the spirit of discipline and the national instinct. Our defeats at Stockholm have drawn attention to the dangers that our race runs. This has led us to propose the foundation of a 'College of Athletes,' and by athletes is meant—in the sense of the Academy of Medicine—the 'normal' man."

The Marquis de Polignac proceeds to sketch the main idea of the scheme which is to create a centre for studying all questions touching physical education, and instructors and trainers, and finally to provide a school for producing champions to represent France at international contests. In order to facilitate the object in view it is proposed to start numerous spacious free recreation grounds over the whole of France. The Marquis de Polignac was one of the first to encourage aviation, and it is largely due to his effort that France so quickly took the lead in this form of scientific sport. The present project is backed by many influential sportsmen and men of weight in the scientific and political world. Merely as a sporting proposition his idea would not perhaps appeal to the public, but the grounds of improving the national health, diminishing crime and increasing the population are strong reasons for encouraging the venture.

Pension Act Not a Success

The French Old Age Pensions Act has now been in force for a year and four months, and it is so far from having come up to the expectations of its supporters that the minister of labor has decided to bring in a bill to amend the act with a view to restoring the compulsory principle. The official statistics concerning the working of the act are quite untrustworthy, and the director of the largest co-operative association in France, which numbers in all its branches about a million members and which has carried on a propaganda in favor of the act, says that it can be regarded only as a failure.

The bill voted by parliament made no provision for any punishment to be inflicted on the employe in case of refusal to pay his contribution, but it was not quite clear whether the employer rendered himself liable to penalties if he failed to pay his own contribution and to deduct the employe's contribution from his wages when he had as an excuse the refusal of his employe to comply with the provisions of the act. The "Cour de Cassation" decided that the employer was liable neither for his own nor his employe's contribution if the employe refused to subscribe to an old age pension.

This finding made the system an optional one, at least as far as the employe was concerned, and appeared to give satisfaction to all concerned. The new bill, however, will make employer and employe responsible for the payment of their contributions. If the employe refuses to have his contribution deducted from his wages the employer must pay in his own contribution on pain of a fine equivalent to the amount of the contributions due. The important point of the amendment, at least from the theoretical point of view, is that the beneficiary under the act is liable to the same penalty as his employer if he refuses to subscribe to a pension. The responsibility of employer and employe is exactly the same before the law, though it may well be doubted whether, in view of the hostility of the working classes to the scheme, the authorities will be able to exert on the isolated beneficiary the pressure that can easily be applied to large employers of labor.

War Result Pleases Frenchmen

At the time of the Russo-Japanese campaign, Frenchmen backed the wrong horse, and the humiliation of their allies (Continued on page 13, fourth column).

TO SPEND MORE THAN EVER ON GERMAN NAVY

Estimates of Expenditures For 1913 Reach Great Total of $119,276,750

A POLISH PROBLEM

Efforts to Germanize Poles Having Effect Not Calculated Upon—Reflection on Krupp Guns in Balkan War is Warmly Resented

(Times Special Correspondence.)

Berlin, Dec. 2—In 1915 the German fleet will consist of thirty-nine battleships, twenty armored cruisers, and thirty-seven protected cruisers, besides smaller warships. This information is contained in the navy estimates for 1913, which are officially published in the "North German Gazette." The feature of the estimates is that Germany will spend on her fleet in 1913 $119,276,750, which is by far the largest sum ever devoted by Germany to naval purposes in a single year.

The figures with reference to the strength of the fleet in 1915 are deduced from the introduction to the estimates, which points out that, with the vessels laid down in 1913 (which will be completed in ordinary circumstances in 1915) the fleet will be only two battleships and three protected cruisers short of the strength provided for by the navy act and its numerous amendments.

In addition to the vessels already mentioned, the estimates provided for the building of a torpedo flotilla and an expenditure of, in round figures, $5,000,000, as was the case last year, on submarines.

A Polish Problem

The fact is not generally known that there is a Polish problem and peril in Germany. With the view of promoting national union and strength a grand panacea has been formulated for the Germanization of the non-Teutonic races. The principal features of this official measure are the absolute suppression of any native language save German through alteration of Slavonic and Lithuanian names to a German form, and when necessary the removal of families and communities from regions where they are surrounded by non-German, and therefore dubious elements, to others, where they would be surrounded by the most emphatically German influences, the idea being that the alien race should be merged and lost in the German people.

In pursuance of this plan a large number of Polish citizens were forcibly transferred a few years ago from the banks of the Vistula to Westphalia and other districts comprised in the Western Marches.

The results have not been at all what was expected. In Westphalia the Poles are proving themselves more fiercely national than they were in East Prussia. The German education is no burden to this quick-witted and linguistically-endowed race. They take it as a disagreeable trifle, but their culture and conversation do not grow in any way less national. They are Poles removed from Poland, but not the less Polish. From the point of view of the germanization of this people the experiment is already a complete failure. The Prussians do not understand the Poles; they made the mistake of thinking that they could mould them to their will as they had done the milder races of the Palatinate, who have agreed to drop and forget the French tongue. But the Poles are made of sterner stuff; they have a history apart from Germany which they refuse to forget.

The Poles are not merely holding their own, but they are even gaining ground in their new western homes. Thanks to their cleverness and mechanical skill, they are preferred in many workshops and factories to native Germans. In Dusseldorf and other places they have established a firm footing; they are employed at Essen for some of the more delicate tasks. The point of interest to be noted is that the Poles, who were to be merged in the Germans, are expanding as a distinct community of their own. This has given alarm to the Germans of what are called the Western Marches, who are now bitterly reproaching the Berlin authorities for neglecting their interests by planting in their midst a foreign and disliked body of immigrants.

It is represented that the attempt to germanize the Poles has not merely failed, but that it is leading to a contamination of the purity of the German breed in parts of the empire which were essentially Teutonic. In other words, the Poles, who were to be germanized, are sapping the position of the Germans around them. German women are marrying Poles, because they earn good money and make better husbands than their own people, but the children remain Poles.

With the view of impressing the Berlin authorities, a German society has been formed under the title of "the German Society of the Western Marches" for the purpose of combatting and resisting Polish expansion. It has more than 50,000 members.

Recent Reflection on Guns

None of the slings and arrows which envious rivals have been levelling at the Fatherland for many years have quite ruffled German sensibilities so much as the insinuation that Krupp guns have failed in the Balkan war. No more unanimous or fervid protest could have been sent up by the nation if the reputation of the Kaiser himself were at stake. A slur on Krupps is unmistakably an aspersion on the empire itself.

The semi-official "Cologne Gazette" is particularly resentful over the suggestion that Essen-made artillery has been proved inferior to the French Creusot guns. "Our jealous and malicious rivals abroad," it says, "have even gone so far as to allege that Bulgarian victories have been won by the shells of the Creusot works. Now, everybody knows that Bulgaria, as the price of securing a loan in Paris, had to yield to the pressure of the French government and order guns in Creusot; but King Ferdinand's war office was prudent enough not to buy its ammunition there, but from Krupp. Above all, Bulgaria studiously refrained from purchasing any French powder. Had she done so, her gunners would today be lying cold in their graves."

WOMEN FACTORY INSPECTORS TESTIFY ABOUT CHILD LABOR CONDITIONS BEFORE COMMISSION

INVESTIGATORS OF FACTORY CONDITIONS

New York, Dec. 14—The state factory commission is investigating the conditions of child labor here. At previous meetings shocking conditions have been revealed by the inspectors. Miss Mary C. Dreier is the only woman member of the commission. She has personally investigated many places in which women and children are employed. The inspectors shown in the picture are, from left to right, Miss Maud Miner, Miss Elizabeth C. Watson, Mrs. Joseph Goldmark, Miss Dreier, and Miss Pauline Goldmark.

A BALKAN "SHEPHERDESS" WHO BECAME A QUEEN

(London Tit-Bits.)

The bitterest disappointment in the life of the Dowager Queen Margherita, of Italy, arose from an event which should have brought her prolonged and unalloyed happiness. On November 11th, 1869, a son was born to her. Queen Margherita and her husband, the late King Humbert, who was so foully assassinated on that fateful day in July, 1900, rejoiced with all Italy. And then came a terrible awakening. Gravely and reluctantly the physicians told the Royal mother that the young prince could not live. He was practically a hunch-back, and the most sickly and delicate of children. "He will not outlive babyhood," declared the physicians.

When one remembers what a magnificent specimen of manhood the late King Humbert was—a soldier who won distinction on the battlefield as a dashing cavalryman—and when one calls to mind the beauty of Queen Margherita—a beauty which she still retains to a remarkable degree—one can fully understand the poignant disappointment which their Majesties felt when they looked at their puny offspring and saw what a physical wreck he was.

"I Cannot Marry"

And their disappointment was shared in after years by the Prince of Naples—as the King of Italy then was—although he derided the physicians' forebodings, and by a system of careful living and Spartan training, developed from a weakling into a fairly healthy man.

"Marry!" he said, scornfully, when Crispi the great Italian statesman, suggested that he should choose a German or English bride. "I cannot. I will never risk giving to Italy a second misfit king." And the bitterness with which he made the remark was accentuated by the fact that his beautiful and ambitious mother had sent him on courting expeditions to the various capitals of Europe; but even the ugliest princesses had turned their backs upon the hunchback prince who would one day be King of Italy.

But Fate was hastening a meeting which was to break down the Prince's resolution; for love will not be denied. While he was wandering about Europe in search of a bride, a Montenegrin 'shepherdess' was finishing her education in St. Petersburg. The "shepherdess" was Princess Elena, fourth child of King Nicholas of Montenegro, whose great friendship with the late Czar Alexander III. led to his daughters spending a great deal of their childhood in St. Petersburg, where they were educated under the special protection of the Empress.

Domestic Training

The Princess was a girl of exceedingly simple habits. Her great delight before she left her father's humble home at Cetinje, the capital of Montenegro, for the splendours of the Russian Court at St. Petersburg, was to don the native dress, mix with her fathers' subjects, take part in the dairy farming, shoot, fish and ride, or spend long days among the wild mountain passes that look across the Adriatic to Italy. Never did Royal lady have a more thoroughly domestic upbringing than the future Queen of Italy. She was taught to sew and darn and early grounded in those housewifely arts which are seldom included in the curriculum of a Royal princess.

She was passionately fond of dairy farming, and it was this passion which led to her being somewhat contemptuously referred to as the "shepherdess" by those who did not agree with the wife chosen by the Prince of Naples. She took the keenest interest in the management of the flocks of sheep and cattle which her father possessed, and there was a little incident which occurred some time after her marriage which illustrates how thoroughly she had acquired the knowledge of dairy farming.

She was out walking in the country with her husband, when she expressed a wish for something to drink, as the weather was very warm. Further on their journey they met an old peasant woman minding a cow, and the King politely asked her for a little milk. Quite unaware of his identity, the old dame refused, but volunteered to go to her cottage near by and fetch a glass of water if the strangers would take care of the animal. Laughingly consenting, their majesties bade her hurry off. Directly her back was turned the Queen seized a bowl which the peasant had left behind and herself milked the cow until the vessel was filled. Having satisfied her thirst, her Majesty put a gold piece in the empty bowl, and then she and the King retired.

The simple upbringing of Princess Elena, however, was quite in accordance with Montenegrin traditions. In Montenegro the women are practically the slaves of the men, the popular proverb being "My wife is my mule." The best wife is the one who is capable of doing any work, and it is said that Elena's father gave her as a wedding present a decree of protection for the peasant women of his country; for Nicholas is proud of Montenegrin women—their patriotism and their domestic virtues. It was to them that he dedicated his most popular drama, "The Maiden of the Balkans" which begins, "O Montenegrin women, I bless you! You who keep so deep in your hearts the love of the Fatherland, who have accompanied us on all the fields of battle, and who mourn only at the end of the fight for those who have perished."

Might Have Been Czarina

In spite of her simplicity, however, and the fact that she was unaccustomed to the splendours of Royal life—for there is no more primitive royal residence in Europe than that of the King of Montenegro at Cetinje—Alexander III. was so greatly attached by the charm and beauty of the young Princess that he proposed a marriage between her and the present Czar of Russia. Thus it was quite possible at one time that the rural daughter of Montenegro might have become the consort of the Czar of all the Russias. But Nicholas II. was not heart-free, and, although a great friendship existed between the two young people, the Princess Elena returned to Cetinje at the age of eighteen without having entered into any attachment.

Curiously enough, it was at the funeral of Alexander III., on November 19th, 1894, that the Princess first met her future husband. At that time her Majesty was twenty-one years of age, a strikingly handsome brunette, with dark eyes, jet-black hair and a very fair complexion. It was, however, her simple womanliness which attracted the prince, for he himself was a man who abhorred state ceremonials and court life. He immediately fell in love with her, but it was not until the following year that they met again at the Venice Exhibition, when he had an opportunity of becoming more closely acquainted with the lady who was to share his throne.

He proposed to her, was accepted, and King Humbert readily gave his consent to the marriage when he understood the deep affection which existed between his son and Princess Elena, although there was considerable opposition to the marriage, notably on the part of Queen Margherita and various ministers. But Crispi advocated it when he saw how determined the Prince of Naples was to make a love-match of his own.

Furthermore, he saw—and here we get a striking illustration of the astuteness of the famous Italian statesman—that Princess Elena was not only a beautiful girl, but a very healthy one, coming from a family free from any taint of scrofula, the curse of all old Royal houses. And today the "misfit" king is the father of four of the most charming and healthy children in Europe.

The marriage took place on October 24th 1896, and a striking passage in "Intimacies of Court and Society," a book of memoirs compiled by the widow of an American diplomat, provides an interesting picture of the 'shepherdess" princess at the time. "I remember very well,' says the author, "when Elena made her first appearance at the Roman Court, walking into the concert room of the Quirinal as if she were in a dream. The daughter of an untutored ruler in a small mountain state in the Balkans, who dispenses justice at the open door of his house among his rude shepherd subjects, she had married for love and nothing else, and to a man who would one day make her a queen. How many queens in all history have held such a cup to their lips! But her striking brunette beauty and shy, diffident manner had the refreshing appeal of a sweet mountain rose, and, looking at the bridegroom's anaemic, expressionless face and stunted figure, one could not help but feel that he, and not she, had made the better bargain. . . . Queen Margherita received her with a certain dignified graciousness, but no cordiality, and the Bourbon Princess, with something like open contempt, speaking of her in private as the "shepherdess.'"

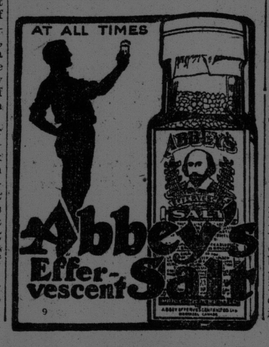
Unpopular Economy

At first the Princess had many prejudices on the part of the Italian aristocracy to fight against. After the simple life at Cetinje she was appalled at the waste and extravagance of the Royal Court, and she soon set to work to economize in every direction. This brought her into direct conflict with Roman society, who began to look askance at the simple manner in which the prince and his wife lived. This economy was still continued when the assassination of King Humbert in 1900 led to the prince occupying the throne, and today both the king and his wife adhere to the simple, unaffected ways which always characterized the life of the Balkan "shepherdess."

RAYS OF THE SUN

The most exquisite dress is composed of rose colored satin covered by a long tunic, which is again fashionable. Its distinguishing feature is the unique arrangement of green and gold pearl embroidery which spreads out like rays from the sun.

The happiest of all lives, says Lord Rosebery, is the life of an English country gentleman.



GREAT PROPERTY SALES IN ENGLAND

Those by One Firm Are Fifteen Millions In Value

TOTAL 165,896 ACRES

The Moving Pictures in the Schools —Cholera Outbreak Not Causing Scare in Old Country—London's Only Liveried Woman Chauffeur

(Times Special Corerspondence.)

London, Dec. 6—Some idea of the extent to which landed property has changed hands in England this year is afforded by a pamphlet of sale results from April to October. The pamphlet refers to a total area of 165,896 acres, and the value of the estates sold during seven months by one firm exceeds $15,000,000. The list refers only to landed estates submitted to auction, and does not include London properties or estates sold at private terms.

Among the stately or historic homes which figure in the list are many of world-wide interest. Here are some of the properties sold and the names of their former owners:—

Hubborn, Hants: The late Admiral Sir A. G. Curzon-Howe.

Redlynch, Somerset: Once the home of Sir Stephen Fox, one of the founders of Chelsea Hospital.

Sibson, Leicestershire: Earle Howe.

Finedon Hall, Northhants: Miss Mackworth Dolben.

Rug, Merionethshire: Hon. Mrs. C. H Wynn.

Sittenham, Yorks: The Duke of Sutherland.

Hilders Court, Sussex: The late T. S. Richardson.

Titsey, Kent: C. Leveson-Gower.

Brasted Place, Kent: The late Colonel W. Feardon Tipping.

Curzon Park, Cheshire: Earl Howe.

Great Glenham, Suffolk: The Marchioness of Graham.

Hemsted, Kent: The Earl of Cranbrook.

Darsham Hall, Suffolk: The Earl of Stradbroke.

Vale Royal, Cheshire: Lord Delamere.

Murton, Durham: Lady Knaresborough.

Marton, Yorks: Lord and Lady Knaresborough.

Rannock, Perth: Lady Menzies.

Crowender, Kent: Lord Brabourne.

Essenden Place, Herts: Lord Dimsdale.

Pesmarsh, Sussex: Mrs. C. Liddell.

Among the estates to be put up for auction next season are Margaret Lady Heytesbury's Isle of Wight estates; part of Sir Ailwyn Fellowes' Honingham Hall estate in Norfolk; Ridley Hall, belonging to the Earl of Cottenham; and Stoughton, near West Dean, including the celebrated Stoughton Gallons.

Moving Pictures in Schools

The cinematograph is likely to have a place almost at once in the ordinary school curriculum, the education committee of the London County Council being unanimous as to the desirability of introducing it. What that means to the child, to the teacher, and to education a very brief glance will reveal. To the child it will be like the opening of a watch to see how "the wheels go round," in comparison with mystifying oral instruction on the matter. School will be like "going to see the pictures," and the little ones will probably be waiting until the doors open. There will be no more empty evening schools or continuation classes; the youth of England will be attacked by a thirst for learning.

To see the history of their country acted before their eyes from the ancient Britons downwards, to watch the intermixture of race—Scandinavian, Teuton, Saxon, Norman, and so—will not be a "lesson" as previously conceived. To see the "Panama Canal" film revealing the whole of the work and construction of forty-five miles from the Atlantic to the Pacific shore will be a draught of geography wholly sweet. The birth of flowers, a drop of water under the microscope, the examination of the body by X-rays, the life of ants, the part played by air in respiration—no child will consider a picture of one of these a lesson.

For the teacher life will be infinitely easier. The effort to attract and keep the attention will no longer have to go in harness with the necessity of imparting knowledge. By the latest development of cinematography, an invention by which the picture can be stopped at any point desired, the teachers are enabled to make sure that their classes have absorbed the significance of the lesson.

The advent of the cinema will make education much faster and fuller and broader. The child will see in an hour what often a whole year of teaching might not impart, and the picture of things as they are will be absolutely imprinted on the young and susceptible mind. The county council will appoint a committee to censor educational films for the schools.

Cholera

The outbreak of cholera in the Balkan Peninsula has not caused any alarm here. It is now many years since a serious epidemic occurred in England, and experience has shown how well the health service protects these islands when the disease is raging in parts of the European continent closely connected to them by shipping. Only those who have had to face one of the periodic outbursts of Asiatic cholera can fully realize the terror which its onset brings, the malignity of its swift attack on the individual, and the fury of its relentless spread among the closely packed communities of the east.

Centuries ago Dutch and Portuguese travelers were appalled at a peculiar scourge which from time to time terrorized the oriental people with whom they had come into contact, but it was only some sixty years since it became understood that this mysterious malady was the same disease—cholera—which from time to time swept across the world, with such terrible results. The death-dealing contagion has indeed but one rival, well called the "Black Death."

J. E. REDMOND CRITICAL OF THE UNIONISTS

They Would Have Minority Pull Down and Destroy Parliament

IRISH LEADERS' SPEECH IN CORK

The Crisis Which Arose at Westminster—Sees Effort to Render Useless the Veto Bill — Irish Parliament Powers Under Home Rule

(Times Special Correspondence.)

Dublin, Dec. 2—J. E. Redmond, M. P., speaking at Cork, said that within the last few weeks both inside and outside parliament, Unionists bodies had revealed themselves and their policy to the people of the country in such a way as to ensure their speedy condemnation. In parliament the leaders of the Unionist party proved themselves parliamentary anarchists. Their policy was that if they, the minority—with a large majority of more than 100 against them—were not allowed to have their own way, they would pull down and destroy the Parliament of England. Outside parliament they had been proving themselves to be reactionaries of the worst type. A deliberate attempt, he remarked, had been made for the first time in history by the responsible leaders of one of the great political parties of this country to enable the minority by violence and disorder to put argument and reason absolutely on one side, and by violence and disorder to overcome the vast majority of the elected representatives of the people of Great Britain and Ireland.

He wished to say in all seriousness that if that attempt succeeded, if it was once established that by the sheer disorder and violence of an organized body of men in parliament the majority of the elected representatives of the people could be overborne, it would mean an end of parliamentary government.

"Such a proceeding," he continued, "is pure anarchism, such a precedent means the end of the British constitution. If the doctrine is seriously laid down, and if the precedent is seriously established that grave disorder, such as that which justified the speaker under the standing orders in adjourning the house, can be created by a body of men without any individual among them being held to be guilty of being disorderly and therefore open to punishment, then I say that at any time in the future, no matter what government is in office, Scotch, Liberal, Tory, Labor, or Irish Nationalists—will have it in their power to break the parliamentary machine and bring the government of this country by constitutional means to an end.

"Mark the seriousness of the situation. Mr. Bonar Law has said that rather than concede home rule to Ireland he would break the parliament machine, but I say that the British people would not permit their parliamentary machine to be broken, and that what will be broken will not be the free parliament of the British people, but the men and the party who attempt to break it."

Trying to Kill Veto Bill

The crisis which had arisen at Westminster, he proceeded, was, in reality, merely a continuance of the fight against the veto bill of last year. The opponents of that bill failed to defeat it. Now the "die-hards" had revived, and they wanted to defeat the veto bill by rendering it inoperative. These gentlemen were trying by sheer violence and disorder to force a dissolution on each of the great measures now before the house, and in that way to render the veto bill an absolute nullity. The existence of the House of Commons was at stake. This was the issue which had been definitely raised. For his part he rejoiced at it. He saw a great deal of what he might, without want of politeness, call nonsense in some of the newspapers about what had occurred necessitating a revision and curtailment of the legislative programme of the government. Some delay had been caused, but, after all, what were a few days, or a few weeks, or even a few months in a fight like this? The fatal thing would be to allow disorder and violence on the floor of the House of Commons to be successful. The one fatal thing would be to allow what had happened to curtail the programme of the government.

He and his colleagues were represented to the English people as purely selfish politicians, thinking only of their own measures. There was no sacrifice of time or of labor that they would not willingly and proudly undergo to help to pass the Scotch bill and Welsh Disestablishment bill and other bills which were before parliament.

He recalled how the crisis had arisen in connection with the finance of the home rule bill, and in referring to the amendment of Sir Frederick Banbury as having been carried by a snatch vote, said no reasons were given in support of it. It was not arguable, because it was not the proposition of a serious politician; it was simply a piece of malicious mischief—what he might call the prank of a political Puck.

It was constantly being said in England that the English people were being asked to finance and subsidize home rule, but that was a ridiculous and an untrue statement. It was a source of humiliation to Irishmen that there should be any deficit to be provided for at the commencement of the home rule bill, and it was their ambition as speedily as possible, not only to pay their own way, but their fair share of imperial expenses. This was not a mere question of pounds, shillings and pence; it was something far greater. It was a (Continued on page 11, fourth column).

THE PLAGUE

Centuries ago Dutch and Portuguese travelers were appalled at a peculiar scourge which from time to time terrorized the oriental people with whom they had come into contact, but it was only some sixty years since it became understood that this mysterious malady was the same disease—cholera—which from time to time swept across the world, with such terrible results. The death-dealing contagion has indeed but one rival, well called the "Black Death."

(Continued on page 12, third column).