

LESE MAJESTY IN GERMANY

Subjects of the Kaiser Have to Exercise Extreme Caution to Avoid Trouble.

Accustomed to a frank discussion of politics and politicians when the opportunity offers, an American looks with pity on the unfortunate position of the German, who must keep a close watch on his tongue when he discusses state affairs.

The courts interpret it so broadly that the very thought to offend, says the Philadelphia Record, either in public or private furnishes ground for prosecution.

Scarcely a week passes without the notice in the press of four or five trials of this character, and yet no other section of the criminal code is so frequently broken.

Two men in a wandering show, much like a minstrel affair, after a dialogue in which the favorite mottoes of past emperors were rehearsed, came to the living, and then one asked for the favorite maxim of William II.

It cost the man who made the reply three months in a fortress. In that time he studied out a means of squaring himself with those who enforced the law, and when the performances were resumed to large audiences drawn by his escapade—the first questions were repeated while the police grimly waited for the climax.

Far more serious than the offenses of those who merely repeat disrespectful stories about the kaiser are the constant evasions and violations of the law in the press and periodicals of Germany, which are embittered enough to use every opportunity for a fling at him.

LAND OF PARIS CABMEN.

The Place to Which They Return with Their Savings to End Their Days.

It is a peculiarity of Paris, which every visitor who knows enough French to tell one dialect from another must have noticed, that nearly all Paris cabmen come from the same part of the country.

The cab drivers' land is probably little known to Englishmen. It is down in the Aveyron, and Rodez is its capital, a tiny village, where the worst language and the best hearts in all France are to be found.

For years they drive about in all weathers, scraping together sou by sou until they have garnered enough to go home and pay for their board and lodging for the remainder of their days.

There is an old priest in Rodez who thoroughly understands his flock. He never asks them to enter the church, but chats with them outside it, and preaches informal sermons as he thinks fit.

One Privilege of the Rich. "What would you do if you were rich?" asked the New York man. "Well," replied the man from Chicago, "I suppose the first thing I would do would be to have dinner at supper time, like the rest of the rich folks."

EAR CHEWED OFF BY HORSE

Vicious Animal of Topeka Department Has Attached Several Men.

Topeka, Kan.—L. E. Berger, a Topeka fireman, is minus an ear. "Old Bull," one of the horses on the fire department, caught Berger by the ear and shook him like a dog would shake a rat, severing the entire ear from his head.

Another fireman saw the horse grab Berger's ear and ran to his rescue, but "Old Bull" would not release his hold until Berger fell to the floor of the fire station, minus one ear.

The team, attached to one of the department wagons, had just returned from a fire in the county jail. Berger stepped in front of the horses to unshackle the hames and lift them up to the hooks above the horses' backs.

Without warning the vicious animal seized the fireman and shook him until Berger fainted. Then "Old Bull" stood there with the man's ear between his teeth, refusing to release it until a whip was used upon him.

"Old Bull" has a reputation for viciousness. A few months ago, while being curried, he caught Fireman Baker by the top of the head and shook him, pulling out a large bunch of hair from Baker's head.

Despite this habit he is well liked by all the firemen, who say he is the best horse in the department. He will rush right into a fire, and seems to know that it is his duty to get to a burning building as soon as possible.

One peculiar thing about "Old Bull" is that he never bites at the firemen except when he has returned from a fire and is being unhitched.

MARRIES FRIEND'S MOTHER

James W. Stanley, Seeking Modification of Divorce, Alleges He Was Deceived.

New York.—James William Stanley asked Justice Greenbaum, of the supreme court, to modify a decree of divorce granted to his wife, Sarah Taylor Stanley, in 1900. Incidentally he made the astonishing statement that, whereas he had intended to marry his college chum's sister, he had since discovered that the woman who became his wife was his friend's mother.

According to the affidavits submitted to Justice Greenbaum, Stanley first met his future wife in 1893. He was at that time 20 years old. He says in the papers now on file:

"At that time, 1893, I was a student at Cooper institute, and there I met a young man named James Dye. He was about 16 years old. We became very friendly and he invited me to his home, where I was introduced to the plaintiff (Mrs. Stanley) as his sister.

CHURCH HAS \$40,000,000

That Total Reached in Voluntary Contributions During 1905 in Church of England.

London.—Statistics just issued of the voluntary offerings of the Church of England for the year ended with Easter, 1905, are of considerable interest in view of the sermon of the archdeacon of London on the poverty of the Anglican clergy and the necessity of the reendowment of the Church of England.

The total amount of these voluntary offerings exceeded \$3,000,000. Of this amount \$2,290,247 was collected for general purposes. The largest items under this head were \$772,000 for foreign and \$554,000 for home missions.

Of the total amount \$5,500,000 will go for parochial purposes, such as \$713,000 for assistant clergy, \$341,000 for the maintenance of elementary schools, \$198,000 to school buildings, \$187,000 for Sunday schools, \$1,724,724 for church buildings, \$538,563 for the support of the poor and \$1,413,369 for the maintenance of church services.

SAND TRACKS FOR WRECKS

British Road Makes Innovation to Bring Cars to Standstill on Short Notice.

London.—In order to avoid runaway accidents, the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway company is making experiments on its Burnley branch line. A sand track has been fixed outside the down line between Cornholme and Todorden for a distance of 160 yards.

It is a grooved rail fitted with sand, and after branching from the main line runs into it again. The idea is that when trains break away further up the gradient and run back, they can be turned on to the sand track from the signal and in this way pulled up and disaster averted.

Where Partiality Is Shown. Tobacco is a necessity and ice cream isn't, rules a Pittsburgh justice in passing on the Sunday laws. And yet the opponents of equal suffrage insist that women are adequately represented in the government.

SHIPKEEPER A WOMAN

ACT IS FIRST IN GOVERNMENT'S HISTORY.

Mrs. Albert Metcalfe Is Placed in Charge of Naval Establishment at Sackett's Harbor, N. Y.—Husband Held Position.

Sackett's Harbor, N. Y.—The charge and care of a government naval establishment has been turned over to a woman, and one of the tender sex for the first time in the history of the American navy has the rank of "shipkeeper."

The woman is Mrs. Albert H. Metcalfe. She has been placed in charge of the navy yard near this town, on Lake Ontario, not far from the St. Lawrence, and will receive a salary of \$365 a year.

Albert H. Metcalfe, keeper of the yard since 1868, died recently, and his position was given to his widow. The Sackett's Harbor navy yard is not a big establishment. It consists of an acre and a half of ground, on which there are half a dozen small buildings and a few guns used in the war of 1812.

It used to be a prominent place, and shortly after the close of the war a ship-of-the-line, then the biggest and best type of war craft built, equivalent of the first-class battleships of modern times, was planned, and the building begun at Sackett's Harbor. The vessel was to have been the New Orleans.

The work progressed slowly, however, and was finally abandoned, but the hull of the big vessel remained upon the stocks. Away back, probably along in the '40s or '50s, a man named Metcalfe was appointed "shipkeeper." In 1868 he died, and his son, Albert H., succeeded him in the position. Some years ago all that was left of what was to have been the New Orleans was torn down; but the position and the title of keeper remained.

Albert H. Metcalfe watched the government belongings around Sackett's Harbor for 38 years, and then died. During all the years the bureau of yards and docks of the navy department has regularly submitted an estimate of \$365 to congress for the annual salary of the "shipkeeper" at Sackett's Harbor, and that is probably the only place where the name "shipkeeper" appears in an official way on the records.

As for their poverty, there is a saying in Spain that "the Galicians in Galicia, when they celebrate a wedding, feast on bread crusts." They are charged with being beggars, grumblers, lazy, stogy, contented with a crust of corn bread and no clothes to their backs, and with never eating meat or drinking a glass of wine.

HAZED FOR POVERTY; ILL.

Nervous System of Young Officer of Guards in England Wrecked by Comrades' Treatment.

London.—A young officer of the guards at Aldershot is under a physician's care in London, his nervous system completely broken down as a result of being hazed. He is not rich and he declared he could not meet the usual regimental subscriptions. Consequently he frequently absented himself from the company of the other officers and kept to his own rooms.

His fellow officers resented this, and to show their disapproval they stripped him, smeared him with motor oil, covered him with feathers, and plastered his hair with jam. He escaped to his room, in which he barricaded himself. His tormentors smashed down the door, whereupon the victim leaped from a window and sought refuge in a hotel.

The other officers could not find him, though they sought him and he was reported to his superiors as being absent without leave. His physician telegraphed to the colonel of the regiment that the young officers is seriously ill.

The secretary of state for war, Mr. Maldeane, has been informed of the affair and has ordered an inquiry.

KING CHRISTIAN'S RICHES.

Danish Monarch Leaves \$1,000,000 to His Youngest Son, Waldemar.—Others Provided For.

Copenhagen, Denmark.—King Christian left the bulk of his fortune, estimated at \$1,000,000, to his youngest son, Prince Waldemar. His eldest son, who succeeded him as King Frederick, has no need of a legacy, for the latter's consort, Princess Louise of Sweden, one of the greatest heiresses of the house of Orange, brought him more than \$15,000,000.

King Christian's second son, the king of Greece, was likewise well provided with this world's goods. So the old king's modest wealth, for a monarch, goes to Waldemar, for a monarch, an Orleans princess, the lively Marie, who has not hesitated to dabble in speculation to improve her family finances.

It was she who from considerations of thrift was mainly instrumental in preventing the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States. She "needed the islands in her business."

Wash. Pittsburg Air. They are washing the air in a big office building of Pittsburg by an apparatus installed in connection with the heating and ventilating system, whereby the air is cleaned and all dust and soot removed before it is put in circulation.

It is stated that during the last summer the fan was operated continuously with the windows closed, the air was thoroughly cleaned, its temperature lowered, the health of the office force improved and the daily output increased.

UNLIKE OTHER SPANIARDS.

Galicians Seem More Closely Allied to the Portuguese Than Their Own Race.

"For you must know that Galicia is so poor and mean a country, that there's no place for bragging." That was the comment of a visitor in 1892 to the country in northwestern Spain, from which the Isthmian canal commission is making an effort to secure laborers for the Panama canal, according to the New York Tribune.

Some one has said recently of Galicia that "it possesses one-third of the harbors of Spain and little commerce for them, the most hardy race of people in Spain and the poorest, the remains of one of the apostles and the worst government in the peninsula." Things have not changed greatly among the crabs, but not clever Gallegos in the last two centuries.

It has been argued that the Gallegos would make especially good workmen for employment in the canal zone, because they are Spaniards. Spaniards, or persons of Spanish ancestry, have been distributed through the tropical regions of the American continent and have thrived. While living in the Iberian peninsula, the Gallegos seem more closely allied to the Portuguese than the Spaniards, racially. They are not Spanish in tongue, habits or manners.

Apparently, however, they are well adapted to physical labor on the canal, besides being strong and able to work hard and long under a hot sun, they are accustomed to going away from home to perform manual work.

In the harvest season one traveling in the Spanish stage coach often passes Galicians trudging along seeking employment in the harvest field. Being passionately fond of the damp, hilly country of Galicia, however, they gladly turn back again when the work is over. Only their poverty could drive them forth. Some have ventured to South America. In Porto they have been employed so generally as butlers and general manservants that the manservant is simply spoken of as the "gallego."

As for their poverty, there is a saying in Spain that "the Galicians in Galicia, when they celebrate a wedding, feast on bread crusts." They are charged with being beggars, grumblers, lazy, stogy, contented with a crust of corn bread and no clothes to their backs, and with never eating meat or drinking a glass of wine.

"The only fancy-work I've done for years has been sweaters and canvas knickerbockers and school bags," began a blue-eyed little matron known to the Washington Post. "That means, of course, that my oldest boy has been devoted to athletics since he was knee-high.

"I've tried to take an intelligent interest in sports, particularly football, which is his specialty, but I've agonized secretly over his sprains and bruises, and I've lain awake nights wondering how long it would be before he'd be brought home with his back broken or an eye gone. Not for worlds would I have had him know it, but I've always rejoiced, almost prayerfully, when the football season was over.

"Last fall my boy's eleven played the team of another school. He came home a battered wreck, and I put him to bed without asking him how the game came out. He was a mass of bruises, and too tired to talk.

"He had hardly dropped asleep when I heard the school yell, loud enough to rattle the chandeliers. I went to the window and looked out. The street was full of boys, and they were all cheering like mad, and calling for my boy?

"I got into some clothes and stepped out on the porch, and the crowd simply went wild. He had to make a speech, and I discovered that in some way I don't understand at all, he'd been responsible for the victory of the team.

"Talk about the mother of a proud feeling proud of her son! Why, mine. Nonparade of her son's coronation wasn't a circumstance to me. I was the mother of a hero, and if I live to see him a famous man, as the world counts greatness, I shall never feel bigger. I just stood there behind my boy and bobbed up and down in delight. It was the proudest moment of all my life, and I wouldn't have changed places with any woman in all the history of the world."

Autobile Revolution

Runabouts of American manufacture, costing from \$400 to \$1,500 each, are described in Technical World Magazine for April. Among other novelties are great anti-tracks capable of carrying a load of eight tons, tiny, three-wheeled, rapid-speed, delivery carts, electric horns, organ horns on which a tune can be played, electric annunciators for giving directions to the chauffeur and a number of important changes in the construction of motors.

WEAK REVOLUTION.

LACK OF TRUE PATRIOTISM IN THE RUSSIAN REVOLT.

Lawlessness and Disregard of National Interests Characterize Actions of the Striking Workmen.

The special strength of the Russian revolution appears to have proved its special weakness. It was supposed that the great railroad strikes and other strikes in the manufacturing towns would afford the revolutionists a new and powerful weapon. In fact says the Washington Star, the revolution gained immensely as regards the impression on those who watched its course because of the appearance of mystery with which it had been invested.

By degrees it became evident however, that the elements which were missing from the Russian revolution were such as could not safely be dispensed with. Radical as was the news that came in from all parts of the empire, nevertheless there appeared little or nothing in the way of real progress. It was difficult to say what the revolutionists were aiming at—whether they knew themselves what they wanted.

The people were puzzled with speculations as to whether it was a dynastic or a constitutional movement. Did its real strength lie in the towns or in the country? Was its object industrial or agrarian? Or was it simply a gathering of the forces of discontent formidable—most formidable—from the point of view of the prosperity and good administration of the empire, but not such a revolution as left the government no choice, but that between conquering and being conquered. The outcome appears after all, no matter what the liberalizing tendencies may have been, to have been favorable to the government. In spite of all the czar is still on his throne, Count Witte is still his first minister and enough of the army is faithful to him to give him command of the situation at all events in St. Petersburg and in Moscow.

Things have so far satisfied themselves that Sergius Yulievich Witte, the first minister of Russia, is even willing to comment upon the situation as it exists. In answer to questions recently, he said:

"Probably no public servant known to Russian history has ever been so severely and unanimously blamed for his own country as myself, and this not only for acts which I did, but for others which I never even dreamed of doing, and not merely for words and motives which were truly mine, but also for their opposites which were gratuitously attributed to me. Again, every public man known to history no matter what the color of his politics, has had a party following, numerous or small. Some section of society endorsed his principles, some fraction assisted his efforts, many rejoiced at his achievements. I am the sole exception. Every party, extreme or moderate, agrees in objecting to what it terms my policy, on grounds that contradict each other diametrically.

"As a Russian patriot my heart bleeds at a lack of industrious fellow laborers in the country's cause, of earnest workers who do not expect political or social regeneration from radical programmes and speeches but from steady, wise, patient labor, from respect for the law, from reverence for duty, and from the exercise of self-control. With a fair contingent of such modest, conscientious toilers, Russia would soon rise to a very high place among the nations of the earth. I am hopeful that men of this sort will yet come forward. Meanwhile my motive in continuing to occupy a post which brings down such harsh judgment upon me is duty to the czar and the fatherland; my guiding principle is to act according to my lights, and my sole recompense is the approval of my conscience.

"On my return from the United States after the treaty of Portsmouth, all that I craved for was rest for body and mind in the seclusion of private life, and it was all the more likely that my wish would be granted since there were doubtless others who, placed in the position I now occupy, might have acquitted themselves of the task as well as myself, or better.

"Whatever the drawbacks or penalties attached to the performance of my duty, I cheerfully accept them. But I certainly do not flatter myself among such penalties the constant disapproval of everything I do by certain political groups. On the contrary, clever man's criticism is always welcome, because it is wholesome and helpful, while to the strictures of the remainder one can easily shut one's second ear. Some nations judge their servants not only by what they have accomplished, but also by what they would fain have accomplished. I was ready to accept responsibility for what I have really said and done, but what I deprecate are the apocryphal utterances gratuitously attributed to me every day."

Russia Still Aggressive.

Russia is stealthy and tireless. Even while its armies were being defeated in Manchuria and its throne was shaken by revolt it was secretly fastening a firmer grip on parts of the Chinese empire. The fact that Russia has a line of military posts across the northern part of the Chinese empire has been kept secret from the world. It was revealed by an indiscreet publication in a Russian provincial newspaper.

Russia's old hat for dominion cannot be determined. Whatever it is the powers interested in maintaining China's territorial integrity are directly affected.—Cleveland Leader.

JOBS PLENTY; NO SEEKERS

Trials and Tribulations of Incumbents Scare Others Away in Pennsylvania Town.

Bellevue, Pa.—Officeholding, considered a joy in most parts of the state, is deemed a curse in Union township, Snyder county, and so many are the woes attending those chosen by their fellows to run public affairs that not a single nomination for office has been made in the township, and election is less than two weeks away. In consequence, Judge McClure will be called on to fill the offices soon to be made vacant.

Most of the tax payers in the township are hard-working farmers, who want to see returns for money spent. The township school board is even now being sued for alleged neglect of duty, and while the overseers of the poor are not involved in litigation, they have been bulldozed and made generally miserable because they proposed to erect an almshouse.

Recently the supervisors began suit against A. E. Cooper, a wealthy lumberman, alleging that by having narrow burr tires on his timber wagons he has ruined the public highways. The suit has aroused some bitterness, and no persons seem anxious to succeed the present supervisors and take the inheritance of litigation.

Many would like to hold office, as an abstract proposition, but the horrible example of the retiring officials has cured them of any hankering so far as Union township is concerned.

GABRIEL STONE PRESERVED

Famous Rock Is to Be Inclosed in Glass and Painted—Originally Property of Rappites.

New Harmony, Ind.—Capt. John Corbin, of New Harmony, has decided to preserve the famous Gabriel stone that has been in his possession for some years. The stone originally was the property of the Rappites, who formerly had a colony at that place. It was when the colony of Rappites was threatened with dissolution that George Rapp, the head of the community, one morning discovered a stone near that place that contained footprints and a scroll. Rapp told his followers that the footprints were those of an angel, while the scroll was in a language from Heaven which he understood.

The Rappites accepted Rapp's version and the threatened dissolution did not take place. For years the stone has lain in the yard of Capt. Corbin, and the weather has almost worn away the footprints and the scroll. For several years the stone was used as a doorstop. Capt. Corbin intends to place the historic stone on a foundation and inclose it in glass and trace the footprints and scroll in paint, so that it may be preserved for years to come. All tourists who visit New Harmony are desirous of seeing the Gabriel stone, but few believe that the footprints are those of an angel. It is claimed by reliable writers that Rapp secured the stone near St. Louis and had it secretly taken to New Harmony.

CHILD BLIND BY COUGHING

Case of New Jersey Girl, Six Years Old, Puzzles Medical Specialists.

Philadelphia.—Blindness caused by coughing—a case so rare as to be almost unique in surgical annals—has been brought to the attention of eye specialists of the Medico-Chirurgical hospital.

The patient is Luella Charlesworth, six years old, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Charlesworth, of Millville, N. J. She has had whooping cough, and after a violent fit of coughing she complained that the room she was in was dark. It was a long time before her mother could realize that the child was blind.

Their family physician said he had never before heard of such a case, and advised bringing the girl to the Medico-Chirurgical hospital, in the children's ward of which she was placed. Dr. L. Webster Fox, head of the eye department at the hospital, said:

"I have not examined the child closely, but I am sure the blindness is caused by a burst blood vessel, and if so, it will hardly be permanent. The trouble is likely caused by clotted blood on the lens of the eye. If it is in front of the eye a cure will be easy, but if the back is flooded treatment will be more difficult. The case is a very rare one."

Thorn Bush Saved His Life.

Edward Fenton, of Toronto, Canada, had a thrilling escape from death while at the falls. He was walking along the top of the cliff of the gorge when he slipped on the ice and went over the edge. Just as he was appearing he seized hold of a thorn bush which grew on the brink of the precipice, and to its toughness he owes his life. He could not gain a foothold or help himself in any way, but his companion, Harvey Whitmore, also of Toronto, took off his overcoat and let it down to Fenton, who succeeded in transferring his hold from the thorn bush to the coat and was gradually drawn up to a place of safety, at the imminent risk of both his own life and Whitmore's.

Astor Buys Fossil Oaks.

William Waldorf Astor has bought up a forest of fossil oaks discovered at Yaxley, Northamptonshire, England. The majority of the trees are perfect from roots to branches and so hard that they turn the edge of the finest ax. Mr. Astor is using these 3,000-year-old oaks to panel the walls of his medieval castle of Hever, and the houses of the Tudor village he is constructing on the grounds.