

# The Washington Times

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## Housing of American Diplomats.

### The Representatives of the United States at Foreign Capitals Should Have Suitable Residences.

The cabled announcement that Ambassador Tower has nearly closed the lease of a stately residence at Berlin has more than a personal interest, especially when it is added that the rent considerably exceeds the ambassador's salary, and that this is true also of the American embassies at London, Paris, and St. Petersburg.

It is clear that a government like the United States cannot afford to pay its representatives at foreign capitals salaries so meager that they are obliged to spend nearly or quite all that they receive in merely housing themselves. Imposing as Ambassador Tower's new residence at Berlin may be presumed to be, it is smaller than that of the British embassy. There is, moreover, this important difference, that England provides the official residences of her embassies, while the United States expects its ambassadors to pay house rent out of their salaries, or, if they want something better, to make good the difference out of their private pockets.

The diplomatic service of the United States suffers in one of two ways from this mistaken policy. Either its ministers in foreign cities must take houses or lodgings in back streets, and live under conditions which put them at the gravest disadvantage as compared with the representatives of every other first-class power, or their selection must be limited to men of means, who are able and willing to supplement their salaries by spending freely their own money.

More than once this subject has been brought to the attention of Congress by recommendations from the President, urging the provision of official residences for our representatives abroad—the more important of them at least. But always some cheese-paring economist, or someone whose idea of public social demands was limited to an extremely narrow personal experience, has stood in the way. If the United States is to be in any sense a world power it must do as the other world powers do. It must not practice piecemeal economies at the very points where it comes most sharply under foreign scrutiny and comparison.

## The Finsen Rays.

### Asserted That They Will Cure Smallpox, Lupus, and Cancer.

There is a peculiar significance in the recent discovery of Niels Finsen, a Danish scientist, that by certain combinations of red or violet rays of light with electric light it is possible to treat with success such hitherto unquarable diseases as smallpox, lupus, and cancer. Lupus is a skin disease affecting the face, and rarely found in this country. It is said to be caused by the bacteria of tuberculosis affecting the outer instead of the inner parts of the body, and in some cases it has caused terrible disfigurements, parts of the face being literally eaten away. By the use of the Finsen lamp this disease has repeatedly been cured without the use of the knife, whereas formerly the surgeon was held to be the only healer.

As the violet rays have cured lupus, so the red rays of the Finsen lamp have been found to prevent scarring and disfigurement in smallpox cases, and in this country an American physician has cured cancer by means of the Finsen ray. The discovery is a new one, having become known in Europe only since 1898, when the Finsen lamp came into use in Russian and English hospitals.

The especial significance of this discovery, which will doubtless become more widely known as time goes on, is that it reduces the sphere of the surgeon, and in view of the fact that so large a proportion of humanity may be said to have a peculiar horror of the knife, this is no small achievement. Like the Lorenz operation, it makes possible the cure of serious ailments by something like natural means. No sensible person will even attempt to belittle the work of the surgeon in its proper place. When we recall the sufferings of mankind from wounds, deformities, and chronic disease before surgery reached its present highly developed state, it seems not too much to say that the surgeon has by his skillful and swift use of the knife cured more hopeless cases than the physician by his art; for it must be borne in mind that the knife usually comes in where medicine is proved powerless. Nevertheless, it is an heroic remedy, and must inevitably leave the patient, in most cases, with some loss of strength and vitality, with some maiming or scarring, which is forever a reminder of past misery. Add to this the horror of surgical operations, so strong in many sensitive people and in most of the ignorant that they will often endure years of suffering rather than have recourse to the hospital, and it becomes evident that much mental agony as well as physical pain might be saved by discoveries which should cure without the use of the knife. Finsen's discovery appears to be one of these. If it is found that cancer can be positively cured by the Finsen ray, one of the most grisly terrors in the whole history of disease will disappear.

## GERMAN NAVAL MANEUVERS.

### Grim Earnestness Marks the Evolutions of the Fleets.

As solemnly in earnest as the land maneuvers are the sea maneuvers of the Germans. This race, whose ethnological and historical character is the reverse of reckless, drives its ships with calm contemplation as serenely in practice evolutions as if the work were being done under fire. In other words, ships appear to be risked with a set, measured, deliberate purpose.

The recent German naval accidents cannot well be explained in any other way, for the German sea officer in navy or merchant marine is as fine and careful a sailor as there is afloat.

But in drill he is a different creature. He drives a torpedo boat in a mock fight as if he were driving it into a marine Balaklava. He steams through maneuvers with his big battleships as he would in a battle where the issue meant the extinction or preservation of the empire. The naval record shows it.

On September 4, 1901, the German cruiser Wacht was on the port flank of the port column in the fleet maneuver. The speed of the ships was nine knots. The Wacht had to pass between the great Sachsen and Weissenburg.

The two ships were only 200 feet apart, and one of the ships tried to decrease speed. Orders were orders and they were carried out with the iron nerve that made Sedan and Metz fall.

Five seamanship enabled the Wacht to pass well on her way between the rushing monsters, but at the last moment, just as she cleared, the steering gear failed. The ram of the Sachsen struck her and she went down, bow first, in 150 feet of water.

On May 24, 1902, the battleship Kaiser

Wilhelm II, cruising in squadron, rammed the cruiser Amazone and tore open her starboard side to the rail. The Amazone managed to keep afloat till she reached Kiel.

Less than a month afterward, on June 11, 1902, the Kurfuerst Friedrich Wilhelm was declared out of action during the maneuver. Obedient to orders from the admiral, she stopped and waited for the big Weissenburg to tow her out of the battle.

The Weissenburg came with a rush, just as she would have had to do had the battle been a real one, and the Kurfuerst was, therefore, in imminent danger of destruction or capture. When the two vessels were separated by twenty yards of open water, the Weissenburg's steering gear failed and her ram entered the Kurfuerst, heeling that ship three degrees to port and bending the ram of the Weissenburg.

The magnificent discipline of the ships saved the Kurfuerst. Even in the moment of collision the water-tight doors on board were closed, and both ships were able to return to port for repairs. The remarkable series of torpedo boat catastrophes is another instance of the intense seriousness with which the German men-at-arms makes mimic war.

### The Giddy Brooklyn Girls.

Father—So Filmy Lubring is engaged to young Katties? Let me see, wasn't she engaged to somebody else a little while ago?

Daughter—Somebody else! Father! Why, in our set no engagement is considered complete without her.—Brooklyn Life.

## Why the College Course Should Not Be Shortened.

By Prof. GEORGE HARRIS, President of Dartmouth College.

COLLEGE educators have affirmed most emphatically that the course of liberal culture requires all the time which has been given to it in this country, or at least requires the ingredients of study and the amount of intellectual work which have been required for the degree. The proposition to shorten the college course is like the proposal made a few years ago to make a 48-cent dollar as good as a 100-cent dollar. It is Bryanism in education.

The arguments in favor of this proposition have been directed to the point that men should not be so late in getting out into their work. In one respect this is perfectly true. Law and medicine require today a longer period of training than formerly, and it is important that a man should begin the study of these professions as early as possible.

But when it is said that the average age of graduation from college has considerably increased in the last forty years, I question whether that is true. There is a general impression that eighteen or nineteen was the age at which students used to graduate. I have looked up the statistics of Amherst for the last seventy years, and I find that the average has not increased, but that there are greater extremes.

If time needs to be saved, it may be, and I think should be, saved, not by cutting off two years from the college

course, but at an earlier point, and that is in the preparation for college. In other countries boys begin the languages when they are nine, ten, and eleven years old, when forms are easily retained by the memory.

The question may be asked whether in our colleges today the students are getting the training for which the college stands, and are being prepared for real success in life. In a college like Amherst there is what may be called a submerged tenth. They get along with the faculty as well as they can, and we with them. Perhaps it is too large a proportion to say that nine-tenths are to some degree interested in their work and are attaining something of value. In fact, a boy can't go through one of these colleges creditably without doing a considerable amount of intellectual work.

I haven't much sympathy with the cry that the whole tendency of the times is toward materialism. Some people think that everything is materialism, and that we must raise up colleges with high ideals to stem this tide of commercialism and materialism. There have always been college men in our communities, and while the commercial tendency has always been strong in our country, there are our homes, our churches, and our statesmen, and wherever college men have been found they have been the leaders toward the light.

## IN THE COURTS AND CAPITALS OF THE OLD WORLD

### King Edward's Health Gravely Impaired by the Recent Operation for Appendicitis—Decline in Consols Denotes the Apprehension Caused by His Present Illness—Lord Dysart Opposes Project to Force Women to Attend, Without Headgear, the Wagnerian Cycle in London.

#### The Health of the King.

British consols constitute the barometer of the health of Great Britain's monarch. That there should have been a sudden decline in their price in London on the day following the announcement of King Edward's illness, indicates more strongly than anything else the serious character of what his physicians have pronounced to be "a mild attack of influenza."

It is just as well the fact should be known that his health is nothing like as strong as it was prior to his operation last summer, in spite of all that his physicians say to the contrary.

The "Anointed of the Lord," from the Pope down to the humblest princelet of a petty sovereignty of Germany, are keenly sensitive to avoid any public pronouncement on the score of their health; resent in the most bitter fashion any insinuations that they are ailing, and visit with sternest displeasure any news given out to the effect that they are not in the best of condition. Indeed, there is in England still an ancient statute, never yet repealed, but not enforced since the reign of King George III, making it a crime punishable by fine and imprisonment for anyone to assert publicly that either the monarch or the heir apparent is afflicted either in body or in mind.

The fact of the matter is that King Edward has never been the same man since his operation. The shock thereof has affected not only his physique, but also his entire nervous system. He has aged ten years. To all intents and purposes he is an invalid whose health is a source of constant concern to his physicians, who realize that even the most trifling ailment may in his case rapidly develop into a fatality.

It is this, more than anything else, that renders the much discussed visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to this country exceedingly improbable.

#### An Eccentric Nobleman.

Lord Dysart is up in arms against the project of the management of the Covent Garden Opera in London, which proposes to sell tickets for the Wagnerian Cycle on the express condition that women who attend wear no kind of headgear, and on the understanding that admission will be refused to all fair ones who decline to conform to this rule.

Lord Dysart is one of the principal enthusiasts in England on the subject of Wagner; is the president of the Wagner Society in Great Britain, and has devoted an immense amount of money to the propagation of the cult of Wagner among his fellow-Britons. This he can well afford to do, as he is enormously rich.

The earl has always taken the ground that people should be allowed to attend the opera in whatever garb they please. In order to be consistent to his doctrines he invariably attends the performances of Wagner at Covent Garden in an ordinary morning suit and jacket, taking his seat up in the galleries, owing to the refusal of the authorities to permit any man not in evening dress to occupy a seat either in the stalls or in the boxes.

Lord Dysart is well-meaning but eccentric, and his startling expressions of political opinion have contributed in no small measure to the belief that he is not altogether right in mind. Thus, a few years ago when at Chicago, he intimated to newspaper interviewers that he did not "care a tuppence for the House of Lords."

He likewise expressed the conviction that Emperor William was "a detestable autocrat," and that "he and his kind cannot dominate." He added that he was in favor of home rule, and said that as for Canada, "I think I voice the sentiment of many peers when I say that we don't care a tuppence whether she goes to the United States or remains to Great Britain."

Quite recently he made a donation to the Richmond Hospital near London on condition that the authorities introduce homeopathic treatment, and has distributed thousands of copies of his works, such as "Cure for Anarchy" and "Reforms Needed in the Pulpit," among the free libraries throughout the United Kingdom.

Inasmuch as he was placed on attaining his majority, in possession of ready cash to the amount of \$12,000,000—accumulated by his grandfather—who was a famous miser and likewise of estates which render him one of the largest landowners in the United Kingdom, his eccentricities are a matter of some public importance and interest.

Lord Dysart is descended from William Murray, who held the post of whipping boy to King Charles I, an office which doomed him to undergo all the corporal punishment which his royal companion deserved. Charles, on becoming King, created him Earl of Dysart and Baron Huntingtower.

The present earl makes his principal home at Ham House, on the River Thames, over against Richmond, and the principal gates of the park have never been opened since they were closed according to tradition, by King Charles, nearly three hundred years ago. The old Elizabethan mansion is full of relics of King Charles I and likewise of King Charles II, including a prayer book in an excellent state of preservation bearing an autograph inscription on its fly-

## In the Public Eye.

The Chinese minister to France has announced the purpose of his government to send Chinese students to France.

The death of George S. Buxton at Rockford, Ill., recently marks the end of a friend of Charles Dickens, and a one-time playmate of Queen Victoria.

Admiral and Mrs. Clark were present at the recent unveiling at the State Capitol, Montpelier, Vt., of a portrait of the distinguished naval officer.

The inventor of the ocean telephone, Prof. Michael I. Pupin, of Columbia University, began life in the United States as an attendant in a Brooklyn Turkish bath parlor.

The Italian composer, Signor Puccini, has been warned by the authorities at Leghorn that he will be prosecuted criminally if he persists in driving his motor car at a furious rate.

The first name entered on the new register of the Fremont Hotel, recently opened in Los Angeles, was that of Jessie Benton Fremont, the aged widow of the "Pathfinder," who has since died.

The great bed of Mme. de Sevigne, than which there is no finer in the world, is the nightly repose place of Anna, Countess de Castellan. It is made of gilded cedar, inlaid with precious stones, and has panels painted by the great masters of her time.

An addition to the University of Pennsylvania is to be built by Joseph Whar-

ton, of Philadelphia, which will cost \$200,000. It is for the accommodation of the school of finance and economy which he founded several years ago.

Arrangements are in progress in Concord, Mass., for the observance of the centennial of the birth of Ralph Waldo Emerson, May 25. The Social Circle, of which Mr. Emerson was a member for forty-three years prior to his death in 1883, has appointed a committee to prepare the program. In the morning there will be exercises in the town hall for the children and in the afternoon the exercises will be in the Unitarian Church.

**WIRELESS LOVE.**  
Although, sweet maid, 'tis often proved The ways of love are hard and stony, At least one obstacle's removed,  
Thanks to the triumph of Marconi:  
For him my heart, with joy elate,  
Is wildly bubbling o'er with gratitude;  
For now I can communicate  
With you in any clime or latitude!  
No more, dear heart, shall distance drown  
The lover's hopes or damp his mettle;  
But you shall flash your love from town  
To me on Popocatepetl!  
Once, per the pions of the wind,  
I pledged to send my protestations;  
But waves of ether now I find  
Are best for such communications!  
I'll vent to you a message straight,  
In honeyed phrases I'll envelop it;  
Nor shall a rival lie in wait  
Basely to intercept or tap it!  
Though sojourning in alien tents,  
I know there's naught our love can  
Another  
If, like our hearts, our instruments  
Are kept attuned to one another.—  
Punch.

## Unconsidered Trifles.

**The Advantages of Insurance.**  
Daughter—He said he'd die if I refused him.  
Father—Let him die, then.  
Daughter—Why, papa, don't you know that he's insured in your company?—Puck.

**A Cutting Remark.**  
Beatrice—Why did you cut Regina on the street? He is awfully rich, don't you know?  
Agnes—Oh, yes. I just wanted to see how it felt to cut companions.—Judge.

**Getting Him Wild.**  
Dime Museum Manager—Say, Jim, the wild man is too tame this morning. Check him in that colored comic supplement.—Judge.

**A Poor Shot.**  
"Is he such a poor shot, then?" "Poor shot!" exclaimed Dangerous Dan, scornfully. "Well, rather. Why, say, I'd just as soon have him shoot at me when he's sober as when he's drunk."—Chicago Evening Post.

**Professional Amenities.**  
Dr. Smarty—Had a very delicate surgical operation at my place yesterday. Removed an arm from a lady's waist.  
Dr. Synnex—If it was your arm, the operation could not have been very painful to the lady.—Boston Transcript.

**Literary Criminology.**  
Jim—Would you call a man who steals another man's funny stories or his plots and uses them a literary thief?  
Jams—No, I would call him a second-story man.—Baltimore Herald.

## Interpreting the Addicks Move.

### Lightning Out of a Clear Sky.

No greater surprise has occurred in national politics since the announcement early in the last campaign of the withdrawal of Speaker Henderson from the Congress, than the declaration made yesterday by the Hon. J. Edward Addicks that he had decided to eliminate himself from the Delaware Senatorial contest.

Less than two months ago the millionaire gas magnate and continuous Senatorial candidate was in Washington and roomed with the emphasis that has all along characterized his course, that unless John Edward Addicks was elected United States Senator from Delaware, no one else would be, and that the Blue Hen State would continue to remain unrepresented in the upper house of the National Legislature.

Now he has withdrawn from the contest—that is, he has withdrawn conditionally. The condition which Addicks imposes is that all of the Republicans of the Legislature, numbering thirty-one including the membership of both houses, shall meet in caucus, and select two candidates who shall be voted for, and thus elected, by both wings of the party, the "irregular" regulars, and the Unionists, or Addicksites.

### A Shrewd Political Move.

To those who have followed the course of the Delaware boss in all of its devious windings, this action of Addicks is regarded by politicians in Washington as one of the shrewdest moves he has yet made. It is manifest to everyone and to Mr. Addicks more than to anyone else that he cannot be elected to the United States Senate by the present Legislature. There is nothing he can do which will bring about that result. Hence, what more adroit move than to withdraw, and allow two of his followers to be elected, one of whom shall resign after the adjournment of the Legislature and allow the governor to appoint Addicks?

As the Legislature is at present constituted there are twenty-one Democrats, twenty-one Addicks Republicans, and ten anti-Addicks Republicans. Fourteen ballots have been taken on as many different days since the Legislature met, and the nearest anyone came to an election was when there were two absentees and Addicks lacked five votes of a majority.

### Only Addicks Men Were Firm.

The Democrats have made overtures to the regular Republicans to end the deadlock by the election of one regular Republican and one Democrat to the Senate. They have agreed to contribute their twenty-one votes to a Republican for the long term of four years, and accept themselves the short term of two years. They have agreed to provide more than double the number of votes of the regulars, and accept a term one-half as long as that given to the Republican, but the proposition has never been accepted. The Democrats have given complimentary votes to nearly every prominent member of that party in the State, but none has attracted the vote of a regular. The anti-Addicks men have likewise shifted from one candidate to another, but have never been able to command more than their quota of ten votes. The Addicks men have remained firm, casting their twenty-one ballots day after day for the gas man, both for the long and the short term.

## INSCRIPTION ON RUGS.

### Historical Records Woven Into the Product of Persian and Turkish Looms.

Not all persons who use Turkish and Persian rugs realize that there are often cunningly interwoven in their meshes characters that are not only legible, but are capable of translation by those familiar with the Arabic tongue.

These inscriptions—also called cartouches—are usually worked around the borders of the rugs, in such a manner as to make them easily distinguishable to the expert. In the border of the Prince Alexis Lobanow-Dostowsky rug, shown last week at the sale of the Marquand collection, there are, all told, six cartouches, grounded in black. As an illustration of the exceedingly clever weaving of these rugs it is a fact that in a royal Persian rug of the fifteenth century, also shown at the Marquand sale, and sold subsequently for \$35,000, there were six hundred hand-tied knots to the square inch. This, good judges say, is probably as near perfection as the woven carpet of the East will ever come. It was a gift from the ruler of the Persians, presumably to the ruler of the Turks, for an authenticated record in the possession of its former owner set forth that the rug was among the effects of the Sultan Abdul Aziz of Turkey at the time of his death.

In view of the intermittently hostile relations maintained between Persia and Turkey during the era when the rug was unquestionably made, all that is to be read in its design is most vital, and seems expressive of some phase of history which was then making so vigorously. The inscriptions in the Lobanow-Dostowsky rug have been thus translated:  
"Oh, thou whose abode is the seat of justice,  
To whom throne carpets serve as the covering of thy way;  
Whose court the zephyrs as chamberlain with the hair of his eyelids sweeps clean;  
To whom in the household of enjoyment is full satisfaction,  
The companion ever in success, and whose refuge is God Himself;  
To whom Darius, Alexander and Pericles are as the meanness of his army;  
Thou possessest magnanimity and charity.  
The inhabitants of both worlds, here and above, pray for thee.  
May thy power still everlastingly endure.  
And at thy command the sun and moon circling revolve.

## THE BASIS OF MOHAMMEDANISM.

The Rev. Hugh Clifford, in discussing Mohammedanism in the "London Spectator," says:

"In the sentiment which is at the back of the rebellion in Morocco is to be found the secret of the strength and weakness of Mohammedanism, the cause alike of its astounding missionary successes, and of its failure to elevate the peoples of Islam to a standard much superior to that attained by Christian peoples before the end of the middle ages. It is within the experience of every district officer in India that a remarkable change comes over the inhabitants of the meanest Hindu village the moment that they are converted to Mohammedanism.

"The men who formerly were accustomed to crawl in abject self-abasement before their head men or the nearest landowners now hold themselves erect, look every man boldly between the eyes, and develop of a sudden a quite unwonted ability to defend themselves from encroachment upon their rights. Polygamy and facile divorce have taught to do with this transformation; yet the condition of such villages has been in nowise altered from that which has always prevailed, save in the accident of their conversion to the faith which legalizes these things.

"And here we catch our first glimpse of the secret which accounts for the extraordinary spread of the Mohammedan religion. It is that the faith of Mohammed is based, not on love, like the teachings of Christianity, but on pride. The Mohammedan holds as his primary axiom a profound belief in his own unquestionable superiority as a professor of the only true religion. Each new convert putting on in his turn the pride of his new religion, represents yet another temptation to the pagans around him to attain to an equality with him by embracing the Mohammedan faith.

"Thus it has come to pass that what the religion of love, backed by devotion, energy, and money, has failed to accomplish, the religion of pride and hate has achieved, without organization or conscious effort, purely by virtue of the appeal which it makes to the very human desire of every man to be treated as an equal."