

HUNGARY

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Hungary and Its People.

Traffic in Hungary

Ezeréves . . .
. . . Magyar-
ország . . .

SUCH is the picture of the system of the Hungarian railways in 1894. Simultaneously with the railways, *posts and telegraphs* made rapid strides. At the end of 1894, there were in Hungary 4.463 post-offices, representing a traffic of 321 million letters and 16 million parcels. The increase has been prodigious since the constitutional era. In 1868 there were only 1337 post-offices, with a traffic of not more than 53 million letters. During the same interval the telegraph lines have been extended from 8.429 to 23.547 kilom. the length of wires from 21.635 to 101.859 kilom. The organisation of the telegraph stations and their movements developed in similar proportions. Finally, that most modern instrument for the development of human thought, the *Telephone*, has been acclimatised in Hungary, not only in the capital, but also in provincial towns. At the end of 1894 the length of telephone wires was 20.214 kilometres.

Hungary, in all that relates to the means of transport and communication, is gaining a closer and closer resemblance to the civilised West. If its economic life is less stirring



Baron Sigismund Kornfeld.

Photo by Strelisky.

and less energetic, the character of that life is notwithstanding identical with that of western countries; and Hungary now competes with the great nations of the West in the arena of civilisation.

Money & Credit.

The first gold coins in Hungary were stamped by king Robert Charles in 1343 after a Florentine pattern, with the lilies of the house of Anjou. This clean stamped gold coin of fine metal marked with the lilies is as it were a symbol of the Hungarian nation. Western civilisation has

impressed its stamp on the Hungarian nation but the nation has preserved its ancestral virgin purity, just as the noble metal of our hills was impressed by the chisel of the Italian artist.

The Hungarians, as the last wave of the great migrations, are called even at present par excellence «the eastern people». And yet the Hungarians since the beginning of the XI. century have separated themselves sharply from the east, and with the full strength of their passionate souls have attached themselves to the West, whose civilisation they have assimilated. This community of culture has extended also to our economic rela-

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tionships. Mining, handicrafts, trades, although they had their individual traits, yet stood in vital connection with the related branches of industry in western Europe. (To be continued.)



A Brief Sketch of the Hungarian Constitution and of the Relations between Austria and Hungary.

By Count *Albert Apponyi*,
Minister for Religion and Public Instruction.

But before entering upon this part of our subject let us cast a cursory glance at the competence of the Diets. We have seen that this is universal in principle. Soon, however, besides numerous less important powers, participation in the legislative power, the control of the executive, and the vote of the impost and recruiting, became the chief functions of the national representation, without mentioning the right of election of the king, which lasted until 1687, and which the preliminaries of the Coronation have since that period replaced, as we have seen when referring to the royal power.

The participation of Parliament, especially of the House of Commons, in *legislative power*, was not fully recognised in England until the latter half of the 14th century, in the reign of Richard II., while with us, on the contrary, it appears to have been in vogue from the very beginning of the Christian monarchy. The laws of St. Ladislas and of his successor, Coloman (second half of the 11th century), both types of strong and powerful monarchs, contain preambles declaring that those laws were made with the assent of the prelates, the lords, and «all the people» — understanding by that, free men and bearers of arms, i. e., the nobility. In every case the parliamentary legislative apparatus has worked with a competence unchallenged since the latter half of the 13th century.

In our preceding chapter we have traced the chief features of *the right of parliamentary control over the executive*, and of its development up to the Golden Bull (1222). Let us add that under the Habsburgs this control was manifested above all by permanent protest against the meddling of the «foreign counsellors of His Majesty» in Hungarian affairs, and by the curious institution of the «grievances» (*gravamina*). Each Diet, when meeting, was occupied at first with

innumerable subjects of complaint accumulated since the previous session, on which it pronounced awards before proceeding to deliberate on matters of highest importance to the Court: the impost and recruiting — the king's commissioners naturally insisting on the reverse order of procedure. It is clear that these difficulties hindered the regular progress of legislative work, but they served to defend the independence and Constitution of the country at a time when this national defence was of paramount necessity and the most imperious of duties.

In England *the vote of the impost* is the oldest of Constitutional Guarantees, confirmed and defined by Magna Charta; with us it did not come into existence until later. In the same measure that we have taken precedence of England in the matter of the conquest of popular legislative power, so are we behind her in this respect. The reason for this is seen in the weak place the impost held for a long time in the financial affairs of our country beside the revenues of the great royal domains, and the regal rights. (To be continued.)



Sigismund Kornfeld — Baron!

THE conferring by the king of the dignity of a barony on Sigismund Kornfeld, whose portrait we give in this issue, is not only a matter for rejoicing in that gentleman's family circle, but for satisfaction among the large number of his friends and acquaintances, with whom he is deservedly popular.

Practically a self-made man, by his business acumen and close application to work, he has established himself in the front rank of Hungarian financiers. His best title to fame is perhaps his presidency of the Magyar Általános Hitelbank, with whose fortunes he has for so many years been bound up.

The new baron has also been chairman of the Budapest Stock Exchange for many years. The existence of the new Exchange Building, that worthy monument of Hungarian finance, is largely due to his indefatigable energy and public spirit. It is situated in Szabadság-tér (Liberty Square), in the vicinity of the Houses of Parliament, the Austro-Hungarian Bank, the Post Office Savingsbank, and other noble specimens of architecture.

Baron Sigismund Kornfeld is also a Member of the House of Lords, and a factor to be reckoned with in municipal affairs and commercial life.

The New Postmaster-General.

THE post of Postmaster-General, rendered vacant four months ago through the decease of Mr. Peter Szalay, is now filled, Francis Kossuth, the Minister of Commerce, having appointed Dr. Charles Follért, who for the past fifteen years has been the leading spirit in all matters pertaining to the business of the post, telegraph and telephone service. With every postal reform of late years Dr. Follért has been personally concerned. He has not reached his present high position by influence or favour; but by hard and zealous work, in which his efforts have been unsparing. Indeed a «self-made» man, he little dreamt, when on Christmas day 1877 he entered the Post-Office service as a junior clerk, that he would one day be head of the Department. Being now barely fifty years of age, we trust that he may have a long career before him as Postmaster-General, and that under his able administration the Hungarian Post-Office may make further strides along the path-way of public usefulness. As a junior clerk in the Post-Office Dr. Follért found time to study law at the University of Kolozsvár. His university examinations successfully

passed, he was transferred to the Post-Office section of the Ministry of Commerce at Budapest. Here his abilities and zeal attracted the favourable notice of Baron Gabriel Kemény, then Minister. Baron Kemény's successor in the Ministry, the great Gabriel Baross, also recognised the ability of the young official, and charged him with important work, the satisfactory execution of which won for Dr. Follért promotion to Surveyor's rank. This was in the Millennium Year — after eleven years of service only.

For the ensuing thirteen years he was the right hand of the late Mr. Szalay, and always a popular favourite with the staff, who one and all regard him with esteem and confidence. Thus Dr. Follért commences in his new post with the heartiest good wishes and congratulations of all connected with the service.

Our Reading Table.

THE ISLAND WORLD OF THE PACIFIC, by Oscar Vojnich. (Translated into English by Arthur B. Yolland.) Pallas Publishing Co. Budapest.

We have here a true account of travel and adventure quite as interesting as many in the pages of fiction. After narrating his experiences aboard ship and in Australia and New-Zealand, the author gives us delightful glimpses of life among the aborigines of the Pacific, among the friendly inhabitants of Samoa and Tonga, and also among the turbulent Filipinos. The author's observations on the English, with whom naturally he came much in contact, are on the whole highly flattering to that people:

«An Englishman», he says, «does not easily make an acquaintance; in point of *esprit* his scope is, on the average, somewhat limited; he is often a bad conversationalist; but he always respects the laws prescribed by good taste. He can eat, talk, and behave like a gentleman . . . This is not the case with the upper circles only, but with every man who has a decent coat to his back.»

The 450 pages are crammed with matter on a variety of subjects, ranging from

the Labour Question in Australia and the Educational System of New-Zealand to Volcanoes, Geysers, and Eastern Art.

The glamour of the Pacific is upon the author even as he steps ashore again at Marseilles, to be greeted by a host of beggars, whom he contrasts with the contented inhabitants of the South Seas: «Those half-naked, brown-skinned creatures, whom we in Europe call savages, never treat us to revolting sights of this kind. At Marseilles, with its beautiful parks and public buildings, I met with beggars at every step . . . For my part I can only say that in New-Zealand, Australia, and in the Islands of the Pacific combined, I never opened my purse to give alms so much as I did in this, the first port I saw on my return to Europe.»

The work contains two good maps of the author's itinerary, and upwards of 200 engravings



DR. CHARLES FOLLÉRT,
Newly appointed Postmaster-General of Hungary.

from photographs taken on the spot, of which we publish several specimens.

★
«The Development of Hungarian Constitutional Liberty» by Count Julius Andrassy, M. P. Minister of the Interior, Kegan Paul and Co. London. 10s./6d. (Translated from the Hungarian by C. A. and Ilona Ginever.)

In this valuable historical work Count Andrassy has written with vigour and exceedingly great frankness. He has not spared censure — even on the Church — whenever he has deemed censure to be due. We learn from his book how it was Hungary's dogged memory of her Constitutional history that enabled her for so many centuries to preserve her national identity against the invading floods of Tartars, Turks and later on of Germans. Referring to the political sagacity of the people, the author says: «While the leaders yearned for military adventures the people always saw when they were on the wrong track, and their instinct saved them from embarking on enterprises of mere conquest. The policy of conquest never became a national policy in Hungary. There was in fact a somewhat exaggerated tendency in the opposite direction» (p. 4.).

But the Hungarians were never backward when their country was in danger. No land has perhaps such a history of thrilling deeds as Hungary. And they knew also how to talk plainly to their kings whenever occasion demanded. When Ferdinand busied himself with other matters while the Turks overran and devastated the country the nobles thus addressed him: «What Your Majesty may have achieved during the past four years is unknown to us, but we know that the country has not enjoyed any fruits of Your Majesty's efforts... If Your Majesty cannot accomplish the country's



In a Primeval Forest (New-Zealand).



The Devil's Punch-Bowl (New-Zealand).

deliverance, will you be pleased to tell us so candidly, before we perish, so that we may find means to defend ourselves and avoid the impending danger?» (p. 323.).

The exploits of the Zrinyis, Báthorys, Szapolyas, Rákóczys, and Bocskays are fully as stirring as those somewhat doubtful deeds of the paladins of earlier times. These were native princes, with whom the imported Habsburg kings are not worthy to be compared. In these (the Habsburgs) the Hungarians have often been unfortunate. Ferdinand had never seen a battle, though Hungary in his reign was constantly engaged in struggles with the Turkish invaders. «Maximilian clearly showed during the siege of Szigetvár that he was no general. Rudolf II. was weak, nervous, almost a lunatic, and utterly unfit for camp life... The Hungarians, accustomed to see their kings at the head of the army, always where the danger was greatest, now never saw their monarch in battle. While they themselves were enduring terrible privations, they heard continually of the luxury of the Court... The weak and suffering body of Charles V. at once became elastic and energetic as he donned his suit of mail and heard the sound of battle. He shared the vicissitudes of war with his soldiers and gave proofs of his talent as a leader. In this respect the Hungarian Habsburgs were utterly unlike him.» (p. 356.).

The volume before us only brings us up to the year 1619. A. D., and is but a part of the work projected by the author dealing with the reasons for the preservation of Hungarian constitutional liberty. We hope soon to have the pleasure of reading the conclusion of Count Andrassy's important undertaking.



Fern Thicket near Kilauea Volcano (Hawaii).

What has already appeared is well worthy a place in the library of every student of the rise and progress of nations.

★

A British Officer in the Balkans, by Major Percy Henderson. (Seeley and Co. 16s/-)

A delightful travelling companion to Dalmatia, Montenegro, and Bosnia, with «A peep at Magyar-land», as the third part of the work is named. It is in this part, doubtless, that Hungarians will be most interested. The peculiarities of the peasantry and other matters are dwelt upon. The author, however, is not always happy in describing things which came under his notice. He commits himself, for instance, when attempting to translate Hungarian words. At page 159 he informs us that Budapest possesses a «swear place», which he suggests may be «a convenient spot for foreign visitors to repair to when they wish to give vent to their feelings in regard to various little matters that try their tempers.» This «swear place» is doubtless *Eskü-tér* (Oath Square), so named in commemoration of the constitutional oath which at the coronation the King of Hungary is required to take.

There are exactly 50 illustrations from the camera of the author's wife, who accompanied him on the journey.

★

Days Spent on a Doge's Farm, by Margaret Symonds. (Unwin, 10s./6d. net.)

A very welcome re-issue of a charming book. The Doge's Farm was the country estate of the noble Pisani who migrated from Pisa to Venice in 905. The author describes the life she led there as the guest of Countess Pisani. The struggles of the countess with a perverse and stupid generation of peasants make interesting reading. *Chi ha terra ha guerra!* was her favourite

maxim. Among much interesting matter there is a striking account of the feast of St. Anthony of Padua, the great Franciscan.

★

Girl Life in the Harem, by Annie Reichardt. (Ouseley, 3s./6d.)

This is a very interesting account of life behind the curtains in the East. The author has conveyed her information in the guise of a story. Technicalities and native terms abound, and without an interesting plot the book might have been a trifle heavy. The night before the wedding the bride exclaims, «My God, my God, have pity on me! Would that I could die!» and one is not surprised at her feelings in view of next day's ceremonial.

«Her cheeks were painted a bright red, and in the middle was firmly stuck a small diamond star, — two others of the same description being placed on her forehead and chin.» Poor thing!

★

Selected Poems, by Francis Thompson. (Methuen 5s/.)

Of all the poets who have sung the nobility and beneficence of sorrow and the infinite, inexhaustible blessings of Divine Love, no poet equals Francis Thompson. It is just three months since he died, but his work will live and always be associated with the names of Milton, Shelley, and Keats. And of all his poems, the one which stands out, haunting, impressive, and as touching as anything that ever came from human pen is that one called by the weird name of *The Hound of Heaven*:

I fled Him, down the nights and down the days I
I fled Him, down the arches of the years;
I fled Him, down the labyrinthine ways
Of my own mind; and in the midst of tears



Dwelling House, Vavau (Tonga Islands).

I hid from Him, and under running laughter,
 Up vistaéd hopes I sped
 And shot, precipitated
 Adown Titanic glooms of chasméd fears,
 From those strong Feet that followed, followed after.
 But with unhurrying chase
 And unperturbed pace,
 Deliberate speed, majestic instancy,
 They beat — and a Voice beat
 More instant than the Feet —
All things betray thee who betrayest Me! I. L.



Topical Notes

HIS MAJESTY THE KING, who is now enjoying the best of health, after a somewhat prolonged period of convalescence, intends to visit Budapest in



Palace of the Native King, George II. of Tonga.

May. The occasion will be signalled by a round of festivities.

*

On the 6th inst. their Royal Highnesses Archduke Joseph and Archduchess Augusta, visited the headquarters of the First Aid Society in Budapest, of which they are patrons. The Royal guests were received on behalf of the Ladies' Committee by Countesses Albert Apponyi and Endre Hadik-Barkóczy. After an inspection of the premises Dr. Aladár Kovách, Chief Medical Director of the institution, gave a demonstration before their Royal Highnesses of the dressing and binding of fractured bones.

President of the Lords gives a Dinner.

Count Aurel Dessewffy (President of the House of Lords) and Countess Dessewffy gave a dinner on the 1st inst. at the Nemzeti Casino. Among the numerous guests assembled to do honour to the occasion were Count Stephen Tisza, Count Alex. Széchenyi, State Secretaries Joseph Sztérényi, Francis Bolgár, Alex. Popovics, and Gustavus Tóry, Count

Victor Széchenyi, Lord Lieut. Julius Gulner, Bishop Paul Zelenka, Count Endre Hadik-Barkóczy, Count Emil Dessewffy, Count Francis Vigyázó, Counts Dénes and Imre Almásy, Count Raphael Zichy, Count Max Hoyos, Count Tibor Teleki, Count Ádám Vay, and Count Paul Degenfeld.

A Diplomatic Change.

Esme William Howard, Esq. the newly appointed Consul-General of Gt. Britain in Budapest, has paid introductory visits to Their Excellencies the Prime Minister (Dr. Wekerle) and the Minister of Commerce (Francis Kossuth).

Honour for Kossuth and Sztérényi.

The borough of Bányulafalva, which has risen phenomenally to importance during the past quarter of a century, has elected Their Excellencies Francis Kossuth (Minister of Commerce) and Joseph Sztérényi (State Secretary) to its honorary freedom. The customary documents were presented to the new freemen by a large deputation, who waited upon them in Budapest for the purpose.

Court Chamberlain's Dinner.

On the 2nd Count and Countess Louis Apponyi gave a dinner party, the principal guests being: Marquis and Marchioness Ed. Pallavicini, Count and Countess Dénes Almásy, Count and Countess Fritz Wilczek, Count and Countess John Hadik, Baron and Baroness Joseph Inkey, Countess Geo. Haller, Count and Countess Géza Zichy, the British Consul-General and Mrs. Howard, Ex-Premier Kálmán Széll, Count Paul Festetics, Prince Hermann Schönburg-Waldenburg (German Consul-General), M. Vladimir Muraviev-Apostol-Korobjine (Russian Consul-General), State Secretaries Albin Márfy, Konrad Inling, and Victor Bezerédy, Professor Stephen Székely, Rector of the University of Science, and Dr. Stephen Bárczy, Burgermaster of Budapest.

Count Joseph Mailáth lectures.

Last week, before the Austrian National Agriculturalists' Society in Vienna, Count Joseph Mailáth lectured on «*The Agricultural Labourers' Question in Hungary*».

Independence Day.

Today Hungary commemorates the Anniversary of her Independence. It is essentially a «Thanksgiving Day» for the blessings of freedom. Glorious Freedom! a boon so fully enjoyed in England that its blessings are apt often to be minimised, if not lost sight of altogether. It is our custom to observe this day by offering the first hours of it to Almighty God, special services being appointed in the various

places of worship. Afterwards the community abandons itself to festivity of a more or less sober kind according to individual proclivity.

A Petőfi Museum.

A house in Bajza-utca (Budapest) has been acquired and fitted up for the purpose of a Petőfi Museum. To be called the «Petőfi-ház» (Petőfi House), it will be a national shelter for all the available souvenirs of the celebrated Hungarian poet of Independence. — Among the objects of interest already secured are the identical printing-press on which was printed the famous poetic appeal, «*Talpra Magyar !*» (*Hungarians arise !*) which sent a wave of patriotic enthusiasm rolling over the land; and also the marble table from the old Pilvax Coffee-house, round which the hero-poet and his comrades often sat, and where many of his verses no doubt received inspiration.

A Well Deserved Distinction.

Otto Herman has been unanimously elected an Honorary Fellow of the (British) Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, of which the Duke of Portland is President, and the Earl of Stamford, Vice-President. Mr. Herman is a famous writer on birds and kindred subjects, his best known work being an historical sketch of the International Convention for the Protection of Birds, published by Order of the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture.

The Hungarian Society in London.

The Hungarian Society's Annual Soiree in London recently was a brilliant function, some two hundred English friends gathering for the festive occasion at the Holborn Restaurant. The company included Sir J. C. Lamb (President), Sir Albert Rollit (Chairman of the British Chambers of Commerce), Alderman Sir Alfred Newton (Ex-Lord Mayor), Admiral Markham, Louis Felberman, Gustave Jetley, Ladislav Kanitz, J. R. Kaufman, J. Mackay, Bagot Molesworth, Joseph Offord, Henry Prüger, Leopold Rossner, F. O. Vida, M. and S. Weiss, Mrs. Ginever — (Ilona Győry) and Arthur Ginever, and C. Martin. During the Concert which followed the *Hymnus* was rendered, after which interesting speeches were made by Sir J. C. Lamb, and others.

Record Skating in Hungary.

The winter has not yet left us. Though not severe as some preceding winters, it is certainly one of the longest ever experienced. All lovers of winter sports here are congratulating themselves and



Town and Country Costume (Tonga Islands).

each other on the record number of consecutive skating-days being broken. The annals of the Budapest Skating Club show 78 days to be the highest ever previously attained during the forty years of its existence; now however the number has already reached 81 days.

International Exhibition in London.

A great international exhibition is to be held in London next summer. Invitations to take part therein have already been issued by the Exhibition Committee to manufacturers, agriculturists, and health resort proprietors all over the world. Britain and her colonies will be well represented.

Austria-Hungarian Commercial Reciprocity.

The Statistics Department of the Austrian Ministry of Commerce reports that in January 1909, Hungary imported into Austria goods to the value of 75,200,000 crowns, and received from Austria goods to the value of 84,000,000 crowns — a difference of



A native Beauty of Samoa.

8,800,000 crowns as against 4,200,000 crowns for the corresponding month last year.

Hungarian Literature in the United States.

The Congress Library in Washington (the National Library of the United States) a few months ago acquired a representative collection of Hungarian literature, about 1500 volumes, comprising the cream of Hungarian *belles lettres* and scientific works. For this thanks are due to Messrs. Eugene Pivány and Louis C. Sólyom, the latter gentleman having been nearly forty years in the service of the Congress Library. He is the oldest assistant-librarian there in point of service — an unassuming, popular old gentleman, still swelling with patriotism, and has been very useful to the Congress Library for his scholarly knowledge of oriental languages.

Emigration Again.

Notwithstanding the great number of unemployed in the United States the stream of emigration to that country is scarcely arrested. In one week recently 1597 emigrants left the Hungarian port, of which 353 were Hungarians, 610 Slavs, 243 Germans, 293 Croatians, and 98 Wallachs.



Agricultural Progress in Hungary.

IN OUR previous article it was pointed out that a very great amount of the agricultural prosperity of Hungary has been achieved during the past forty years, and most of that progress has been due to the wise and prudent agricultural policy and system of education which exists in the country. Reference to this scheme should prove interesting to Irishmen who, for the past seven or eight years, have been trying a system of their own which it is hoped will result in lasting benefit to the country.

At the head of affairs in Hungary stands the Minister of Agriculture, who represents this great industry — the most important in Hungary as it is in Ireland — in the Houses of Parliament. This very important and responsible position is at present held by His Excellency Ignacz Darányi, a man who has done magnificent service to the cause of agriculture in the country, not the least



Bathing: Island of Sawaii.

important being the amelioration of the condition of the labouring population. An agriculturist himself, he evidently understands the greatest needs of the farming classes and has resolutely set himself to supply them. The representative of the *Farmers' Gazette*, with others, had the honour of a personal interview with His Excellency, at the Ministry of Agri-

culture, Budapest, and while observing his kindly appearance, yet strong and firm of purpose withal, one could feel that the destinies of rural Hungary are safe in his hands. The Minister of Agriculture is assisted by two Secretaries of State, and the whole governmental machinery is divided into ten Departments altogether, each of which is controlled by a Councillor who has a Secretary for that Department with Inspectors also, and a complete staff in regular employment. Thus, for example, in the Department for Animal Breeding there are 41 inspectors altogether, but for that portion of it which is allotted to dairy purposes the number of inspectors is three only.

As an instance of the thoroughness with which the work is done we will refer to the branch devoted to Water and Rivers. The drainage system of Hungary was founded by Count Stephen Széchenyi and is now attended to in extraordinary detail. At present from every brook and stream throughout the country a report is sent *daily*, all the year round, to the Agricultural Museum at Budapest. In this report are given the height of the stream, the force of the water, the thickness of the ice, where rain has fallen and how much, and also where none has fallen and numerous other particulars. These details are carefully arranged at this central building and from this as headquarters is sent out *immediately*, when necessary by telegraph or telephone, information how to cope with danger if that should threaten. There is here no stereotyped form such as our British Government so much admires — «Your letter has been received and shall have attention,» — often that is all the attention the inquirer receives! There is a reason for this detail in regard to waterways and rivers which happily we do not so much require in this country. Not so many years ago — it was in 1879 — a town of about 100,000 inhabitants, Szeged, was destroyed by floods and had to be rebuilt, but the lives of hundreds of its dwellers who perished in

the flooded Tisza (Theiss) could not be restored, and since then stupendous precautions have been taken by the Government in the manner indicated above to prevent as far as possible a similar catastrophe. Let Irishmen contrast this energetic action

a with the «dawdling» which exists in this country over such comparatively trifling matters as the drainage of the Barrow and the Bann. Another instance of what has been done, and is being done, by this progressive nation by means of its agricultural policy will perhaps suffice to show the value of property.

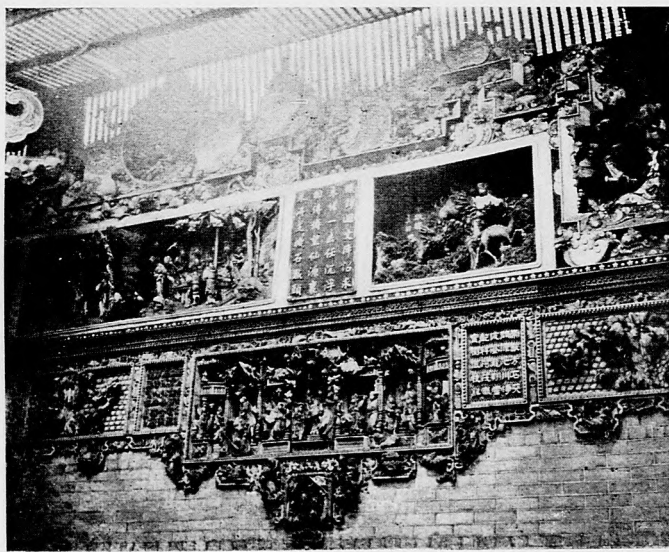
In the early 'nineties Hungary saw the necessity of establishing a breed of dairy cattle to yield more milk and develop more quickly than the fine draught cattle which hitherto had occupied her plains. In short, she required milk and milk products and determined to have them. The result of Governmental action is surprising compared with our slowly moving Western methods. In 1895 the Hungarian draught breed represented 56 1/2 per cent. of the country's bovine population, while the milk breeds comprised about 23 per cent. At the end of 1906 — only eleven years — the draught breeds made up only 35 1/2 per cent. but the milk breeds had increased to almost 50 per cent., a marvellous reversal of the figures.

In no Department is the action of the Hungarian Government more energetic than in that of Agricultural Education, but the subject is so great and its effects so far reaching that it must be dealt with separately on a further occasion. (*Farmers' Gazette.*)

Specialities of the finest Hungarian Jewellery in antique Style to be had at M. Wisinger, IV., Kristóf-tér 2. (Near the Hot. Hungaria.)



A Rural Excursion in Samoa.



Mural Carvings, Physicians' Temple, Canton.

London Notes.

London, 6th. March 1909.

By Sheena . .
Macdonald. .

HIS MAJESTY King Edward left London yesterday for Biarritz, where he will remain for several weeks on account of his health. The weather being fine a splendid passage was made to Calais, the King arriving in Paris about 4—30 in the afternoon. His Majesty was met by the British am-

bassador, and a large crowd gathered outside the station to shout «Vive le Roi!»

★

Her Majesty Queen Alexandra is still confined to Buckingham Palace with a cold. Both the Queen and Princess Victoria have had attacks of influenza, but happily are now much better.

★

A very fine sight was spoilt last Saturday by the inclemency of the weather. The «Lady Territorials» were expected to ride out in their bright uniforms, and a big crowd gathered round the Regent's Park riding-school to give the ladies a good send-off. As it was snowing heavily the ride was abandoned. This section of the Territorial Army is to be 1000 strong, and composed of mounted nurses. As they have to provide their own equipment a good many suitable ladies will be debarred from joining.

★

It was feared in some quarters that the new

Patents' Act would be detrimental to British interests in bringing over numbers of foreign workmen. Although this is happening, a way out of the difficulty has been found by foreign manufacturers giving their work to British firms. Sjogren, the patentee of the small automatic gun, has had these made previously in the small-arms factory at Copenhagen.

Owing to the proprietor having to comply with the conditions of the new Patents' Act arrangements have been made with Messrs. Cogswell and Co. to have the guns made in their factory here. Already an order for 1000 guns is under weigh in the English factory.

*

The ever-burning question of unemployment was one of the subjects brought up for discussion during this week's sitting of Parliament. Mr. John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, was blamed for being unsympathetic in his administration in connection with the unemployed question.

Education in Hungary.

UNDER the above title, the Hungarian Government, through the Ministry of Religion and Public Instruction, has issued for English readers a summary of its work in connection with education.

This can be had gratis, on application at the Ministry of Public Education, Budapest, and will be read with interest as showing not only the early date at which the Hungarian State recognised its responsibilities in the mat-



Winter in the High-Tatra: Bob-sleigh sport.

Mr. Burns has, however, acted as generously as circumstances and funds would admit, and has done his best to carry out the promises made by the Prime Minister and himself last October. Facts are hard nuts to crack, and the figures which Mr. Burns and his supporters put before his detractors speak for themselves.

*

The «Back to the Land» idea has been tried and proved a failure. Mr. Burns explained, with regard to the Hollesley Farm Colony, that £ 102,000 had been spent; and that, while 3025 men had passed through it, only 35 were found fit for farm work. Okenden cost £ 21,623, and although 1118 men had passed through it, not one had gone back to the land. Mr. Burns said he would rather have seen the money handed over to the Board of Agriculture to provide small holdings for genuine agricultural labourers, or for town men who wanted to go back to the country.

ter of education, but also the thorough manner in which the work has been carried out.

It seems that already in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries the State had begun to organise a system of elementary education, and this was placed on a thoroughly modern footing in 1868, under a Minister of Public Instruction.

In that year it was enacted that all children between the ages of six and twelve must attend day schools, and those between the ages of twelve and fifteen, continuation schools.

At the present time, there are of elementary day schools:

State Schools	2,046
Parochial Schools	1,473
Denominational Schools	12,734
Private Schools	308
	<hr/>
	16,561

In 1907 the cost of the State schools was £446.417, and the amount contributed by the State to all other schools was £204.708; from which it will be seen that, while the State maintains a supervision of all denominational schools, it only contributes in such cases a relatively small part of the cost.

Education in Hungary is complicated, not only by the religious question, but by diversities of race and language.

Thus, of the children who are of school age, there are:

In a considerable portion of these, education is carried on in three, and even four languages, so that all the pupils may be taught their mother tongue. It is officially stated that in 3.154 schools in Hungary, equal to 19 per cent. of the whole, the Hungarian language is not used.

Moreover, as the nationalisation of elementary schools belonging to any religious denomination is not carried out except by the express voluntary request of the same, backed by their religious teachers, it is very evident that «nationalisation by force» does not exist in Hungary.



Winter in Budapest: Tobogganing on the Gellért-Hill.

Magyars	...	...	...	51.7 per cent.
German	...	...	...	11.3 " "
Roumanians	...	...	...	16.0 " "
Slováks	...	...	...	12.7 " "
Servians	...	...	...	2.5 " "
Croatians	...	...	...	1.0 " "
Ruthenians	...	...	...	2.9 " "

Language, however, is a far more important factor than race in national life; and the Hungarian Government is fully alive to the fact that national unity requires a national language. It is only natural, therefore, that it should pay special attention to the cultivation of the Hungarian (or Magyar) language, the tongue spoken by the majority of the people, by making it, as far as possible within reasonable limits, the language of instruction: yet in 40 per cent. of the elementary schools some other language as well as Hungarian has to be used as the medium of instruction.

In maps and time-tables the names of towns are now given in Hungarian, or the language of the district. The Croatian language is officially used in Croatia, which is an integrant part of Hungary. One is glad to see among the obligatory subjects in all elementary schools, natural history, the elements of natural science, drawing, agriculture, gardening, and geometry; and the teachers are advised that «observation, nature, and real life should be the main auxiliary means of instruction».

Religion and ethics are also an obligatory subject; and as parochial elementary schools may be attended by children belonging to any denomination, the respective religious bodies are required to provide for such instruction; but the schedule (we are told) adds the following important advice:

The instruction in religion and ethics together with the other material for instruction, should serve to develop a uniformity of feeling among the pupils.»

of Music. There is also a National Museum, a Museum of Fine Arts, a Museum of Decorative Arts, a unique Agricultural Museum, a National Theatre, a Grand Opera House, and various



Winter on the Plain.

Italics are in the original; and we believe that there is power to close a school if it should violate the principle laid down.

The care of elementary education is, however, only a small part of the work of the State in connection with education in Hungary.

It maintains higher elementary schools, city schools, commercial schools, training colleges for teachers, high schools for girls, secondary schools, art schools, asylums for weak and neglected children, reformatories, and prison schools. In all these directions, the State does not wait to see what private enterprise will do, but takes the necessary steps itself.

Its reformatory institutions constitute a model for every other nation, and is one which we should do well to copy. The exhibits at Earl's Court of work done in those reformatories, or schools of correction, as they are called, should have been seen by all students of criminology.

Higher education is provided for in the Royal Hungarian University of Science at Budapest, the Royal University of Kolozsvár, and the Royal University of Technical Sciences. (Three new Universities will shortly be established in various parts of Hungary.)

Then there are the Colleges of Law (ten in number), the College of Mining and Forestry, the College of Art, and the National Academy

other theatres subsidised by the State. State aid is also given to scientific and literary societies, including a Shakespeare Society.

There is also the provision for the erection in towns of buildings containing a lecture hall, and other auxiliaries to local culture.

From the foregoing illustrations it will be seen that the Hungarian Government is carrying out the somewhat difficult and complicated work of instruction with energy and success and it is interesting to remember that all this has been done by a race which, within historic times, was leading a predatory and nomadic life. If we compare the Hungarians with the Turks, we see at once the enormous difference which culture and free institutions make in the destinies of a people.



Financial News

THE HUNGARIAN discount and exchange bank in Budapest founded 1869 by royal decree dated the 22nd February 1869 and confirmed by a Government edict No. 1969 of the same year.

issues 4% and 4½% mortgage-bonds, secured on loans granted on Budapest houses and landed property all over Hungary.

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garian civil law cannot exceed fifty per cent of the value of the objects mortgaged and no issue can take place except on the basis of a mortgage-right acquired in fact.

The further safety of these bonds is guaranteed according to §§ 7, 49 and 72. of the statutes of the bank.

1^o by the fully paid up capital of the bank amounting to 40,000,000 crowns (= £ 1,666,666);

2^o by the reserve fund of the bank amounting now to 10,000,000 crowns (= £ 416,700).

The special guarantee of these bonds consists of
a) the totality of the mortgage-rights acquired by the bank forming the basis of this issue and certified by entries in favour of the bank in the land-register;

b) by a special reserve-fund, at present 3 million crowns (= £ 125,000) which in accordance with Act § XXXVI. of 1876 has the sole object to serve as a guarantee for the mortgage-bondholders.

This special fund must always be kept in proportion to the whole amount of the circulation and cannot be less than 5% of the aggregate sum and never less than 3 million crowns;

c) the bondholders are so far independent from the general position of the bank, as the other creditors of the bank have no claim either on the

government are accepted as *Marriage Trust-Funds from officers of the Austrian and Hungarian army.*

Moreover the before mentioned bonds are accepted by the Hungarian government as *Trust-Funds for orphans and as deposits in lieu of cash in any business transaction with the government.*

It has been found by many years experience that the price fluctuations of these bonds were smaller than those of the Hungarian and Austrian Consols and that their quoted price was seldom lower and sometimes higher than the Hungarian Consols, the price of the latter being more influenced by domestic and international politics.

According to § 10. of Act XXX of 1889 these bonds are exempt from any tax for all time.

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The present price of the 4% bonds is 92, so that in case of a drawing a profit of 8% results for the holder.

The price of the 4½% bonds is now 98.50, so that every bond drawn yields a profit of 1½%.

The bonds drawn as well as the half-yearly coupons are redeemed without any deduction (free from tax and cost)



Winter in Budapest: Mouth of the «Devil's Brook».

mortgage-rights, or on the special reserve fund, until the claims of the bondholders have been fully satisfied.

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Miskolcz, 1909 márczius hó 4-én.

Az üzletvezetőség.

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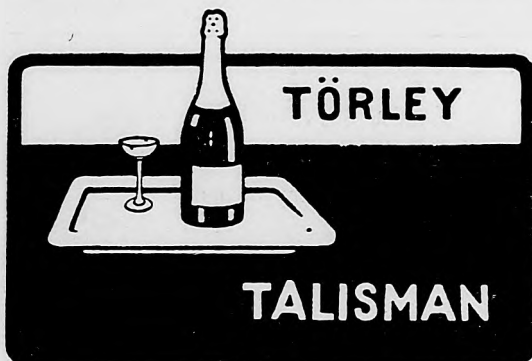
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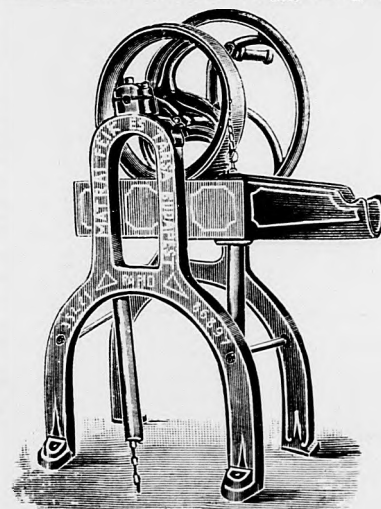
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