

LONDON RIDING IN TAXIS

Continued from First Page.

for law and order means in public and in the home. It is because of the prevailing sentiment in favor of enforcing the laws that so many things run more smoothly over here than they do at home.

We don't attempt impossible entertainments and we do not buy too many things that we are going to be tired of tomorrow.

"I had my difficulties at first. Even a progressive Englishman has some conservative notions that an American feels like laughing at or rebelling against, but I accustomed myself to them just as I learned to feel measurably at home in the saddle.

"The private schools are not very good either, and a governess leaves much to be desired in the way of efficiency. My husband admits the difficulties of education for girls here, but he seems to think that London and Harrow will smooth out all difficulties for the boys.

"The Englishman's first thought is always for the permanent welfare of his family. That is one reason why he makes such a satisfactory husband. He knows his children as the American father seldom does, and he is deeply concerned about the positions they are to occupy when they are grown up.

"You know the happy-go-lucky way we have of leaving the future to take care of itself and lavishing everything on the children for the moment. It is not so here, and I have come to share my husband's feeling that we are responsible for the future as well as the present of the children."

Mme. de Perrot, a French lecturer, who has been telling her English audience all about love as the French know it and the English don't, has succeeded in organizing a brand new social club in a city already well stocked with social organizations.

This club of Mme. de Perrot's is said to be the only one of its exact kind, for its members are to be exclusively red haired girls. Not artificially red haired girls, but the real genuine born so species. It is to be called the Titian Society and will have for its motto, "Honi soit qui mal y pense."

"The object of our society," said Mme. de Perrot, "is to provide amusement, social intercourse and mutual respect. It is not a matrimonial society and any member who gets married will have to leave the club, because she will have accomplished woman's greatest ambition and will no longer need our help and sympathy."

The description will be nominal and the only credentials required of the members will be red hair, good temper and refinement.

Mme. de Perrot has made a study of red haired women and is convinced that they are extraordinarily sensitive and are therefore of a higher artistic temperament than their less conspicuous sisters. She cannot understand why there should be such a prejudice against Titian looked womanhood, but she finds it exists everywhere she has ever been. They are nearly always misunderstood, if not actually disliked, and consequently they do not get fair play.

So far not a great number of members has been enrolled and it is just possible that the rules of the club may have to be stretched to include those whose hair blends the colorings of art and nature to achieve the shade that Mme. de Perrot thinks denotes strong character and calls for help for its possessors.

To-day is the anniversary of the wedding of King Edward and Queen Alexandra. The King is going on up to date husband, celebrated it at Biarritz, while the Queen remained at Buckingham Palace with her sister as her guest and companion.

The royal marriage took place just forty-nine years ago. According to contemporary the Queen has changed very little since her wedding, but the King has grown very stout and aged even more than his years require.

He was very slight then and had an abundance of hair, very slight mustache, rather well developed long side whiskers, in the fashion of the day. He was very upright and seemed taller than his bride, but increasing weight has altered this and it is now the slender Queen who seems the taller.

Mr. Webster, I think it is, says, 'Now, then, I'll give you the uppercut.' And then he swings his right hand across and gives well, a very different thing from the uppercut. That did make me laugh."

This, though possibly horribly annoying to Ben Webster, is true, useful criticism. It must be confessed that Mr. Fitzsimmons seems to have missed Mr. Shaw's carefully kept-up Elizabethan style. Byron, the fighting man, does not say, 'Now, then, I'll give you the uppercut,' but addresses the Zulu monarch, for whose entertainment the fight has been arranged, in these words: 'Dread monarch! This is called the uppercut. And this—a hook—hit of mine own invention.'

The investigation of the commission appointed to consider the present poor law of Great Britain lasted for over three years. Its report was one of the most exhaustive documents of the kind ever drawn up. The evils and cruelties of the present poor law system were shown up with a clearness and frankness nothing short of appalling. Yet some few points seem to have been overlooked.

For example, at a meeting of the Land-ward Guardians last week it was reported that official commandments had been given to the system by which the poor law girls, who were taught cooking, had to eat the food which they had cooked.

After this year one of the most coveted of university distinctions in this country ceases to exist, the Cambridge senior wranglership. Ever since 1847 the head of the first class in the mathematical tripos, the final mathematical examination at Cambridge, has been called the senior wrangler.

But two years ago it was decided that in 1910 the various classes should be subdivided as in other triposes and that no more detailed order of merit should be published—that is to say, the competitors will be divided into three classes and their names published in alphabetical order. The coming summer will therefore see the last of the senior wranglers.

Trinity College and St. John's has each 65 senior wranglers to its credit. Calus is the only other college that runs into double figures with a total of 14. Naturally the rivalry for the last prize is very keen.

It will be in its way a historic contest. Trinity's favorite candidate is the son of Sir George Darwin and grandson of the great Charles Darwin. St. John's pins its hopes to an American, L. J. Mordell.

The news that Washington was telegraphically isolated from New York for some hours on inauguration day caused a glow of self-satisfaction in many a British bosom. The "Daily News," for example, spoke of it as a "glorious example of the extraordinary order of date methods still surviving among a people who have a reputation of always setting the pace."

Washington is practically the same distance from New York as Manchester is from London, but the worst blizzard that ever blew would be powerless to interrupt telegraphic communication between the two English cities. And even Glasgow, twice as far from London as is Washington from New York, can snap its fingers at any of the numerous samples of weather our islands experience and keep in touch with the centre of the empire in spite of them all.

"For one long continuous line of cable conduits, containing scores of wires, now runs underground from the General Post Office in St. Martin's le Grand to Glasgow, through Birmingham, Stafford, Warrington, Lancaster and Carlisle, Manchester, Leeds and Liverpool being connected by branch conduits from Warrington. The West is likewise connected by underground cables as far as Exeter, whence extensions are being carried right away to Penzance.

"Many other smaller lines are already working, and all the big towns are to be similarly linked up, so that in a few years telegraphic interruptions due to the weather will be unknown in the British Isles. And yet the legislative and commercial capitals of the progressive republic—separated by barely 200 miles—are still at the mercy of overhead wires."

The Lancet has been making an analysis of London snow on a weekday and on a Sunday. The Sunday snow showed roughly a fifth of the amount of impurities present in the weekday snow. But the most significant difference was that while the weekday snow contained as much as 3.38 grains of sulphuric acid per ten pounds the Sunday snow contained practically none.

These results only show what was already well known, that it is chiefly due to the combustion, complete and incomplete, of coal that London owes its sullied air.

The Swiss State Railways alone seem to have got a thorough grip on the Merry Widow hat question. In future these pieces of millinery will be classed as bicycle wheels and have to be conveyed in the baggage vans. The official notice is said to read as follows: "Ladies' hats more than 3 1/2 inches in diameter will, according to article 117 of the railway tariff adopted in February, 1908, henceforth be regarded as wheels. Any lady wearing a hat of larger dimensions who desires to travel by a Swiss passenger train must either ride in the luggage van or deposit her hat with the luggage guard and enter the passengers' carriage bareheaded."

In the Hungarian village of Totdradac, following upon the funeral of an innkeeper named Johann Zahorec, the invited, in accordance with custom, invited all her friends to a supper. It soon degenerated into a carouse which lasted all night. She provided two whole casks of brandy, which was drunk undiluted in mugs and jugs.

In a very short time every one of the fifty guests was in an advanced state of drunkenness. At daybreak, by which time both barrels were empty, seventeen of the fifty mourners lay dead or dying on the floor, among them the widow of Zahorec. The doctors state that four others will certainly die of alcoholic poisoning, and the condition of a dozen is serious. An official inquiry into the matter has been opened.

to raise it were unavailing and it had to be cut out. The cables that were lifted on board the man of war had the outer coils of iron wire and the layers of rubber burned, while in most cases the inner copper wire was fused.

This discovery seems to confirm the hypothesis that the earthquake was not of tectonic origin, but due to explosions of submarine volcanoes in the bottom of the strait.

The central relief committee appointed by the Government for the distribution of all the money contributed in Italy and abroad for the earthquake sufferers has been greatly blamed, as described in SUN dispatches, for not rendering immediate aid. The committee has only now decided about the distribution of the remaining \$3,087,000.

The committee held a sitting, presided over by the Duke of Aosta, its chairman, and approved the proposal of the director of the Bank of Italy for the following expenditure. The sum of \$300,000 has been destined for those earthquake sufferers who have suffered permanent injuries and are unable to work. It has been ascertained that so far 663 sufferers are entitled to be supported all their lives by the committee, but it is foreseen that the number will increase, as many survivors who are still in hospitals are permanently disabled. A portion of this sum has been destined for subsidies granted to the Messina fishermen.

Then \$400,000 has been granted to the patroness Regina Elena for the earthquake orphans, who number so far about 2,000, and \$400,000 has been expended in helping small tradesmen in the earthquake area, and thus enabling them to continue their trade.

The sum of \$300,000 is to be employed in the purchase of lumber and the building of sheds to shelter the survivors, especially in small out of the way villages, and finally the sum of \$200,000 is to be distributed in cash among the sufferers. The committee decided to use the remaining \$373,000 as subsidies to 200 university students and 700 boys from the secondary schools in order to enable them to complete their education and for other cases of urgent relief.

An interesting document has recently been discovered in the archives of the Church of St. John at Malta which deals with the curious customs regulating duels among the Knights of Malta. Duels were fought in a special square of the city and certain rules had to be followed. For instance the combatants were bound to sheath their swords when requested to do so by a priest, a woman or a knight, and as it often happened that the request was made duels became very rare.

The punishment of a knight who refused to fight a duel was severe. He was first sentenced to spend forty-five days in penance at the Cathedral of St. John, after which he was imprisoned for five years in a subterranean cell without any light, finally he spent the rest of his life in a fortress.

Strangely enough not only the knight who refused the challenge was punished but also his adversary, who being unable to wipe out the insult suffered was considered dishonored.

Angelo Tessarin, an eccentric musician of Venice, died forgotten and poor at Versailles a few days ago, aged 75. He was one of the best known and most popular musicians in Venice fifty years ago. He was celebrated as a pianist and composer. Still he lived and died in poverty, and his creditors were so numerous and exacting that in his old age, when he was convinced that he could never pay them, he left Venice and spent his last days abroad.

Tessarin was greatly attached to his native city and strove hard to end his days there. He invariably carried his creditors at bay in Venice, whenever he met one of them he opened it and hid his face and thus passed unrecognized.

After his wife died and he grew old a waiter of the Cafe Florian who had known him in better days offered him hospitality at his house, and as Tessarin could not pay him he played for the waiter during meals. When the waiter died Tessarin left Venice and was forgotten until his death. His dying request was that a tablet should be placed on his grave with the words "He deserved a better fate."

London ladies stimulated by the Olympic games of last summer have taken to the foils and fencing is now the fashion. Indeed, an official of the Sword Club holds that fencing is likely to have an even wider vogue among women than among men. Many women prominent in the social world are actively interesting themselves in the foils and there seems every likelihood that something approaching a craze may be started in the fencing world during the coming season.

And it is an undoubted fact that local schools of arms are being started all over the country which seems to indicate that fencing among English women is likely to become an established pastime. The Amateur Fencing Association is showing every disposition to encourage and foster the revival. A militant spirit is in the air, the youths of Britain are

looking to the standard of the Territorials and it would appear that their sisters are seriously considering the question of "Arms and the Woman."

New York opera managers in searching Europe for singers have at last reached Scandinavia. Schmedee, of course, sang a few times during the last season, but he is hardly first class. Next season it seems probable that John Forsell of Stockholm and Herold of Copenhagen will be heard in New York, and both are very high rank artists.

Both have had somewhat unusual careers. Herold, the great Copenhagen tenor, started out in life as a baker and Herold was a Lieutenant in the Swedish Army when he gave up the military career for the operatic stage.

Forsell, who states that he has just signed a contract with the Metropolitan to sing in German, French and Italian operas in the original languages, is the best known Swedish singer of to-day. He possesses a beautiful barytone voice of very large range and is a prodigious worker.

OLD FRONTIER, HOUSE. Government Building at Fort Whipple. Cost \$300,000 and held for \$180. From the Washington Post. A \$300,000 house was sold at Fort Whipple, near Prescott, a few days ago for \$180, said George H. Morgan, a lawyer of Prescott, Ariz. "It was worth a good deal more," he said, and was owned by the Government. Gen. Crook occupied the house for several months, and it was on just a windy day as that of the sale that Gen. Crook rode away from the house in March, 1885.

"The building was a nondescript style of architecture, constructed of adobe, adobe and frame. It was roomy and comfortable, with lofty ceilings and bay windows, through which could be seen the snow covered peaks of the mountains on one side and Thumb Butte and the city of Prescott on the other. The house contained more than 40,000 feet of lumber, and among other modern conveniences it had two bathrooms.

"While Gen. Crook was the occupant of the house he was engaged in a long and difficult campaign against the Indians. The old building is still well preserved. When the auctioneer announced the sale the bidding started at \$50, and this figure was raised from time to time, until it reached \$180, at which sum it was knocked down to the proprietor of a hotel. What the purchaser purposes to do with the house I don't know, but he was told that it must be removed shortly, as the Government would no longer be responsible for its safety.

"The house cost probably more than \$300,000. Every foot of the lumber in it was freighted from Los Angeles at a cost of 10 cents a pound. It was considerably enlarged after Gen. Crook left it. The latter's successor, Gen. Kautz, lived in it for a long time, but it has not been occupied for a number of years. At the time of its construction a guard post had to be built to control the vicinity, to keep away the Indians. There was not a person at the sale who did not express regret that the Government should not allow the old house to remain."

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Request for a Loan. From the Houston Post. Hanging in our front hall was a large Japanese hat made of rice straw, and the colored girl in the kitchen was preparing to go to a masquerade ball, so we were not surprised when she sent the infant daughter of the house into the parlor Marvi Gras evening with the following note: 'Dear lady will you please mam lend me

that hat that hang up in the front hall please and let me have it again and this will be the last time I am going to worry you but please lend me the hat please mam this is the last time I am going to masquerade (mask) please lend me the hat please from Myrtle. Please lend me the hat. Answer soon. Don't come send me word. She got the hat.

Lost Ring Found After 42 Years. Many correspondents Philadelphia Record. The gold band ring which Theodore Geisel found while digging in his garden, recently has been claimed by Mrs. Anna Wolf, widow of Joseph Wolf, of Woodbury, who is now 96 years old. She says it was a wedding ring, which she lost forty-two years ago as she was milking a cow while living on the place. At that time diligent searching failed to reveal it.

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