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EDITORIALS—SPECIAL CABLES
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NEW YORK, SUNDAY, MAY 1, 1921.

Personal News, Facts, Fancies and Brief Happenings Abroad as Told by the Cables

LONDON SEASON PROMISES TO BE A VERY DULL ONE

Heavy Taxes, Trade Stagnation and Coal Strike Hit Society.

LUXURIES ARE CURTAILED

Court Entertainments Postponed and Many Dances Cancelled.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, April 30.

London society is in the doldrums. The social season here opens next week, but at the end of this week it appears that the coming season will be like unto the first war season in 1915. Parties and dances have been cancelled and entertainments cut to a minimum.

There are, perhaps, three reasons for this curtailment of the social programme. They are, first, the crushing burden of taxation; second, the general depression in trade and the stagnation in business, and, third, the dispute in the coal industry, which has reached British households, causing a curtailment of lights and heat.

For once society is going to obey the episcopal bench—not because it wants to, but because it must. When the Bishop of Westminster told a convocation recently that because many thousands of persons may soon be on the verge of starvation any display of luxury would be out of place during the coming season, he was speaking unconsciously for quite a number of so-called "new rich" in Mayfair and Belgravia. They intend to economize, first, by laying off one automobile out of three; secondly, by halving the number of really big parties they intended giving, and, thirdly, by taking a box in a theatre not more than once a week.

Society Almost "Broke."

It promised to be a dull season anyway, but the coal shortage has made impossible anything like the season of last year or that of 1919. That is why scores of dances and other entertainments that were to have been held within the next few weeks have been cancelled, and cancelled gladly. The melancholy truth is that society cannot afford them. Last season wealthy persons were in a mood for them, but this year they are looking to every pound sterling, according to West End caterers.

Also society takes its cue from the King, and the King is taking the coal crisis seriously. The first court function, fixed for next Wednesday at Buckingham Palace, has been postponed indefinitely on account of the miners' strike and the consequent coal shortage. Indeed, all court ceremonials and entertainments and a number of engagements are being kept in abeyance pending the development of events threatening the Empire. When the miners' strike became certain the King moved in from Windsor to Buckingham Palace, and he is remaining quiet so far as entertainments are concerned.

One of the season's missing features is grand opera, because there seems to be no hope of making "both ends meet," and the young married sets and dowagers must show their diamonds elsewhere, if at all.

In sports the only real feature event is the American-British polo matches for the International cup.

Awaiting Mikado's Heir.

There are two royal visits forthcoming, but the only official one is that of the Crown Prince of Japan, who is expected here on May 7. In connection with his coming there will be an elaborate programme of entertainment, including a state banquet on May 9 and a Government dinner, with the Prime Minister presiding, on May 12.

The King and Queen of Spain are coming here unofficially later in May and undoubtedly they will be the centre of a big round of festivities, but it is whispered in sporting circles that Alfonso is mainly interested in the polo games.

The arrival in London of the new American Ambassador, Col. George Harvey, and Mrs. Harvey also will be the occasion of several social events. They will arrive here at the very beginning of the season. The Ambassador probably will attend the polo matches and some of the practice games. The Embassy staff is arranging for the reception of the Ambassador and Mrs. Harvey, who will occupy the house in which John W. Davis, the retiring Ambassador, lived in Chesham place until the new Ambassadorial residence in Prince's Gate, which was presented to the United States by J. P. Morgan of New York, is redecorated and refitted. This will take five or six months.

Otherwise the only really important functions will be in connection with welcoming American delegations and persons prominent in business and social circles in the United States. But since the Prince of Wales returned home from his American tour these visits are considered here as a sort of family affair, and while interest in them is no less keen than formerly, they are not regarded as in the usual category of social affairs.

LONDON SEES OMEN IN BEIRUT EARTHQUAKE

'Twas on St. George's Day in Place Where Dragon Fell.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, April 30.

Superstitious Londoners are reading omens both favorable and unfavorable in reports of a violent earthquake in Beirut, Syria, last Saturday. It was St. George's Day, and Beirut is the ancient Berytus, where, according to tradition, England's saintly champion vanquished the dragon.

Now Londoners are asking whether the earthquake indicates that St. George or the dragon is restless over England's present condition.

Germans Refuse to Yield for Goethe Memorial

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Berlin, April 30.

THE esteem in which the memory of Goethe is held by Germany's wealthiest sons is shown by their failure to meet a request by the administrators of Frankfort, Goethe's birthplace, that they contribute to a fund for maintaining as a public museum the house in which he was born. Appeals to this end were addressed to Germany's seventy-five richest men. Only one replied. He is a prominent manufacturer of electrical machinery. His contribution consisted of 100 marks. A sum of 140,000 marks is now being subscribed for this purpose by the public spirited citizens of Frankfort.

PARIS 'ART CRUSTS' ENJOYING A REVIVAL

Open Air Display of Paintings Started Again After 100 Year Hiatus.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, April 30.

The fantastic free commune of Montmartre at last has one artistic victory to its credit by the reinauguration of an open air display of so called "art crusts" after a hiatus of more than a century.

Back in the eighteenth century the penniless artists exposed their wares on certain days of each year on the bridges of the Seine, and it was thus that on the Pont Neuf were discovered the famous works of Chardin, now in the Louvre.

This week under the guidance of Montmartre's "spiritual" Mayor the young artists were invited to send their worst canvases to the central square. Thousands were attracted by the novelty and it is reported that purchasers actually found French paintings which certainly lacked the talent of the Chardin type.

The paintings were hung at subway entrances or on boulevard chairs, but the majority simply were placed in long lines face upward on the ground. Humorous signs used in connection with the exhibition kept the spectators in good humor even when spring showers played havoc with the water colors.

But the chief sensation of the exhibit was a new caricature of the actress Cecile Sorel, more hideous than anything by "Bib" which so aroused the indignation of that lady. But this artist was careful to surround his caricature with barb wire and iron bars to prevent a repetition of the onslaught by Mlle. Sorel which proved the sensation of the humorists' salon this year.

JOBLESS BRITONS NOW NEAR THE 2,000,000 MARK

Coal Strike Advances Figure in Alarming Fashion.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, April 30.

Unemployment in the British Isles is rapidly reaching the 2,000,000 mark, according to Government figures published for the week ending April 22. The report shows a total of 1,774,000 on the unemployment registers, which is an increase of 750,000 since the present industrial crisis began. During the coal strike the figures have been rising weekly to an alarming extent.

London and the southeastern district lead with a total of 316,000, which is an increase of 14,000 in two weeks. The northwestern district comes next with 265,000, while in the West Midlands there are 239,000 unemployed. In Scotland there are 179,000, Ireland 117,000 and Wales 100,000.

In the London County Council area, there are 192,000 unemployed registered, exclusive of short time workers. The figures include 53,000 women.

LADY RHONDDA SEEKS HOUSE OF LORDS SEAT

Twenty-five Other Peeresses Are Equally Qualified.

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The efforts of Margaret Haig, Viscountess Rhondda, to obtain a seat in the House of Lords as a peeress in her own right have now reached the stage where her petition praying his Majesty to issue to her a writ of summons to sit in the House of Lords has been referred by the King to that body, together with the Attorney-General's report.

It is now being considered by the Committee on Privileges, which is expected to make a report on the matter soon. Should Lady Rhondda's petition be granted some twenty-five other peeresses in their own right would be entitled to the same privilege.

FRENCH TUXEDO COATS TO BE IN RAINBOW HUES

Color Scheme Not to Clash With Partners' Cowns.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, April 30.

Groups at the dancing resorts and theatres will appear in a blaze of color this season, but it will not be the attire of women that will be responsible for this.

The word has gone out from the French tailors that the smoking jacket (Tuxedo) is no longer to be of a funereal black but of any color desired, preferably of such hues as will not clash with the gowns of partners.

Green dress suits got a trial last year and the experiment did not meet with great success, but this is said to have been due to the fact that they were so rarely seen as to cause a sensation whenever a man ventured out in one. This year the tailors are providing scores of impecunious but socially prominent young men with smoking jackets of rainbow hues and are expecting the approval of the fashionable world.

LENINE, IN PARIS, LIVED FRUGAL AND CIRCUMSPECT LIFE

Concierge Who Cared for Him Before War Tells of Strange Visitors.

WAS TEACHING RED RULE

Trotzky, Zinovieff and Other Radicals Were Perfecting Plan to Rule Russia.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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Whatever the present faults of Nikolai Lenine he still has a warm place in the memory of the concierge who cared for the daily wants of the present Bolshevist Premier, his wife and mother-in-law, from 1910 until a year before the war. According to that authority Lenine's family life was more circumspect than is usually the case in the vicinity of the Rue Maria Rosa, where the Communist Czar once occupied a second floor front.

"It was often remarked that it would be difficult to find a more agreeable family or one more ready to help the neighbors," says the concierge. "While he was with us he received innumerable visitors weekly, chiefly Russians, and especially in the evenings, but the most frequent visitor was a neighbor named Shatzky Rodomilsky in those days, but who since has been called Zinovieff and is Lenine's right hand man."

While Lenine was busy writing and reading and making daily trips to a nearby print shop his wife took special courses at the University of Sarbonne. She spoke English, French and German fluently and was reputed by her fellow students to have advanced ideas in philosophy and to have refused to enter into the Latin quarter gayeties to which she was invited. She admitted being 40 years old. "And, believe me," says the concierge, "there is nothing coquettish about her. She always wore the same dress and old-fashioned hat throughout the summer. The family always had plenty of money, but never used taxicabs, both Lenine and his wife preferring bicycles and urging the neighbors to invest likewise and become rich and healthy at the same time.

Forced to Pay Rent in Advance.

"Although they brought good recommendations from their former landlords they had only a few pieces of furniture, so I was forced to insist that they pay six months rent in advance, instead of just one month like other tenants."

When Lenine's family left in 1913 they sold their furniture but carried with them a dozen heavy cases containing Lenine's books.

Incidentally they showed anti-capitalistic leanings by breaking the staircase and refusing to pay the proprietor's claim for damages. The concierge's recital has called attention to what for a long time was the secret headquarters of what were then called the Social Democrat Russians but who are now guiding Russia to ruin. Apart from Zinovieff, who was known in the neighborhood as Lenine's valet because he was assigned to numerous duties including the daily buying of vegetables at a nearby market while Madame Lenine was studying, both Kameneff and Lounacharsky were daily visitors at the strange household.

The former, who was known as Rosenfeld, enjoyed Lenine's fullest confidence, but Lounacharsky never was able to prove the sincerity of his Socialistic professions. In fact, when he wrote his masterpiece, "Two Religions," Lenine considered it so uninteresting that he openly proclaimed Lounacharsky to be not a Socialist but merely a village cure in disguise.

Lenine Did Not Like Trotsky.

And just as to-day, when war is brewing in the Soviet grand headquarters, Lenine then could not bear the presence of Leon Trotzky in the Maria Rosa apartment, his occasional visits ending in midnight discussions from which Lenine emerged gloomy and thoughtful, a mood that lasted for days afterward.

It has also been discovered that the famous school at Longjumeau, near Paris, for teaching Communistic propaganda was really inaugurated by Lenine along the line of the Russian school at Capri, where dissidents like Gregoire, Alexinsky, Gorki, Maouilsky, Krassine and Lounacharsky strengthened their political faith by founding the principles of Russia's present Government.

The school mystified the neighbors for more than a year, never possessing more than thirty pupils, all poorly clad and apparently belonging to the laboring class. But Lenine succeeded in evading police inquiries and inculcated the Bolshevist doctrine through lectures and textbooks written by himself and his friends. And, with a few exceptions, as soon as a few months course was finished, the graduates took passage for Russia, having their fare paid for them, and there were launched on a career of anti-Czarism which since has provided the world with one of its most difficult social and political problems.

BOY KILLED BY TRAIN AFTER LUCKY ESCAPE

First Passes Over Him Without Doing Injury.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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Jesse Rogers threw his ball too far and it went bounding to the railroad tracks in a strangely fateful way. The boy rushed after it and was just recovering the ball when a train approached. With remarkable coolness he threw himself between the rails and before the eyes of his friends the train passed over, leaving him unhurt.

He got up, laughed at his comrades and stepped over to get his ball just in time to be struck by another train going in the opposite direction and was killed.

POLO PLAYERS SEE CAPT. BUCKMASTER IN PUBLICITY HALO

Hero of Libel Suit About Cad Buckminister in Popular Revue 'Just Fancy.'

ONE FARTHING VERDICT

Gladys Cooper's Husband, It Is Revealed, Stirred Her Jealousy in Unusual Way.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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"Just fancy!" expressed the thoughts of members of the American polo team here when they gathered amid humorous suspense at Bucks Club in West End last night as the guests of Capt. Herbert Buckmaster, well known English polo player, member of prominent clubs of London and the husband of Gladys Cooper, a popular actress.

Capt. Buckmaster greeted his guests in a glare of publicity more dazzling than anything his wife ever faced across the footlights. Yesterday damages to the amount of one farthing were awarded to him in his libel action against Arthur Wimperis, a prominent lyric writer, the charge being based on certain lines in a revue called "Just Fancy."

In court Capt. Buckmaster resented the lines in the revue: "At the club chambers last night that cad Buckminster mentioned my wife's name in connection with yours. He never saw me sitting there."

Capt. Buckmaster asserted that he was libelled because of the association of the words "club" and "Buckminster" was recognized on account of his wide acquaintance in London club and stage circles, as meaning him.

Certain Woman Intervenes.

The trial revealed that there had been "a most serious disagreement" between Capt. Buckmaster and his wife because he objected to her acquaintance with a certain woman who also was described as being a stage "star," and with whom Mr. Wimperis was very friendly. He asserted that Mr. Wimperis showed malice by using in his revue a name similar to his and in a connection that would be recognized by his friends.

The attorney for Capt. Buckmaster asked Mr. Wimperis to change the lines, whereupon Mr. Wimperis replied:

"I am sorry that the inclusion of the word 'cad' should have led the plaintiff and others to think he must be the person referred to."

The defence denied that the words referred to the plaintiff or that they bore any defamatory meaning.

Capt. Buckmaster testified that he and his wife were practically estranged for a time over her friendship for the other woman; that all the theatrical profession here knew this, and that the estrangement was about the same time Mr. Wimperis wrote "Just Fancy."

Not So Close to Church as Club.

When one of the counsel asked Capt. Buckmaster if he would have objected had the word "church" been used instead of "club," Capt. Buckmaster replied:

"I would not have connected myself with it so readily."

Mr. Wimperis said that the Duke of Westminster had not complained of the revue, and therefore he did not see why Capt. Buckmaster should.

The Lord Chief Justice told Capt. Buckmaster that every "Buckminster" was not a Buckmaster and that the sooner he realized that he was not the important personage he thought he was the better it would be for him and everybody else. Then sentence was given and Capt. Buckmaster hurried from the court room to arrange to meet the American polo players.

MADE FORTUNE IN BETS; NOW CAN'T PAY FINE

'Father Cherry' Had Great Luck but Soon Lost All.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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Last month a man of wealth; to-day languishing in a cell because he is unable to pay a small fine for selling racing tips, is the summary of the recent history of "Father Cherry," who was known in Paris for his luck at Auteuil and Longchamps last season, when he made old gamblers envious. In a single week "Father Cherry," who was an inveterate gambler living in the poorest quarter of Paris, relieved the bookmakers of 200,000 francs. He was discovered counting his wealth on a park bench. The police investigated his case, but were unable to punish him for being lucky.

Half of his winnings were placed in a small hotel business, but when the other half was lost in bad betting "Father Cherry" sold his hotel and sent the rest of his wealth back whence it came. Then he depended on his fame to keep him out of the clutches of the police, meanwhile offering to pick the winners in the races for a small fee.

Apparently the race track owners fear that "Father Cherry" may again break their banks, for it is likely that he will be barred from the French tracks when he is released.

WOMAN MUMMY FOUND.

Body Buried in Tree in Denmark 3,000 Years Ago.

COPENHAGEN, April 30.—The mummified body of a woman who died 3,000 years ago was found recently buried in a field in the Jutland district of Denmark and is being unwrapped by employees of the National Museum.

Her coffin was the hollow trunk of an oak tree and the body was wrapped in a cowhide. She appears to have been a person of rank. Her garments included a short jacket with sleeves and a petticoat and she wore two belts around her wrists and two bronze bracelets on her arms.

WOMEN GETTING TOO MUCH ADVICE, SAYS LADY BALFOUR

They Are Human and Want to Be Left Alone and Not Badgered Constantly by Lectures, She Asserts.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, April 30.

Lady Frances Balfour in writing to the London *Times* on woman's place in public life complains that too much free advice is given now.

"What woman wants is to be left alone," she writes. "It is granted that they were a 'thin red line of heroes' during the war. Now they are 'tea drinking flappers.' The London pulpit rang some time ago with denunciations of their 'pampered flesh.'

"Pay them a living wage, educate them, open all the avenues to independence to them. We want to encourage women. Just now they can lead the social order. They are very human and have learned to be long suffering, but at present they are being lectured and talked down at in a manner that is as foolish as it is ignorant."

Lady Balfour is the daughter of the Duke of Argyll. She has written a number of memoirs in late years.

PARIS POLICE LEAD PURITY AGITATORS

Prefect Gets Ahead of Proposed Theatre Censorship and Starts a Cleanup.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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M. Raux, Prefect of Paris, has organized a special police detachment which is expected to purge the theatres here of all uncleanliness, either verbal or suggested. While the proposed law providing for a theatre censorship has not yet been passed, M. Raux has forestalled the purity agitators and already has caused a revision of numerous stage scenes, to the great concern of theatre managers and, it was said, with the result that there has been a tremendous falling off in the box office receipts.

The management of one theatre which is well known to Americans has been told it must rearrange certain acts and cease presenting its chorus and show girls in transparent draperies, even though these girls are representative of the finest type of French beauty, while certain Montmartre cabarets whose customers are attracted by the scenes, lines and songs of the performances have been told to clean their acts or get out. Even the century old expression of Gen. Cambronne at Waterloo has been barred from the Paris stage, although it is invariably the best laugh getter at such places where it is quoted.

The ire of the Paris police is especially directed, however, against scenes derisory of them, and a new revue called "The Shoemaker's Crime" has been suppressed merely because clandestine lovers in it carry on a conversation in which the majesty of the uniformed police is made light of.

BOURBON-PARMA PRINCE WILL LOSE BIG ESTATES

French Courts Decide That Eli Is an Austrian.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, April 30.

The French courts have decided that Prince Eli de Bourbon-Parma is of Austrian nationality and not Spanish, and have decided that the sequestration of his vast estates, including the historic Chateau de Chambord, considered to be the finest in Blois, must be maintained and the property disposed of to the highest bidder, as provided under the terms of the peace treaty.

Last year the Prince began an action for the recovery of the property, declaring that he was a direct descendant of Duke d'Anjou, later Philip V. of Spain, and pointing out that all members of the Bourbon-Parma family have been known for years as Spanish. The Infante produced letters written by the late Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria twenty years ago, wherein he addressed the Prince as "My dear cousin Infante of Spain."

Judge Raymond of the Blois court has decided, however, that the Prince's nationality was fixed by the fact that he served as a captain in the Twenty-fifth Austrian Division during the war and later as colonel of Austrian dragoons, and his property, therefore, was subject to the same disposition as any other enemy estates in France.

300,000 AMERICANS PLAN TOUR OF FRANCE

Reservations From June to September Made.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, April 30.

The number of American tourists who will come to France this year is estimated at 300,000 by the syndicate of French hotelkeepers. The larger hotels in Paris are reporting that they already have more than 60 per cent. of their rooms engaged from June to September. That is borne out by officials of steamship lines, who say it is practically impossible to find places on ships bound from the United States during June, while from 60 to 80 per cent. of the accommodations for later months have already been contracted for.

Incidentally, for the first time on record, Italy is sharing about equally with France in the tourist trade, agencies reporting that the favorite itinerary starts at Cherbourg and takes in Paris, Nice, Genoa, Venice, the Italian lakes, Metz, Verdun and London.

PROTECTS HOLY SEPULCHRE.

Fire Pumps Are Ordered to Palestine From England.

LONDON April 30.—Provision for the protection of the Holy Sepulchre against fire has been made by Sir Herbert Samuel, High Commissioner for Palestine, says the *Palestine Weekly*.

Sir Herbert recently visited this shrine of Christendom and noticed that no arrangements had been made to cope with a possible outbreak of fire. He at once ordered three portable fire pumps to be sent from England, and has presented them as a personal gift to the Latin, Orthodox and Armenian representatives at the Holy Sepulchre.

I SEEK COIN, YOU ART, SHAW TO GOLDWYN

Writer Spurns Movies Despite American Film Man's Inducements.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, April 30.

Samuel Goldwyn, president of the Goldwyn Pictures Corporation, failed to induce George Bernard Shaw to write for motion pictures, but he did succeed in evolving a brand new Shavianism.

Mr. Goldwyn spent several hours last week trying to persuade Mr. Shaw to go to Los Angeles to investigate film making and participate in the fortunes the cinema industry offers and has made for such authors as Maeterlinck, Ibanez, Barrie and others.

Mr. Goldwyn is a ready talker and G. B. S., being Irish, was a little behind him at times. After going over the entire film situation in a discussion lasting several hours, Mr. Shaw closed the interview as follows:

"Well, Mr. Goldwyn, there is not much use in going on. There is this difference between you and me. You are only interested in art and I am only interested in money."

FRANCE SEEKS ASHES OF SON OF NAPOLEON

May Ask Austria to Return Them as Well as Relics.

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Austria may be asked to return to France the ashes of Napoleon's son, the King of Rome, who died at Schonbrunn on July 22, 1832, as well as famous relics connected with him, such as his cradle, which for years occupied a place of honor in the Imperial Treasury Building in Vienna, where it served as a shrine for millions of tourists who were sentimentally inclined.

The observance of the centenary of Napoleon's death next week has called attention to what is termed here Austria's discourtesy in not offering thus to cooperate with France, and as Austria is largely dependent on French good will in the settlement of her financial difficulties it is believed that there will be little difficulty in remedying this hundred years' oversight.

Meanwhile all France is preparing to class the Napoleon reign as a historical instead of a political incident by a special mass in nearly every Catholic church in France on May 8. England will join in the observance of the day by firing a salute at St. Helena.

SOVIETS GET ENGLISH COAL AS STRIKE WAXES

Much U. S. Fuel Also Sent to Petrograd.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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REVAL, April 30.—Curiously enough just at the time when London is darkening itself and giving up parties, &c., on account of the coal strike, Petrograd is receiving English coal. Thirty-four cars of it, which arrived in Reval on April 11, were sent there. Of course the shipment left England before the present stringency.

Petrograd also has recently received several thousand tons of American coal through Murmansk, and as a result trams and other electric enterprises are running there again.

SPIRITUALISM DRAWS FROM CATHOLIC CHURCH

Opposition to Psychic Study Causes Many to Leave.

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Catholic Church officials, it is understood, have sent a report to Rome dealing with the great increase of interest in Spiritualism among the congregations. Recently many persons notable in French society who have been prominent in Catholic circles, have embraced the philosophy that contact with the departed is possible, and as the Church precludes studies along this line they have severed their religious connections.

Meanwhile British mediums, all bearing the stamp of approval of the Psychical Research Society, have invaded France, with the result that in certain sections as many as a hundred registered mediums are doing a thriving business protected by scientific recommendations against which the police are unable to act.

The Pope himself is said to have expressed anxiety as to the spread of these Spiritualistic doctrines, especially as Italy likewise is the scene of a similar evolution. Converts there are being attracted by a recently published volume of poetry said to have been dictated to a medium by Dante, just as a stir was caused in France by Judith Gauthier's posthumous dictation to a Paris friend.

CHECK FORGERS, FAKE AMERICANS, CHEAT PARISIANS

Clean Up a Million Francs, Besides Working Berlin and Madrid, It Is Said.

JEWEL MERCHANTS LOSE

Mint Flavored Chewing Gum Clue Indicates U. S. Men Are in Plot.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, April 30.

French police are on the trail of a band of international crooks who have passed at least a million francs worth of worthless checks on Paris merchants by representing themselves as American buyers registered at leading hotels here, but were "caught after banking hours without a cent."

The band is believed to have operated in London, Berlin, Paris, Madrid and New York, and to have forged signatures so perfectly that even bankers were deceived, not discovering the forgeries for weeks after the checks were paid, thus enabling the crooks to escape to more fertile fields.

Especially have jewel merchants here been victims of the swindlers, who ordered valuable necklaces and rings, which they readily resold after having them sent to some hotel, where a check would be given in payment to the messenger delivering them. Then, while the delivery messenger was returning to the seller of the goods with the check, the swindler would pay his hotel bill and with the jewels safely tucked away would take the first train to the headquarters of his band.

The French police declare Americans are implicated in the swindles, basing their charge on two incidents in which the only clue obtained was in packets of mint flavored chewing gum, which a majority of Europeans disdain.

ACADEMY ACCEPTS ETCHINGS BY GIRL 15

Judges Say Young Artist Shows Marks of Genius.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, April 30.

Among the surprises at the Royal Academy this year was the acceptance of two etchings by Eileen Soper, 15 years old, a fair haired, typical English girl with a merry, childish laugh. She said that she started etching when 13 years old and was instructed by her father, who also is an etcher. She said she was being educated privately and was never allowed to waste her time at school. She also is an accomplished pianist.

"I carry my pencil and book everywhere I go," the young artist said. "All my spare time is spent in drawing. I amuse myself by sketching babies during idle hours."

The judges of the Royal Academy say that the girl has an unusually highly developed talent which shows marks of genius.

RUSSIAN DANCER HELPS HUSBAND IN FARMING

Mme. Trouhanowa, Married to Count, Again on Stage.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, April 30.

Another war romance which has ended in a return to hard work is that of Mme. Trouhanowa, a famous Russian dancer, who is again appearing on the French stage after a retirement of three years. Mme. Trouhanowa, who is known as the Russian Isadora Duncan, is giving her own interpretations of Chopin and Korsakoff music.

During the war she met Count Ignatieff, chief of Russia's mission at French headquarters. After a tempestuous courtship they were married and lived happily—until the end of the war. Then the Count found that his family property had been confiscated by the Reds and that he was almost ruined. With his remaining funds he bought a small farm in a suburb of Paris, the Count doing the heavy work while the former dancer, recalling her youthful training, supervised the milking and the making of butter for early morning despatch to the Paris markets.

The farm is reported to be prospering, but the Countess decided that they could not afford modern improvements unless their income was greater, and as Paris is always clamoring for old favorites, especially Russian ballet artists, she signed a three months contract, the income from which will provide other calves than her own for the farm.

SHOWS CASKET OWNER SECRETS LONG HIDDEN

Newspaper Man Springs Surprise at Exhibition.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, April 30.

A curious discovery has just been made at a private exhibition of A. S. Davis's collection of Stuart caskets and embroidery pictures to which American and British newspaper correspondents were invited.

While one of the Britons strolled around feeling a large casket with a pretence of knowing all about it he accidentally drew forth a small hidden drawer in which lay several metal lockets, evidently much older than the casket. When the drawer was completely out of its socket, there was observed still another tiny drawer at the back of it, and when it was opened there were found still rarer and smaller lockets, to the surprise and gratification of the owner of the casket.

ROYAL ACADEMY ART EXHIBITION IN IDEAL FORM

Progressive Element Reduces Number of Pictures With Quality Improved.

PORTRAITS BELOW MARK

Landscape Section Strong, but of Sculpture Least Said the Better.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, April 30.

Paul G. Konody, art critic of the London *Observer*, writing for THE NEW YORK HERALD on the spring show at Burlington House, says that the series of snubs given by those in authority to the ultraconservative Royal Academy when it came to placing commissions for official war paintings, together with the slow, steady hammering away by the more reputable critics, appear to have broken down the Chinese wall that had so long kept the academic dignity from the progressive outside world. The election to an associateship of the erstwhile enemy, Augustus John, was the first indication of a new order of things.

The exhibition, which will be opened to the public to-morrow, he says, marks a complete victory for the steadily growing progressive element at the Royal Academy. The selecting jury has applied the broom with cruel impartiality. Public favorites who had been regular exhibitors of their uninspired wares for decades and for whom one was accustomed to look out in places which had come to be considered theirs by right have fallen victims to this effort at rehabilitating the tottering reputation of the Royal Academy.

The bold progressive spirits who are responsible for the change are fully justified by the result of their brave effort. Reduced in numbers to manageable proportions, the exhibits are presented in ideal form without overcrowding. Each picture is detached from its neighbors and each wall is a carefully planned pattern. For once the Academy can be viewed without discomforting features, and the average work attains a standard of unprecedented excellence.

Sir William Orpen's Portraits.

Popular verdict will unquestionably favor Sir William Orpen. His six portraits almost jump at the visitor through sheer force of color contrast—brightest pigments against resonant black backgrounds—and forceful modelling, but the trained eye remains dissatisfied by his excessive slickness and that ease of applying a formula which threatens to become mannered and mechanical. Still, his best piece, the portrait of a chef in cap and apron, contains some still life passages worthy of Manet's brush.

Mr. Sargent's portrait of Gen. Fowke, his solitary contribution, will come as a shock to the master's admirers. It is so undistinguished that it might be by Mr. Ouless or by Sir Arthur Cope, who is responsible for a gigantic group of twenty-two "Sea Officers of the War" including Jellicoe and Beatty in a panelled interior—an impossible theme treated with tact and seriousness but without the touch of genius needed to do justice to so formidable a task.

Anyhow the picture has not the showy vulgarity of Mr. Salisbury's equally huge "Funeral of an Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey." Such things seem beyond the range of any living painter.

Artistically the most remarkable picture of the whole show is Mr. Glyn Philpot's allegory, "The Journey of the Spirit." Here for once is a strictly pictorial conception that disdains the use of hieroglyphic symbols and finds expression in organized design and the emotional use of color. The three nude figures striding over a stony wilderness across cloud banks with mysteriously luminous breaks of light are Michelangelesque in proportion and distortion. The whole thing is thrilling and majestic.

A Masterly Nude.

In contrast to this expression is the treatment of a nude in Mr. G. Kelly's "Siesta." This may be quoted as a masterly example of realistic treatment of the human figure, fleshy, throbbing and related to its surroundings.

The late William Strang's "Venus and Adonis" supplies a comic relief—none the less comic because the humor is unconscious. A vicious looking Venus with toes turned in, an ill shaped, ugly Adonis and a very tame boar form the central group in a decorative landscape of rather primitive type.

Primitivism indeed is the fashion of the hour. There are scores of painters who derive their style from Giotti, Botticelli and other early Italians. Among their numbers are men like Harry Morley, whose adaptation of Botticellian types is particularly graceful in "The Night Passeth; the Day Cometh."

The most powerful serious portrait, deep in psychological insight and forceful in the handling of pigment, is Mr. Griffenhagen's "Sir Rider Haggard." Another associate of the Royal Academy lets down his institution in a series of ladies' portraits that can only cause merriment. His brush seems to have slithered the pretty pigments into which it was dipped over a soapy surface, and the result bears a ridiculous resemblance to chrystolsum paintings on china.

The landscape section is particularly strong this year, thanks mainly to the efforts of Mr. Charles Sims, Mr. Arnsby Brown, Mr. A. Allinson, Mr. D. Y. Cameron (who has sacrificed his usual austerity to an extraordinary opulence in color), Mr. A. Talmage and Mr. G. Glausen, the indefatigable searcher and experimenter.

Of sculpture the least said the better. It leaves one with the impression that the sculpturesque is alien to the British spirit. There are not ten exhibits that deserve serious consideration. The rest are only fit for an Italian campo santo or suburban conservatories. Of course there is a deluge of war memorials—khaki copied in stone, bronze and plaster, and bayonets sticking out in every direction.

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