

NEW POLICE REGULATIONS—Following on the adoption of the raised scale of pay and the formation of a pension fund, Inverness Burgh Police have been placed under a new set of rules and conditions of service which is singularly minute in character. Among the negative stipulations is one to the effect that constables are not to be permitted to carry umbrellas when on duty in uniform; nor can they smoke or “keep company,” at least in the shape of dogs. Even in the matter of private debts the constable comes under the discretionary eye of the Superintendent: “he shall immediately pay such debts due by him as the Superintendent may direct,” but no mention is made as to where the money is to come from. “Each man,” it is also ordered, “shall devote his whole time to the service, and shall not, either directly or indirectly, carry on, or have any interest in any trade or business. He shall serve and reside wherever he is ordered, and shall not receive a lodger without the sanction of the Superintendent. He shall abstain from the expression of any party or sectarian opinions which may in the slightest degree be calculated to give offence, and he shall not belong to any political society, or any secret society, but he may be a Freemason. He shall not, on any pretext whatever, take money from any person either as a reward or gratuity without the express permission of the Superintendent.” For infringements of these and other rules, (134 in all), the constable is subject to fines “not exceeding one week’s pay for each offence.”

Electric lighting in private houses has at length taken a firm hold upon London society. Nearly all the best houses are lighted by electricity, and, as the supply companies are prospering, they constantly add improvement and inducement. When the electric light for house use first became a possibility, enthusiasts determined to have it were driven to draw supply from their own stores. Sir Arthur Sullivan, one of the first to use the electric light, had it made on the premises, albeit he lives in a flat in Victoria street. Now he has given up his private works, and takes his supply from one of the public companies. A well known Q. C., having the advantage of considerable garden ground in costly Kensington, still keeps on his works and his engineer, and is well satisfied with the result. His house is lavishly and beautifully lit. His latest device is an electric light in his brougham. This shines down from the roof, suffusing the interior with a beautiful steady glow that makes it as easy to read in the carriage by day as it is by night.

The Zone system of railway travelling, which has proved so successful in Austria and Hungary, as well as in some parts of Sweden, where it has been adopted, came into operation on the Cork and Blackbrook Railway the other day. Thus Ireland has the credit of leading the way of an experiment to which all friends of railway reform will wish a success which may induce speedy imitation on more important railway systems.

The Registrar-General, replying, on April 29th, to a question, says the results of the recent census now appearing in the papers, and which in many instances are ludicrously and obviously incorrect, must have been furnished in direct contravention of the census instructions. The preliminary report will probably be presented to Parliament before the end of June.

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