

THE TRIBUNE'S FOREIGN NEWS

THE LIBERALS ANXIOUS

Fears of Unionist Victory at the Next Elections.

GUARANTEES NOT LIKELY

King's Attitude — Perfunctory Work Before Parliament — Oath May Be Changed.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, May 28.—Carping Radicals are lamenting the absence of the Prime Minister on a yachting cruise, by which the government is left without leadership until the reassembling of Parliament next month. They assert that a strong hand is needed at the helm to keep the ship off the rocks, and that there are already signs of a mutinous temper among the coalition groups. This is true, but the Prime Minister is only mortal, and his health has been impaired by the racking anxieties of the last six months. He needs as long a holiday as possible. Moreover, the first business before Parliament will be more or less perfunctory, since it is required by the opening of the new reign. The civil list and the regency bill will be non-controversial, and while the King's declaration regarding the Protestant belief can be deferred until the coronation, there is a general agreement among men of all parties that the oath ought to be modified as soon as possible and what is offensive to Catholics and the Vatican be deleted. What can now be done with little resistance in response to the King's wishes may become a matter of bitter controversy if allowed to drag along with Coronation Year.

The real cause of depression among the Liberal members of Parliament is the conviction that the situation has changed for the worse since King Edward's death.

NEW OPERA BY PIERRE

Adaptation of a De Musset Play Warmly Praised.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Paris, May 28.—"On ne Badine pas avec l'Amour," a lyric drama in three acts, adapted and put into verse by the late Louis Leloir, of the Comédie Française, and Gabriel Nizon, of Alfred de Musset's play, and with music by Gabriel Pierné, the dress rehearsal of which took place at the Opéra Comique to-day, is by far the best composition that the author of "La Coupe Enchantée" and "Le Filles de Tabarin" has produced.

The orchestration is light and graceful, with a prominence of violins and flutes, which render with exquisite sentiment the precision and distinction of De Musset's conception, which is retained without change in the operatic adaptation. The orchestration is at times reduced to mere accompaniment of De Musset's most pathetic and most musical play, although written by him in prose.

It is mounted with wonderful artistic effect. The performance was a triumph for Mlle. Chénal, who sang the part of Camille with superb passionate outbursts. The smart audience, representative of art, literature, politics and bohemia, of which a Parisian first night public is composed, pronounced the verdict of a brilliant success for Gabriel Pierné's new opera.

M. FALLIERES'S SICKNESS

Retirement Rumors Based on President's Ill Health.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Paris, May 29.—Considerable uneasiness prevails in political and diplomatic circles in regard to the health of President Fallières. He will be able to continue in office until January, 1913, when his term of seven years will expire. In the last few weeks this question has been frequently asked. The feeling is that M. Fallières may resign office soon on account of falling health. It is no secret among his friends that M. Fallières has lately on several occasions relapsed into a comatose condition that causes grave apprehension. On Sunday, May 15, while at Rambouillet, he had one of his fainting attacks, and his state was so serious that reports of his death were circulated, but forthwith denied.

President Fallières, owing to bad weather, was for some time unable to take his usual walks in the Rambouillet woods. He has consequently become very stout and at times experiences difficulty of breathing.

It is worthy of note that of the eight Presidents of the Third Republic, from Thiers to M. Fallières, only one, Emile Loubet, remained President during the full seven years' tenure of office. Thiers, MacMahon, Jules Grévy and Casimir Périer resigned for personal or political reasons during their various terms. Sadi-Carnot was assassinated and Félix Faure died in office.

In well informed quarters President Fallières's resignation is considered not improbable. The President, who is a full-faced, honest, genial representative of the provincial bourgeoisie, is not personally popular in Paris. On several occasions he has failed to be in touch with public feeling. For instance, during the strikes of the stable lads, some time ago, he deemed it better not to go to the Paris races, although it was the occasion of the special Presidential Stakes and ambassadors and ministers were on the ground. His not being present at the funeral of the aeronauts who perished in the disaster of La République was also severely criticized. It was commented upon in diplomatic circles that when the President went to meet the King of Spain a few days ago as the latter passed around Paris on his way to the funeral of King Edward, M. Fallières, instead of being dressed entirely in black, as the Spanish monarch was, wore his eternal blue silk cravat with white spots.

President Fallières is universally respected for his honesty and sterling integrity, but he lacks the tact and savior faire so essential nowadays for the personal success of a head of state.

The trend of feeling is that should President Fallières retire his successor will be neither the present President of the Senate nor the President of the Chamber of Deputies, but a "dark horse," possibly a minister, or perhaps an ex-minister.

COMET DISAPPOINTS POPE

Rome, May 28.—Under the guidance of Father John G. Hagen, director of the Vatican Observatory, the Pope has made an observation of the comet. His Holiness remarked that what he saw scarcely warranted the commotion which the comet has caused throughout the world.

SHELVING KITCHENER

Protests Against His Appointment to Malta Station.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, May 28.—Lord Kitchener's future is the subject of persistent curiosity. A sinecure was created for the Duke of Connaught when he was weary of the futile attempt to dignify the office of Inspector general of the forces within the kingdom, and when he abandoned his useless post at Malta in disgust, it was held in reserve for Lord Kitchener with the high sounding title of High Commissioner in the Mediterranean.

Now that the time is approaching for Lord Kitchener's departure for Malta, there are public protests against wasting the services of the best organizer in the British army as a figurehead in a remote post. A revival of the office of commander in chief is not favored, but R. B. Haldane, Secretary for War, is urged to make him the first and most important member of the Army Council with the special duty of inspecting the territorial forces. If that were done, he would combine the functions of chief of staff for preparations for war and Inspector general of the army and home guards on a peace footing. He is too efficient and powerful a soldier to be safely employed at headquarters when the army is under civil administration. Consequently he will be dispatched to Malta and kept out of the way, while officers of inferior rank and capacity are employed in the Army Council in compliance with the recommendations of the Escher Commission. A man of genius is not wanted when mediocrities are muddling along in their own way.

QUEEN MARY'S AMBITIONS

May Become Honorary Colonel of German Regiment.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, May 28.—Honors and compliments in the Court Circular are still divided between Marlborough House and Buckingham Palace. The King, like a dutiful son, likes to keep the Queen Mother prominent, but her retirement to Sandringham will virtually be a withdrawal from court life.

Queen Mary is not without ambition. It is already intimated that she will imitate the German and Russian empresses in accepting military honors in foreign regiments and that she will become the honorary colonel of the Blücher Hussars. It is probable that the Teck princes will be important figures at the Georgian court. The Duke of Teck is already one of the King's chief advisers.

Gossip respecting the displacement of social favorites of the last reign is premature. The truth will not be known until the period of mourning is over and the lists of guests invited to meet the King and Queen at the country houses can be scrutinized.

The court is relaxing as far as possible the rigors of mourning, but the season is ruined beyond redemption. There is no entertaining at the embassies and the great houses; there are no dances for the young people, and the week-end parties are the quietest known for many years.

Mr. Roosevelt is the only public man who seems to be thoroughly enjoying life with buoyancy of spirits. He has more engagements than he can manage comfortably and is democratic in his tastes, being as much at home with sportsmen and journalists as with university dons or smart people like Mrs. John Jacob Astor, and as anxious to meet John Redmond as the ministers of the day or Mr. Balfour. He is in Buckinghamshire over Sunday.

The American Ambassador is resting quietly at West Park.

The opera is languishing because so many boxes are empty. Not even the appearance of the new American tenor, Riccardo Martin, with a fine presence and sustained quality of tone throughout his register, avails for a revival of interest, and Massenet's "Werther," produced by Beecham at His Majesty's, has depressed the audience with its vagaries of sentimentality and trivialities of life.

Concerts are well attended, and new music is highly appreciated. Katherine Goods, an accomplished pianist, has introduced at Queen's Hall a concerto written by her husband, Arthur Hinton. It is a pleasing work, with a sparkling scherzo and vivacious finale, and with effective coloring for the symphony orchestra. Sir Edward Elgar, whose "Enigma" variations were received with enthusiasm, seemed delighted with the new composer's work.

For the multitude there are dazzling spectacular ballets like "Femina," at the Alhambra, and a series of summer pageants of unrivaled interest, and for the smart people, there are a score of more-June weddings of unusual distinction.

The most popular entertainment of the week has been H. B. Irving's new programme at the Queen's Theatre. Fenimore's oldtime success, "Robert Macaire," in which Sir Henry Irving also appeared in England and America, was revived with much spirit by a strong company. Mr. Irving played exceedingly well, both in the old-fashioned melodrama and in "The Judge," an not intensely dramatic play, based on Georges Henriot's study of French law in a provincial town. He was the examining magistrate with characteristic French traits, and Henry Wheat and Charles Allan were most effective as the prisoner's counsel and attorney general. There was only one prisoner in the cast, Edyth Olive, and she played with poignant pathos.

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ITALIAN SHIP SUBSIDY

Chamber of Deputies Votes Grant of \$6,000,000—Cabinet Stronger.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Rome, May 28.—The maritime conventions providing for a \$6,000,000 subsidy in aid of Italian shipping and a twenty-five-year subvention to the Italian Lloyd Steamship Company for the transportation of mail were approved to-day in the Chamber of Deputies, with certain limitations, by a majority of 23. This greatly strengthens the position of the Luzzatti Cabinet. The fall of the Giolitti and Sonnino cabinets was directly due to the opposition which developed against these conventions.

JAPANESE LABOR OPPOSED

Effort to Prevent Their Employment on Works at Pearl Harbor.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Honolulu, May 28.—As a result of calling for bids for the construction of office quarters, barracks and other government work at Pearl Harbor without specifying what class of labor shall be employed by contractors, a meeting has been called by merchants of Honolulu to ask the Navy Department for a ruling that only citizens or those who can be naturalized shall be employed. It is contended that if such a ruling is not obtained and enforced it is virtually a certainty that the lowest bidders will use Japanese.

TO REPRESS COMMUNISTS

M. Briand Takes Steps to Stop Sunday Demonstration.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Paris, May 28.—French Socialists and anarchists are making preparations for a grand field day on Sunday to celebrate the anniversary of the Commune by a great demonstration before the stone wall where hundreds of Communists were executed by Versailles troops, under the late General de Galliffet's orders, in May, 1871.

Fredier Briand and his able and popular lieutenant, M. Lépine, Prefect of Police, have made overwhelming arrangements for maintaining order. Thirty thousand troops, besides the police, are to remain under arms, ready to act in case of need, and the fire engines are ready to pump water on disorderly mobs. M. Briand has informed the Communists that they may demonstrate to their hearts' content in the inclosure of Père Lachaise Cemetery, but that any disturbance in the public streets will be at once mercilessly suppressed by military force.

M. Briand himself sprung from the Socialist ranks and is in close touch with the public pulse. He knows exactly what the people want, and just now they want peace and order and a man with a big stick to protect the majority from noisy, riotous groups, about whom the Apaches and professional criminals always collect.

This resolute attitude inspires confidence and adds to Mr. Briand's popularity just before the reassembling of the newly elected Chamber of Deputies.

FIGURES AT NEW COURT

Mourning Spoils Season—Mr. Roosevelt's Enjoyment—Music and Theatres.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

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MR. PINCHOT IN IRELAND

Former Forester Staying with Sir Horace Plunkett Near Dublin.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, May 28.—A Dublin correspondent writes: "Gifford Pinchot, formerly Chief Forester in the Department of the Interior in the United States and one of the parties to the still undecided Pinchot-Ballinger controversy, is now staying with Sir Horace Plunkett at Killybegh, Foxrock, near Dublin. He has come to Europe in order to confer with Mr. Roosevelt on the situation which has arisen since the ex-President returned to America, and was revived with much spirit by a strong company. Mr. Irving played exceedingly well, both in the old-fashioned melodrama and in "The Judge," an not intensely dramatic play, based on Georges Henriot's study of French law in a provincial town. He was the examining magistrate with characteristic French traits, and Henry Wheat and Charles Allan were most effective as the prisoner's counsel and attorney general. There was only one prisoner in the cast, Edyth Olive, and she played with poignant pathos.

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MACHINE LIKE A FLYING FISH

London, May 28.—A flying machine, which is moulded on the lines of a flying fish, has been invented by Alfred Grohmann, who is employed as a joiner at the Star Paper Mills, Penzance.

Mr. Grohmann, who is of German extraction and has been a ship's carpenter, has given the subject of aerial flight serious study, and the directors of the Star Mills have provided him with every facility for pursuing it.

The "flying fish" possesses planes 2½ feet in diameter, and on the frame extends 28 square feet of fabric. By an ingenious contrivance the wings close in the same manner as a bird's, and the whole machine can be wheeled through an aperture 3 feet 6 inches wide.

Mr. Grohmann argues that the flight of the flying fish is due to the impetus of the leap from the water, and is apparently not assisted by any movement of the fins, the wings always remaining stationary. Therefore, if the wind is blowing, it can catch the air currents so as to enable flight, so can similar wings assisted by power. The machine weighs only 120 pounds, and is mounted on a woman's bicycle for the purpose of experiments. When the experiments are successful, Mr. Grohmann is perfectly confident of being able to soar and fly.

PLUVIOSE HARD TO RAISE

May Take Eleven Days to Recover Lost Submarine.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Paris, May 28.—Admiral de Peyrière, Minister of Marine, in conversation to-day, said that eight days, and perhaps eleven, must elapse before the submarine Pluviose can be raised. Admiral Bellue, who had charge of raising the Lutin, which sank off Biscaya in 1906, says that the raising of the Pluviose, a submarine of 450 tons, in the swift, deep running tides of the Channel is a hundredfold more difficult than getting the little Lutin to the surface in the calm, clear water of the Mediterranean.

At the Ministry of Marine great confidence prevails in the utility of submarines, and orders will be given for the construction of another sister vessel to the Pluviose, which was one of the twelve boats of the submersible class built at Cherbourg in the last three years.

THE PARIS BOURSE QUIET

Rubber Shares Higher—Good Iron and Steel Trade.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Paris, May 28.—Complete absence of professional speculation is the feature of the Bourse. The only business recorded is due to the placing of capital for investment in government bonds and conservative home industrial and a steady rise in rubber enterprises in Ceylon, in which several French financiers have large interests.

Farmers are more hopeful, now that fine weather has set in, but both wheat and the vines are backward, and four weeks of fine weather are necessary to insure an average harvest and vintage.

The iron and steel trades are very brisk, owing to the large orders for French railroads for rolling stock, and also exceptionally heavy orders for heavy ammunition for France and for South America.

MAY HANG HOFRICHTER

Reported Result of Trial of Austrian Poisoner.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Vienna, May 28.—It is reported that Lieutenant Adolph Hofrichter, who recently confessed to having sent poison to a number of the officers of the general staff, one of whom died, has been found guilty at a secret court-martial and sentenced to be hanged. Official announcement of the result of the trial, however, has not yet been made.

Lieutenant Hofrichter was arrested on November 27, charged with being the principal in the wholesale poisoning plot directed against recently promoted officers of the Austrian army. After several months' confinement he admitted that he had sent capsules containing prussic acid to ten members of the general staff. The capsules were accompanied by a circular recommending their use for ill health. Captain Mader, one of the officers, took the preparation and died almost immediately.

Hofrichter in his confession said that his sole motive was the hope of becoming a staff officer through the death of his superiors.

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CHINESE AGAINST LOAN

Gentry and Leaders Opposed to Hankow Railroad Plans.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Peking, May 28.—The opposition of the gentry and other leaders in Hu-Nan and Hio-Nan provinces to the acceptance by the Chinese government of the Hankow-Sze-Chuen Railway loan has not diminished. On the contrary, the anti-foreign sentiment regarding this particular subject is becoming more pronounced.

This extremely hostile feeling was expressed in a startling manner recently, when President Sia Ch'ih-Tchang of the Board of Communications received a letter from the leader of the opposition in Hu-Nan province protesting against the conclusion of the loan. The communication was written in the blood of the writer's severed finger.

During the negotiations between the financial groups of the United States, Great Britain, Germany and France there were occasional manifestations against the government in the two provinces, and the trouble became acute a few weeks before the loan agreement was signed in Paris by the members of the international banking syndicate.

It is generally believed that the violence organized by the gentry and carried out by the natives at Chang-Sha, the capital of Hu-Nan, was influenced to a considerable degree by opposition to the acceptance by China of foreign capital and foreign direction in the construction of the Hankow railroad line, which influential personages in the province wish to have built, if at all, with Chinese capital.

The promoters at the French capital doubt the native protests, would be as willing to conclude the contract as the government was a year ago, when it was anxious that the American financiers should be allowed to participate in the Hankow-Sze-Chuen railway project.

Much uneasiness was felt here during the outbreaks at Chang-Sha and other nearby points, and in order to get a definite knowledge of the situation the American Minister, Mr. Calhoun, dispatched Captain J. H. Reeves, military attaché at the American Legation on a tour of investigation. Captain Reeves visited Hu-Nan province, and has just returned here. He reports that the situation generally in the province is encouraging. The government troops, the captain says, are in control of the inland points, at which the riots of the natives occur.

LOWER BRITISH BIRTH RATE

Further Decline Shown by Figures for England and Wales.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, May 28.—In the Registrar General's return for the first quarter of 1910 a further decline is recorded in the birth rate in England and Wales. The annual rate in the three months was as low as 24.9 per thousand of the population, or 3.1 below the average for the corresponding period of the ten preceding years. This is the lowest figure for any first quarter since civil registration was established. In the same period of 1909 the rate was 28 per thousand.

Deaths were in the proportion of 15.3 annually per thousand of the population. This is the lowest rate ever recorded for this period of the year, and is 3 per thousand below the average for the ten preceding March quarters. Among the counties the lowest rates recorded were in Middlesex, Essex and Kent—11.2, 12.7 and 13.4, respectively—and the highest in Denbigh (19.9), Carmarthen (19.7), Monmouth (18.1) and Oxford (17.8).

In regard to the large towns, certain of the extra metropolitan areas again showed the lowest figures, the rates for Hornsey, Wileaden and East Ham being respectively 8.6, 9.6 and 9.8. Swansea had the highest rate, with 21.6, followed by Hanley, with 20.4, and Liverpool with 18.4. Infant mortality, measured by the proportion of deaths under one year of age to registered births, was equal to 115 per thousand. In the corresponding period of the ten preceding years the average was 134.

In the United Kingdom 27,566 births and 17,306 deaths were registered during the three months. The natural increase of population was therefore 9,260. The birth rate was 24.8 and the death rate 15.3 per thousand of the population, now estimated at upward of 45,669,000.

LONDON RESTAURANT LOSS

Heavy Reduction in Trade on Account of National Mourning.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, May 21.—The chief London restaurateurs have suffered very severely owing to the national mourning, and they are feeling the loss in their trade more particularly because this month is always associated with the heavy press of regimental and institution dinners, which have all been cancelled.

People who have been in the habit of dining out have not cared, in view of the mournful circumstances, to be seen in public, and the most fashionable restaurants have presented a desolate spectacle, emphasized by the fact that the bands have not been playing and there have been no vocalists. One well known restaurant which can look forward reasonably to about twenty regimental dinners