

# HAT OTHER PEOPLES OF THE WORLD ARE DOING AND SAYING

## BETTER DAYS ARE IN STORE FOR THE CHINESE PEOPLE

There is at Present No Fear That Another Rebellion Will Be Started.

OPTIMISM IS RIFE IN THE NEW REPUBLIC

It is Believed That Lack of Confidence Will Eventually Die Out.

(Special Dispatch.)

PEKING, June 27. Within the last month the best-informed observers in Peking were decidedly pessimistic about the outlook in China. Persons were not lacking who predicted the rising of such a state of affairs as would necessitate foreign intervention in one form or another.

The financial prospects were decidedly gloomy. Sir Richard Dane estimated that the surplus revenue of the Salt Gabelle would probably be so small that it was not likely that the Five-Power Banks would entertain proposals for a loan large enough to meet the recognized needs of the situation. White Wolf had escaped the tolls laboriously spread for him by the government troops, and was rampaging unrestrainedly in fresh hunting-grounds, well out of reach of the Chinese army.

It was believed that White Wolf was inspired by and was acting in collusion with the revolutionary party and that his ultimate object was the overthrow of the government. The revolutionary party, too, was supposed only to be waiting for a suitable opportunity to raise the flag of rebellion in Kwangtung Province and at various points on the Yang-tse. Revenue from the provinces was only trickling into the capital and was being spent as fast as it came in on the operations against White Wolf. Foreign debtors were clamoring for payment of long overdue debts and threatening to proclaim the Chinese government bankrupt in Europe because of the failure to honor large batches of Treasury bills held by them. Trade throughout the country was seriously hampered by the depreciated state of provincial notes and feeling against the government because of its inability to take measures to protect the trading community in this respect was assuming dangerous proportions.

The difficulties that confronted the government have, however, become less serious. It seems that better days are in store. White Wolf has been headed away from Szechuan, where rebellion against the government would be easy to fan into flame, into the desert regions of Kananshi, where his depredations are less felt. The revolutionary party appears to have taken the recent assumption of autocratic powers by the President lying down. Outbreaks have been sipped in the bud. No evidence is forthcoming to suggest that there is any wide planned concerted scheme to promote another rebellion. Things have decidedly improved financially. The Salt Gabelle collections have attained a figure which has justified Sir Richard Dane, after the retention of \$5,000,000 to cover future liabilities, in releasing substantial surpluses which have been paid over to the government account. In addition to this inflow from the salt, the government claims at last to be receiving substantial contributions from the provinces. Moreover, an important step has been taken toward dealing with the provincial note question. In agreeing to the release of the salt surpluses the Five-Power Banks stipulated for the devotion of the money—nearly \$7,000,000—to the alleviation of the note situation, and agreed, besides, to permit the employment for the same purpose of \$5,000,000 out of the \$10,000,000 provided in the reorganization loan for the purposes of the Salt Gabelle.

As a result of all these encouraging signs the Chinese are filled with an optimism which the foreigner does not grudge them, but which he trusts will not lead them to underestimate the serious difficulties which still confront the country, and which must continue to confront the country for many a day. Yuan Shih-kai has burnt his boats so far as Grand China is concerned. He suspended Parliament last year, and assumed entire responsibility for the conduct of affairs. This year he has recast the Nanking Constitution, divesting the people practically of any share in the government, and vesting in himself powers that in effect are dictatorial. Moreover, he has set up a Government in Peking from which Yuan Shih-kai is excluded in favor of officials of the old regime. He is turning the Young Chinese out of office in the provinces, and putting in old style men in their stead. Young China, in fact, proved themselves incapable of holding office, and very few will claim that they deserve to hold it. But Yuan Shih-kai made the revolution and bitterly resent their exclusion and the cancelling of the national rights for which they fought and died. It is, therefore, difficult to believe that Young China will not always be a thorn in the side of Yuan Shih-kai, endeavoring to discredit his government, if not actively rebelling against it. Military vigilance to guard against their intrigues will have to be observed unceasingly.

Increased revenue from the provinces is largely due to the collection in one or two provinces of the title deed registration tax, which, of course, is non-recurring. The salt surpluses promise to provide a substantial revenue in the future, but the fact that the money is coming to Peking means that the provinces are being deprived of some of the revenue which they

## PRINCESS MARY DRIVING WITH PRINCESS ALEXANDER OF TECK



H. R. H. PRINCESS MARY FROM THE MOST RECENT CAMERA PORTRAIT. This photograph of H. R. H. Princess Mary, who is seventeen years of age, was taken as she was driving recently from Windsor Castle to Eton with Princess Alexander of Teck. The young Princess was dressed all in white and she was having a jolly time.

formerly handled, and that their capacity to remit to Peking on general account is thereby diminished.

The \$17,000,000 being devoted to strengthening the provincial note issues is to be employed in Kwangtung and Hunan, and leaves many other provinces untouched. The whole problem of unsecured notes means the restoration of public confidence in a total circulation of some \$300,000,000, toward which \$17,000,000 will not go very far.

That a beginning in dealing with this problem has been made is satisfactory, but it is only a beginning, and the problem remains to be solved. There is, too, the risk that the efforts of the central government to straighten out the note question may be frustrated by further issues by the provinces themselves. And White

## KING AND QUEEN ENJOYED TANGO

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, June 27. The ban on the tango to be removed from royal palaces, and is to be revived in the houses of the inner circle of society, from which it has been rigidly excluded? Such is the question that every one will now be asking. The reason for the inquiry is that King George and Queen Mary have now seen the real tango and enjoyed it.

It was before the ball given by Grand Duke Michael Mikhaylovich and Countess Torby, at Ken Wood, that their Majesties saw the tango danced. Mr. Maurice and his wife, Florence Walton, were engaged to entertain the royal party between dining and the ball. When they had danced one of their waltzes, Grand Duchess Anastasia of Mecklenburg-Schwerin surprised Mr. Maurice by saying:—"If the Queen asks for the tango, be prepared to dance it."

They had just concluded another dance when Countess Torby told Mr. Maurice that the Queen would like to see the tango, as she had never seen it properly danced.

Mr. Maurice and Miss Walton were delighted, because they had been much discouraged by the banning of the tango, which they declared had been vulgarized by the introduction of numerous steps with which the real tango had nothing whatever to do, and thus it had been misunderstood by society.

They danced, and Mr. Maurice was gratified by being informed that the Queen had described it as charming and that she had no idea it was such a graceful dance.

From the tango they went to the maxixe, and from that to the one-step, another misunderstood dance which the royal party asked to be repeated.

"The result," said Mr. Maurice, describing his experiences to your correspondent, "was that we danced for a whole hour and gave in all sixteen dances. But what was most of all is that the Queen gratifies us most of all is that the Queen has been graciously pleased to see the tango and that she approves of it as graceful and, as Her Majesty herself declared, a 'charming dance.'"

## Old Rotten Row Has Fallen Low

Crusty Correspondent Writes Long Letter to the Times Deploring Its Deterioration.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, June 27. NEVER a season passes but there are murmurs at the "fall" of Rotten Row. It is true that the Row is not the Row of old. It is not the exclusive haunt of high society, when Rotten Row was a sight for the gods. A correspondent who has watched the "deterioration" of the Row writes to the Times deploring the fact and recalling the days when the "classical Row man" used to "sit in the sunshine surveying the scene under the emerald trees on this emerald throne, or canted up and down, bowing, bowed to, admired, admiring." The writer goes on:—"Now his successor only survives as an exception to the motley rule. The real Row man signed his abdication when he discarded his coronation robes. Where now are his glossy top hat, his high white collar—emblem of eminence—his slim frock coat, his large, fragrant boutonhole, that sceptre of a stick, that prevalent air of stiffness which used to proclaim dominion? The 'nut' will have none of them, for he rejects restraints. He rejoices in what tailors term a 'lounge suit.' He wears a 'straw' or a 'bowler,' according to the caprice of our so-called climate. Sometimes he even declines upon brown brogues.

## DEPLORE THE DECAY OF RURAL COTTAGES

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, June 27. AS the result of a competition which had its origin in a letter written by Lord Curzon to Country Life, declaring it would be a national tragedy if the cottages of rural laborers were to be torn down and standardized houses thrown up in their places, rows of quaint little models of cottages, like dolls' houses but ever so much prettier, were displayed in the gallery of the Alpine Club, Mill street, W., before the admiring eyes of a host of housing experts.

The models were built in pairs, and each pair was different from the rest. They embodied the characteristic architectural features of almost every county in England from Suffolk to Northumberland, and they were the prize winning designs in the competition for models of rural laborers' cottages organized by Country Life.

Architects all over the country took part in this useful competition and vied with one another in producing the very best specimens of their craft at the very lowest prices.

Architects were invited to send in designs for eighteen pairs of cottages in different counties and prizes amounting to more than \$5,000 were awarded. Fifty-six models and 1,426 designs were submitted.

In opening the exhibition Mr. Runciman, president of the Board of Agriculture, described it as the best contribution so far made toward providing types of attractive and economical cottages in various parts of the country. He commented particularly on the advantage of models to make clear the architect's ideas.

"The only way in which we can solve the problem of rural housing," he added, "is to proceed strictly along business as well as artistic lines. This exhibition provides one of the best means yet taken of seeing how far architects, contractors, land owners, philanthropists and those who occupy the cottages can co-operate in the solution of this great problem."

"In the course of time many parts of rural England will be entirely rebuilt."

Wolf is still alive, and ever a potential danger to the State, though for the time being he finds it expedient to retire out of the limelight into the obscurity of distant Kansuh.

The prospect has definitely improved, for the principal reason that no party, nor any province, appears anxious to dispute the supremacy of the central government; in fact, because the government is beginning to be recognized throughout the country. Customs receipts indicate want of confidence in the government among the trading community, which ought to disappear as the improvement becomes generally recognized. For the first three months of the year the receipts showed a big increase over the corresponding period of last year, owing to a boom in imports. But the goods have been held up in the ports because native traders had banked their money in preference to risking it up country. In consequence recent receipts are below those of the corresponding months of last year, and may remain low for a few months more.

## THE TIMES VISITS THE LONDON SLUMS

Conditions Not so Bad as They Were, but Still Not Good.

SALVATION ARMY AIDS Metropolis Nightly Shelters More Than 20,000 Persons, 2,000 of Them Women and Children.

(Special Dispatch.)

LONDON, June 27. THE Times, since it reduced its price, has taken to what on the American side are called human interest stories. It has just been on a slumming trip. It is an instructive and rather a dreadful thing, the writer says, to make the round at night, under proper escort, of the places where those people find a refuge who have no homes. To do it from mere curiosity is inexcusable. But one who goes in a sympathetic spirit, with an earnest desire to learn something of the problems of life for the very poor, will find it a wholesome and chastening experience. For those who habitually think in terms of pounds until they grow to be so careless of their shillings and pence it is well to be brought to realize sometimes what vital things pennies and halfpennies may be.

To-night, as every night, he says, there will probably be a thousand people wandering the London streets without a bed or place in which to sleep. In the casual wards, the common lodging houses and various charitable shelters there will be upward of twenty thousand people, some two thousand of whom will be women and children. It is true that the conditions in the last few years have shown a steady and appreciable improvement, partly as the result of deliberate efforts on the part of the authorities, partly because times are prosperous and the few pence necessary for a night's food and lodging have been a shade less difficult for even the most incompetent to secure. But in spite of the "abundance" of money and notwithstanding every effort, there remains always this terrible residuum of those who have no home.

Of the various institutions where the very poor are provided with a night's lodging at minimum cost the most successful, the writer says, is perhaps the huge Salvation Army shelter in Great Peter street, Westminster, in the building formerly occupied by Messrs. Burroughs & Watts. It is successful because, first, though it contains nearly six hundred beds, every evening by eight o'clock you are likely to find the words "Pull up" chalked upon the door, and, second, because, though the charge for a bed is only three pence, it is understood to be amply self-supporting.

For his three pence the occupant gets a comfortable bed on an iron single bedstead, with two clean sheets and a leather-like "American cloth" coverlet. The vast rooms are comfortably warmed in cold weather, so that the covering is ample. In addition to his bed he may have a bath, with hot water, soap and towel, and while he is in his bath his clothes will, if he wishes, be "disinfected." It is a process which is too often necessary. Now that we are waking up to the dangers to the common health which insects cause by carrying disease, it may be that in time we shall be able to overcome the curse of vermin. At present the reports of the Health Department every year show that some ten thousand rooms, thirty thousand persons and more than one hundred thousand articles of clothing.

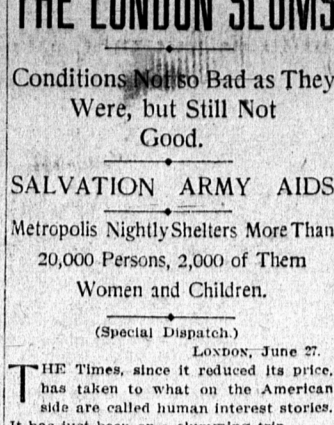
Pence and half pence go a long way in Great Peter street. A large bowl of a savory smelling stew of meat and vegetables costs a penny. Three or four good sized potatoes can be got for another half penny, and other eatables are in proportion. The man with 6½d. or 7d. to spend can get here a good night's lodging, a satisfactory supper and an adequate breakfast, besides laying in enough tobacco in the form of "fags" bought from fellow inmates to last him over the day. Moreover he spends the evening in warmth and comfort with a sociable company.

From this place, which sets the standard of the maximum of comfort obtainable for three pence, there are lodging houses at which the prices range upward of four pence, five pence, six pence, and, finally, to the tiled and polished luxury of Bruce House at seven pence. There are also other places down to the casual wards and the purely charitable shelters which cost nothing.

Of these last the best known is Medland Hall, which is supported by the Congregational Union. Recently, under the London County Council's regulations prescribing a minimum of 350 cubic feet of air space for every bed, the accommodation at Medland Hall has been reduced, and now about 180 beds a night are occupied.

To see the aristocrats of the underworld one should go, says the Times writer, to Bruce House, already mentioned, the County Council lodging house in Kombe street, Covent Garden. A bed here costs, as has been said, seven pence a night, and it is no exaggeration to say that many hotels give less comfort for three shillings six pence. The spacious rooms, scrupulously clean, decorated with plaques of red tiles, engravings of well known pictures or Cecil Auld's sporting prints; the bearing and speech and manners of many of the inmates; the bill of fare, which begins with cold salmon and caviar, through for three pence and goes on to a long list of appetizing dishes at prices varying from one penny to three pence, all combine to give it much more than the atmosphere of a hotel than of a municipal lodging house. Licensed for 105 beds, Bruce House is altogether a spacious and imposing institution.

## NEW AMERICAN LEGATION IN LISBON IS FINE BUILDING IN CENTRE OF CITY



THE AMERICAN LEGATION IN LISBON. COL. THOMAS H. BIRCH

(Special Dispatch.)

LISBON, June 27. COLONEL THOMAS H. BIRCH, the newly appointed American Minister to Portugal, and Mrs. Birch are at present occupying the new Legation at Nos. 20, 21 and 22 Praca Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon.

It is a large and stately building, centrally located and in the best residential section, facing the beautiful Praca Rio de Janeiro Park, with a rear view looking down upon the principal avenue, the Avenida da Liberdade.

The first floor to the right of the main entrance is used for the Chancery and Legation offices. Four salons occupy the second floor, facing the street, giving ample room for official entertainments. The dining room, guests' suite and private study are also on this floor. The third floor is used for sleeping apartments for the family and guests.

Colonel Birch has also taken the villa at Cascas recently occupied by Duque de Louie, one of the prettiest places on the Portuguese Riviera. This is located directly on the sea, and will be used in summer for Saturday to Monday visits during the year.

The Minister and Mrs. Birch are arranging to leave on the Vaterland on August 13, to visit the United States during the Minister's vacation, returning to Lisbon late in the autumn.

Colonel Birch before his appointment was personal "aide" to President Wilson as Governor of New Jersey, and the President-elect's representative at the inauguration. He is also a close friend of the Secretary of State, Mr. Bryan.

## Poll Tax Alarms Proprietors of Moving Pictures

European Interest Is Aroused by Statement by American That the Cinema Aids Eyesight.

(Special Dispatch.)

BERLIN, June 27. THE imposition of a cinema poll tax in Germany is causing considerable alarm among members of the trade. Cinema proprietors will be particularly hard hit, and it is expected that many will have to close the doors of their theatres. Taking Charlottenburg as an example, the taxation is as follows:—Every theatre with the accommodation of 100 seats or under is taxed \$1.25 daily. Where the seats are from 100 to 150 the tax is \$1.75, and theatres seating 150 to 200 have to pay \$2.50 per day. Theatres accommodating more than four hundred people have to pay a daily tax of \$2.50 for every fifty persons above 400, and in addition to this the tax on Sundays and holidays is increased by one-half.

A similar tax has for some time been expected in Italy, but a change of government has delayed it for a time.

Much interest is manifested in all Europe in the statement of Dr. Herbert Harlan, medical inspector for the State of Maryland, during the course of a recent lecture in the University Hall, Baltimore, that the eyesight would be considerably strengthened by the attendance for two hours daily at a picture theatre. It was pointed out by the doctor that the rapid projection of different objects on the screen imposed on the organs of sight minute variations in focusing, which was very beneficial to the retina.

## French Society Is Seldom Seen in Public Places

One Hears of the Brilliant Balls, but Never of Many Wonderful Fetes.

(Special Dispatch.)

PARIS, June 27. BRIEF but brilliant is the Paris season. It is even more brilliant than it looks when viewed superficially; for, although the Parisians are renowned for their open air life in town, society is essentially home keeping and it keeps its finest flowers for its own appreciation.

Outside the limits of their particular sets the leading hostesses are very little known. Their dresses are rarely described in the newspapers except those they wear at the races. Their drawing rooms are scarcely ever photographed for publication, and their daily life is guarded from the public eye as carefully as their daughters are protected from worldly "pomps and vanities" until such time as they are old enough to take their share of them.

Bagatelle and Puteaux still remain extremely French, and the stranger is not received with open arms. Although a few of the most brilliant balls of every season are allowed to become more or less public property there are smaller and more wonderful fetes about which the public never hears. The Persian ball given by the Comtesse de Chabrillan last season, the Crinolone ball given by the Duchesse de Gramont the other day, a charity fete in the music room of the Comtesse René de Pearn, a pastoral concert arranged by the Comtesse de Greffulhe, and a few great events of like importance are recorded in the papers with a mass of detail that matters rather less than more. But the heart of society, with its wit, its grace, and its vivacity, is no one's property but its own.

There are still salons in Paris, there is still conversation, and there are still women who know how to give a dinner party at which the wit will sparkle as gaily as the wine. It is these women who make the real Paris season, and it is they who cause it to be brief as well as brilliant. They can gather together men and women of many nationalities and of two classes, whose whose birth gives them place and those who claim a footing by reason of their wit. Money alone is powerless to open these doors, much less so than moneyless wit; but one thing is essential, and that is a fluency in the language of the land, in spite of the fact that almost every Frenchwoman of rank speaks at least two foreign languages easily, one of these being English.

During two months in the spring, May and June, society women open their houses in Paris and make a season. They dress and dance, play bridge and patronize the arts, put in an appearance at polo, tennis, golf and the opera, and color all they do with an intelligence that seems inherited rather than acquired. It is this intelligence which teaches them that brevity is the soul of success in most social matters. So lazier deers might well be their motto, for they practise it in no sense than one. Even their dinner menus are arranged in that spirit; and it is the bourgeois only who overloads his table. They are, moreover, extremely detached and disconcertingly frivolous. A small dog, a penny toy, the tango or any other absurdity will apparently absorb any one of them, but not a soul among them will give a thought to a light novel, a poor picture, a charlatan philosopher or an obviously minor poet. They will play with a plaything but not with an art or a dangerous doctrine, for sense of proportion is one of their finest weapons against futility.

The sideights in society are cosmopolitan. The foreign colonies have made for themselves a season apart. The American colony leads. It gives teas, dinners, tangoes and musicales in splendid frames and with a slight French element.

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