

HUNGARY

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Hungary and Its People.

Hungarian Finance.

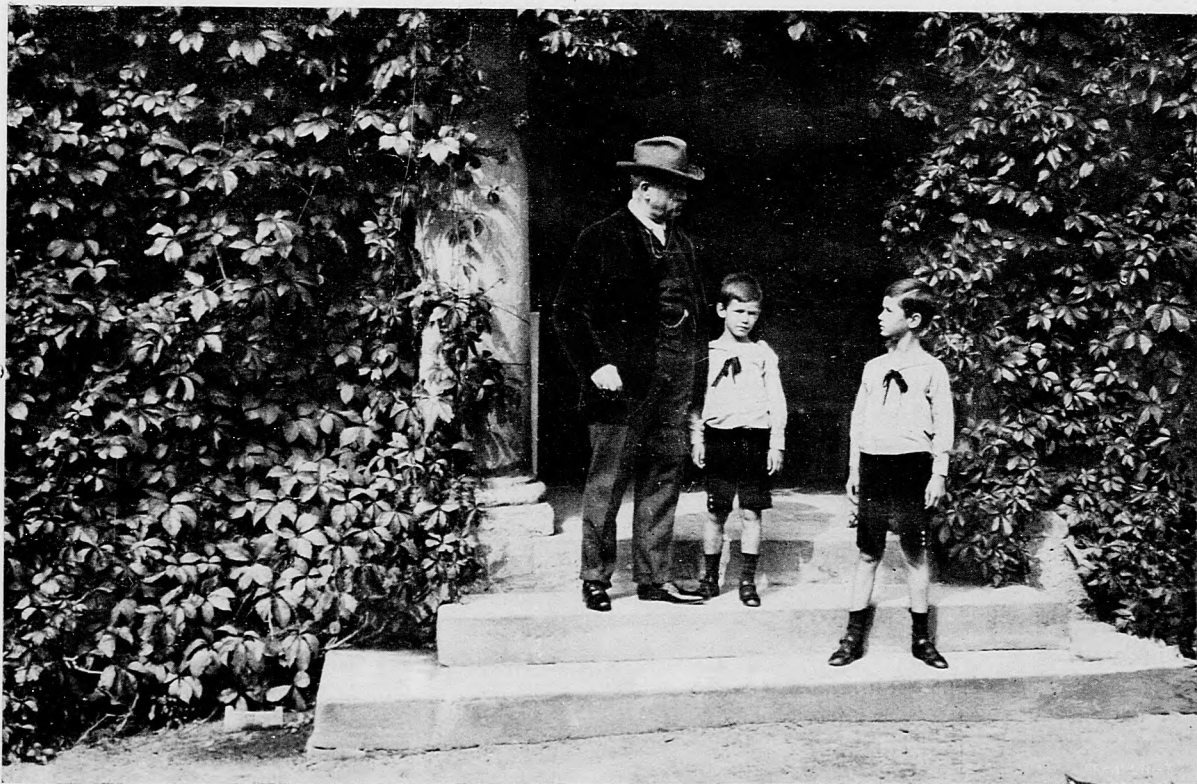
Ezeréves . . .
. . . Magyar-
ország

ALTHOUGH the system of taxation of articles of consumption ought to be as clear as possible according to the present condition of financial science, this consideration is rendered somewhat difficult for us by the imperfection of the tax system in its historical development.

We have already mentioned that during the term of the Customs and Trade league the taxes on articles of consumption, which taxes are of great influence over the industrial production, were to be treated according to equal legal and administrative principles. With regard to the taxes which do not stand in such connection with the production, this equality is not necessary. Proceeding from this difference

it seems most convenient to group the existing taxes in two chief divisions: viz, the taxes on articles of consumption closely connected with the production, and taxes on articles of consumption connected with traffic, although this division is neither theoretically nor practically perfect.

According to the present state of our legislation on taxes on articles of consumption there are equal legal arrangements for the taxes connected with production e. g. for the spirits, sugar, beer, and mineral oil in both States of the monarchy, while the meat tax, the sugar consumption tax, the wine, brandy and beer beverage taxes form the taxes on articles of consumption connected with traffic. In order to finish with the latter, which are less important financially, we will make the following remarks on their historical develop-



DR. ALBERT BERZEVICZY, President of the Academy of Science with his Grandsons on the veranda at his ancient Mansion of Berzevicze.

ment. The wine and meat tax we took upon us at the beginning of the constitutional era as a legacy of the absolutist regime. The meat

It may be thought a pity that the law was passed which, in 1715, ordered the dismantling of these fortresses; but perhaps the mossgrown,



The First Snow in Budapest.

tax has retained its original form till the present day, the wine tax has undergone but small changes. The other taxes of the same order were created partly under pressure of the unfavourable financial condition, as the sugar and beer consumption tax in 1881, partly were in organic connection with some other legislative arrangement. (To be continued.)



Ancient and Historic Castles of Sáros County.

THE COUNTY of Sáros lies far away northwards amidst the beautiful mountainous region of the Lesser Carpathians, and encloses some of the most charming scenery, not only of Hungary but of Europe.

And it is a country to fire the heart of the romancer and inspire his pen, as it already has supplied motive power to the pencil and brush of the celebrated artist Paul Szinyei-Merse, who has immortalised very much of these picturesque highlands.

On the crest of many a hill stand the ruins of the ancient strongholds of some of the oldest aristocratic families of Hungary, adding a considerable spice of romance to the otherwise notable scenery.

ivy-clad towers give a tone to the landscape which would be lacking if they were kept «tidy» and inhabitable.

In our present number we venture to reproduce photographs of some of the more notable modern mansions, which now do duty as «castles» for «baron and squire and knight of the shire».

One of the principal residences is that of Dr. Albert Berzeviczy, M.P. sometime President of the Hungarian Academy of Science and Minister of Education, a gentleman who is always to the fore when matters of literature or of culture are in evidence, and an author who in his leisure hours has composed a charming little book entitled «*Régi Emlékek* (Ancient Memories)» which is the pride of all faithful dwellers in the County of Sáros.

One of our illustrations, our frontispiece, shows the cultured Magyar Statesman standing in the porch of the veranda of his ancestral mansion at Berzevicze, which was built in the 17th century. The family was founded as long ago as 1209 in the time of King Andrew the Second, descending, as well as the extinct families of Tarkeöy-Tarcsay, from the gentleman who appears in documents of the time as *Comes Ricolphus de Scupes*. With them are also connected the families of Dobay and Szmrecsányi.

One of the most romantically situated ruins, is the Castle of Zboró, which is connected in history with the famous name of John Rákóczi.

The Joys of Winter.

WINTER is here at last. A fortnight ago the weather was so mild that it reminded us of spring, and loud were the grumbings among our robust young people that there would be no skating, no tobogganing, no ski-ing, nor any of those pastimes that make winter looked forward to with eagerness.

Years ago our grandparents sat by the fireside and smoked their pipes (at least the *male* half of them did — the ladies had not then generally acquired the smoking habit), vegetating through the cold months and longing for the appearance of the first flowers betokening the coming of spring.

Thus was winter a century ago. Nature slept and the people dreamt dreams. Only the children found any delight in the snow; the amusements of the grown-ups were the theatre and the dance, the only sport known to them was ska'ing. At the beginning of the twentieth century however a remarkable change began to be observed. The pleasure-capacity of winter was discovered as it were in a day. As a blind man seeing for the first time in his life our people suddenly opened their eyes to the joys of winter. Yet winter sport is attended by the element of danger, and the ladies especially must beware of skating, tobogganing, and ski-ing all day and danc-

There are some people who go to bed directly after supper and sleep ten or twelve hours without interruption. Such are the English and Americans. Notwithstanding the greatest, most skilful, and strongest nerved winter sport champions of both sexes come from these two eminent nations.

The sailing sleigh on the larger lakes is now coming into Fashion. It may be seen on Lake Balaton, at Keszthely and elsewhere. The numerous white wings gliding over the glassy surface with the gracefulness of swans, bearing their complement of laughing, vivacious young womanhood, is a sight invigorating and spirit-raising even to the onlookers.

Without matches and competitions no winter sport would be complete, especially where English congregate; but the gymkana is the prime favourite of the juveniles.

Father Winter is really here; from the slopes of the High Tátra to the Capital City every thing is enveloped in his snowy mantle. He came, and changed the appearance of town and country in a moment. Very little wheeled traffic is in evidence, but sleighs are, running to and fro, the bells of the horses jingling merrily.

The sculptor Lányi has carved several snow figures at the Zoo, near the main entrance. The most interesting of these is a typical Magyar in his



In a Peasant Courtyard.

ing all night. If they *will* thus «burn the candle at both ends» their lungs and heart must pay the forfeit and their youthful freshness will desert them. But it may be asked, «what shall we do at night?»

great-coat. The life-like polar bear and a boy tobogganing inspire scarcely less admiration among the crowds that flock daily to this popular winter sporting ground of Budapest.



Interior of Swabian Cottage, Soroksár.

Carnivaltide

Austrian and Hungarian Charity Ball in London.

A BALL, at which the Duke and Duchess of Teck was present, was given under the auspices of the Austro-Hungarian Reserve Officers' Club, on January 21, in the Princes' Galleries, Piccadilly, in aid of the funds of the Austrian and Hungarian White Cross Society, which works in close connection with the Red Cross Society of the dual monarchy.

The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador and Countess Marie Trautmansdorff-Weinsberg, wife of the Councillor of the Embassy, have undertaken the duties of host and hostess. The ball was constituted one of the most interesting society functions of the winter season.

The Catholic Ball

on the 27th ult. in the Royal Hotel was one of the conspicuous successes of the Carnival season. His Majesty the King was represented by H. R. H. Archduke Frederick, while among the illustrious patrons and patronesses of the event were Archduke Joseph and Archduchess Augusta, besides Countess George Almássy, Countess Alexr. Apponyi, Countess Leopold Berchtold, Countess Nicolas Desseffy, Countess Julius Erdődy, Princess Nicolas Esterházy, Countess Maurice Esterházy, Princess Tassilo Festetics, Baroness Julius Forster, Baroness Imre Ghillány, Countess Joseph Hunyady, and numerous others.

Royal Recognition for a little Violinist.

Julius Kerékjártó must be a happy boy, for he has had the honour of appearing in a private concert before T. R. A. Archduke Joseph, Archduchess

Augusta, their family and suite. The youthful musician first played one of St. Saën's compositions to his mother's accompaniment on the piano. This was followed by Wieniawski's *Souvenir de Moscou*. Both pieces were executed with great feeling, and Julius was warmly applauded by his Royal audience, who enquired about his successes, his visits to the Roumanian and Bulgarian Courts, etc. In conclusion he played, at the wish of his hosts several, of his own works, including «Memories of Grand-mama», which he has

dedicated to Carmen Sylva, the Queen of Roumania, and also a piece by Hubay, his teacher.

The Society of Art and Drama

gave an «artistes afternoon» on the 26th ult. at the railway officials' theatre, Andrásy-ut. Seven-year-old Ernestine Tehel's wonderful performance on the pianoforte was much admired. Elsa Faludi, Wilhelmina Gomlóc, Eugene Pethő, Alexr. Réthy, Wille Guttmann, Andrew Földes, Julius Gábor, and others contributed to an entertainment that afforded enjoyment to all present.

The Technicians' Ball committee,

which was formed last week, includes the following: Count Kálmán Hugonnay (President), Béla Imreh and Stephen Schustler (Vice-Presidents), Béla Lammner (Secretary), Eugene Petz (Treasurer) and others. Among the honorary Lady-Presidents are Madame John Andreics, Countess Alexander Apponyi, Adolf Czakó, Paul Holitscher, John Marx, Charles Zipernowszky, Countess John Zichy, Baroness Ohrenstein, and others.

The Imre Ball.

The approaching event is occasioning considerable excitement among its organisers. T. R. H. Archduke Frederick and Archduchess Isabella have accepted the chief patronage, while among the patrons are Princess Nicolas Pálffy and Countess Julius Erdődy. The ballroom has been specially decorated for the occasion in the latest French style.

The Gaudeamus Ball.

If coming events cast their shadows before, there are assuring signs that this year's Gaudeamus ball

will be a success. It will be held on the 15th inst. in the rooms of the Catholic Club. Applications for tickets should be made without delay to Francis Walter Dorottya-utca 6.

The Stenographers' Social Club Annual Cabaret took place on Saturday the 18th ult. in connection with a dancing soir e at the old Academy of Music, Andr ssy- t, the proceeds being devoted to the Markovits memorial fund.

Commercial Clerks' Ball.

The sporting section of the Commercial Clerks' National Union gave a ball on the 24th ult. which was well attended. The gipsy band engaged for the occasion proved an immense attraction and ensured the successful result of the enterprise.



Sport and Pastime.

The Magyar Ice Hockey Team's splendid Win.

THE PRAGUE team Spolecsmost paid a visit to Budapest on Sunday the 19th. inst.; and though the verdict was against them, fairly extended the home team. In spite of the exceedingly unpleasant climatic conditions the game was contested with great vigour and spirit. The Spolecsmost team, who have a considerable reputation in Bohemia, played an excellent game, scoring once in each half; but they could not hold the Magyar forwards, who ran up a score of 3 to in the first half-time and eventually ran out winners to the tune of four to two.

M. A. C. versus R. A. C.

On Sunday 19th forenoon the Magyar Athletic Club defeated the R kospalota Athletic Club in a game of hockey on the ice at the Margaret-Island, by the large score of 12 to 5. B la Kehrling was responsible for seven of the home goals. The game was played in most unfavourable weather.

T tra Club Tobogganing Matches.

The important event in connection with the recent T tra Club competitions, at T tra-Lomnicz was the quintuple bobsleigh race, in which the best known Hungarian champion players took part. The prize of the State, a beautifully wrought silver-gilt cup, was presented by the Minister of Agriculture.

The toboggan run at T tra-Lomnicz has an electric time-keeper as well as an electric lift. The largest on the Continent, it is 3500 yards long, while that at Semmering is only 2000, and the St. Moritz 1600 yards. The Lomnicz run is, besides, the most difficult in Europe, there being 18 turning-points to negotiate.

M. A. C. Skating Races.

The experiment which the Magyar Athletic Club started last year of arranging for skating and other ice sports on the Margaret-Island, has been followed up this year and so far has been crowned with success. On Sunday last the attendance at their first Skating Competition was exceedingly satisfactory, and we can congratulate the management of the Club on scoring a distinct success. As members of the Kolozsv r skating clubs took



Pictures Vas rnapı Ujs g.

Guard Tower, Count Wengerszky's Castle, Als -Sebes.

Photos by R. Balogh.

part in the competition the interest was more than local; and as also these gentlemen distinguished themselves in the competition, everybody could feel content. Stephen Déván for the M. A. C. and Joseph Voith for Kolozsvár skated extremely well.

Magyar Horses in England.

Nicolas Szemere the well-known sportsman has now two horses in England, Szobieszki, winner of the Sandown Foal Stakes 1911, and Kosciuszko, offspring of the four-year-old Melton. The horses are under the care of Mr. Butters at Newmarket, who is

the author, Dr. Ödön Hets Legal Adviser to the Opera, Dezső Ujfalussy High Court Judge, Henry Prichradny, Captain of the Hussars, Alexander Orosz Chief Magistrate, Elemér Domahidy Lord Lieutenant, were among the guests who took part in the shoot. The bag amounted to 400 hares. His Excellency took the opportunity to announce that he would be pleased to attend the laying of the foundation-stone of the Debreczen University.

Thos. Cook and Son, Ludgate Circus London. *Vienna Stephansplatz 2. Tickets for all parts.*



Alexander Kőszeghy's Mansion at Szinye-Ujfalu.

also training for Baron Springer. The latter gentleman will very probably have several entries in the spring events in England.

Ice Hockey.

The Budapest Skating Society won an easy victory over the Vienna Training Ice Club, whom they defeated by seven goals to one. The Vienna Club at the interval were only two goals behind; but in the second half the home team just romped over them.

Count John Zichy.

We learn from Debreczen that His Excellency Count John Zichy, the Minister of Education, has been enjoying two days hunting on Count Géza Zichy's estate at Tetétlen. Count Ernest Bissingen, Imre Sick Ministerial Councillor, Stephen Bársony

Art and Science

The Hungarian Academy of Science.

THE THIRD section of the Academy of Science held a session on the 20th ult. When the following programme was carried out:

1. Dr. George Hevesi spoke on *The Diffusion of Electrolites*;
2. Radó Kővesligethy presented the *Bulletin de la Section Scientifique de l'Académie Roumaine* and gave his interesting observations on the causes of seismic disturbances in the interior of the earth.
3. Louis Méhely read a paper on *The Organs of Sound in our Brown Frogs*. A business meeting was afterwards held to consider the annual estimates,

Distinction for an Hungarian painter.

Our well known artist, Imre Knopp, has been honoured with an invitation from the Carnegie Institute of Pittsburg, U. S. A. to be represented at its forthcoming spring exhibition. Mr. Knopp has accepted, and will send a selection of his best works to the famous institute.

Lecture at the Amateur-Artistes' Club.

This old-established organisation held an artistes' soiree on the 17th ult. at the National Museum of Industrial Art, the principal feature of a delightful programme being a lecture on «*The Death of*

cluded all the principal Hungarian artists, among them being Messrs. Paul Szinyei-Merse, Nándor Katona, Nicholas Ligeti, Joseph Rónai and Edmund Lechner.

Art House Exhibition.

An exhibition was opened last week for the first time in the new quarters of the Art House, the former Zichy Museum in Szegfű-utca. No less than 821 works were submitted, out of which the jury finally chose 206. The members of the jury were Joseph Rippl-Rónai, Nándor Katona, Charles Kernstock, Julius Kosztolányi-Kann, and John Vaszary.



Lewis Bornemisza's Countryseat at Krivány.

Aisha» by Dr. Charles Sebestyén. The address was histrionically illustrated with great effect by Mari Jászai and Eugene Ivánffi of the National Theatre. Dr. Sebestyén afterwards spoke on *Ibsen*, the entertainment being closed with a dramatic sketch, «*Peer Gynt*» and the brilliant pianoforte execution of Gabriel Márkus.

Lectures on Art!

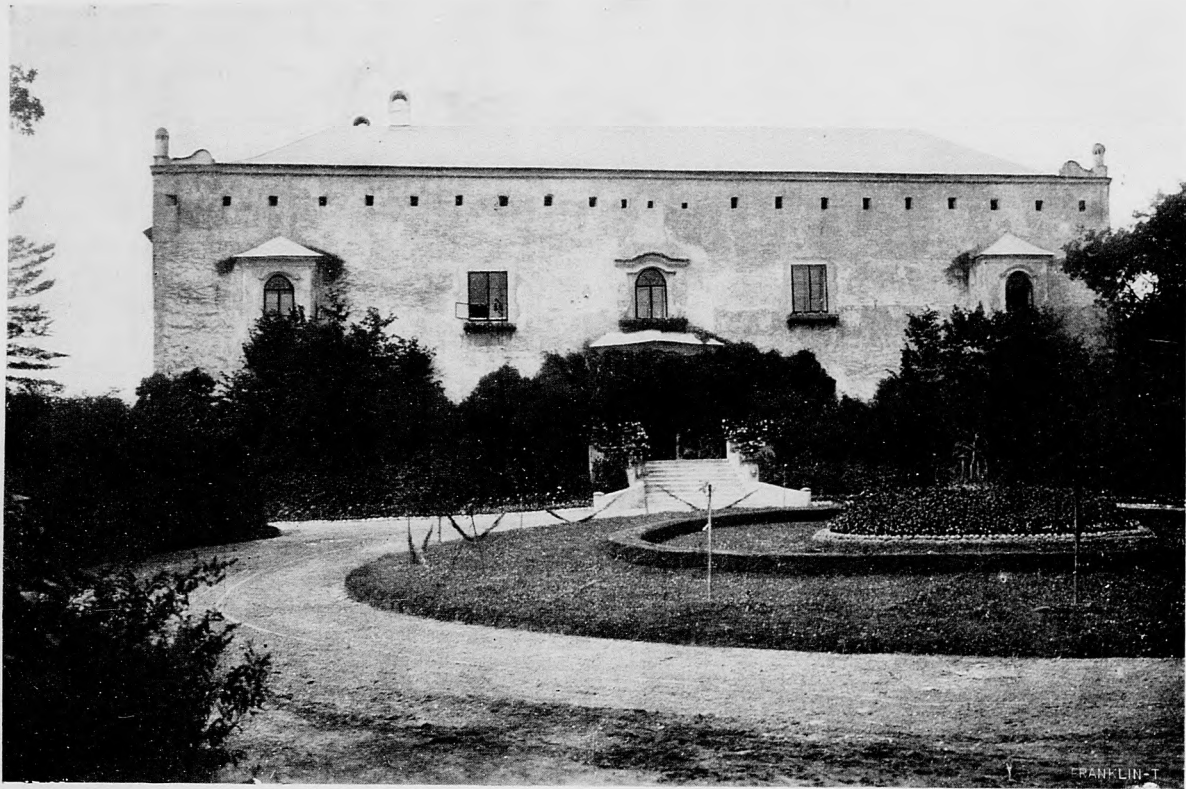
A series of lectures on art was inaugurated last week at the Ernst Museum by Meier Graefe, the well-known German art critic. Opening with a reference to the chief works of the painter Marées, the lecturer proceeded to describe the Neopolitan frescoes, Hesperides, Ganymedes, etc. and concluded with character sketches of the most famous exponents of the painting art. The audience in-

The winter Exhibition of the Nemzeti Szalon closed on Jan. 19th and on the 24th an Exhibition of the works of futurists and impressionists was opened. The purchasing Committee have bought several pictures for the State.

The Fine Arts Society held its first meeting on Jan. 18th under the Presidency of Count Julius Andrássy.

The last concert of the winter Exhibition at the Múcsarnok was given on the 16th ult., after which the Exhibition was closed.

Pension Opera, Budapest, 21. Andrássy Road. Tel. 82—14. Select Boarding House in fashionable part of City. Excellent Kitchen. Special regard for comfort of guests. English, French and German conversation. Baths, Electric light, Lift. Terms moderate.



Baron Uszlár's Mansion at Deméte.

Our Reading Table

«*The Struggle for the Crown, a Romance of the Seventeenth Century*», by E. Yolland, Price 6s/ — Lynwood, Paternoster Row, London.

As a writer of fiction based on historical fact Miss Yolland's reputation can but be enhanced by this her latest work. Comparatively little has been written on the life and social conditions of England in the reign of King James I — the «most high and mighty Prince» of Bible dedication — and therefore in «*The Struggle for the Crown*» the authoress has presented a picture all the more fascinating of stirring events in history combined with a strong love interest. The heroine, Margaret Sarrell, maid-of-honour to the Princess Elizabeth, daughter of King James, follows the fortunes, or rather misfortunes, of her Royal mistress from the period of the latter's marriage with the Elector-Palatine of the Rhine, Frederick V. to the youthful pair's ill-starred acceptance of the crown of Bohemia, the disasters of the Thirty Years' War, and the subsequent flight of the Royal Family and Court into Germany. All his life Frederick fought for a crown he never possessed except in name; and so quickly did his pretensions to sovereign power melt away that he came to be known as the «Snow King».

How Margaret set forth to marry a villain in order, as she believed, to save her lover's life, and how her lover came to the rescue, she actually marrying him without being aware of it until the

lapse of several years, is interestingly told. To such as like to take their courses of history as some take pills, sugar-coated, as well as to the more numerous class of novel readers who appreciate a good love-story, we can cordially recommend «*The Struggle for the Crown*». A. L. D.



The Etiquette of Travelling.

IN THESE days when quick and cheap transit, both at home and abroad, has brought travel within the reach of most people, it is as well that we should be armed with a knowledge of what is expected of us. A strict observance of the ordinary rules of courtesy, which always include a certain degree of thoughtfulness for the comfort of others, will go a long way to add to our enjoyment and benefit, both in our own and other lands.

«Other countries, other customs», says the French proverb, but I am afraid we insular people very often forget this adage, and imagine we should find English customs manufactured for our special benefit when we deign to travel abroad. Before studying the little differences in customs, which we find so un-English, and therefore to be looked upon with suspicion abroad, we should do well to ponder a little over the small courtesies attendant on home travel, which we are very apt to overlook.

When starting out on a journey, if it be of the annual holiday order, it is a mistake to burden oneself with overmuch luggage. The happiest tra-

By Sheena .
Macdonald

veller is the one who can exist for a week or fortnight, or even more, from the clothes point of view, on the contents of a Gladstone bag or a knapsack. For instance, ladies need not trouble about carrying evening dress on a Continental trip; except for very special occasions a dressy silk blouse will do duty as a finish to a dinner or theatre toilette. A tailor-made costume of thin woollen material, stout solid boots and slippers, a rainproof coat, and a strong umbrella to do service as a walking stick, are indispensable when walking may form part of the tour. Black satin or knitted riding pants are a very sensible garment to include in a lady's travelling kit. For the rest, silk undergarments are the most serviceable, as they are pleasant to wear, and take up little space in packing.

Having seen to our luggage and made our choice of companions, if we wish for company, we must make up our minds to take things as they come, and make the best of everything. We must not forget, if we choose to leave our seagirt home, that our foreign friends can no more upset their ancient customs for us any more than we can do for them should they visit us. I believe the great charm in travel is in studying the difference that exists between nations in their natural surroundings.

Unfortunately our foreign neighbours in their race for gold have anglicised many of their most accessible beauty spots out of all recognition, except where Nature calls a halt.

What fun is there, for one who goes out in search of knowledge, in living at a hotel full of

English people, speaking the English language, eating English food, arranging English entertainments, sleeping in English beds, and gazing on English furniture and rooms arranged *à la Anglais*? We may as well be at home.

A nation which allows its language to be absorbed in another can no longer describe itself as such. And so it is with these beauty spots. A great deal of the charm is lost by the people allowing the household arrangements to partake so entirely of the foreign element, be it British or American or anything else.

Having taken this general survey, and being impressed with the idea of getting the best out of our travel (for the object of travel is the broadening and enlightening of our minds as much as the annual holiday bids for the absorption of strength for future work) we will pause a little over some of the modes of travel and our use of them.

Apart from the use of our own limbs in walking tours, there are the trams and omnibuses, which are familiar to us all, and play a great part in our life of travel in and about the Metropolis.

Let us not forget, in using these, that there are certain duties incumbent upon us as good citizens. We should never attempt to board a vehicle that already has its complement of passengers, as we thereby put someone to the inconvenience of having to give up a seat for us. It is not so long ago that one shuddered at the increasing decrease of gallantry among male travellers, no doubt occasioned by the attitude of the militant section of the com-



Boldizsár Semsey's Countryseat at Deméte.

munity resulting in women being allowed to stand in a tram or 'bus.

The idea that all women do not wish to usurp their places seems to be dying a natural death in the minds of the men, and we note with gladness the return of unrestrained gallantry in the matter of giving up seats to women. When, however, a man does give up his seat, let us not forget to show our full appreciation of his unselfish action, for he may be just as much in need of a rest as we are.

Some women accept such a kindness without a single word of thanks, and even cast freezing glances at men who dare to sit while a woman

ladies, and they should not demand it. Many a man has been delayed in getting home by his courtesy in allowing a lady, quite a stranger to him, to take the only vacant seat in the public conveyance. Gentlemen accompanying ladies always give them precedence in entering trams, trains, 'buses, carriages and cabs, and ladies are always given the more comfortable seats in the two latter vehicles.

Cabmen are said to be the biggest sinners as regards exorbitant charges, and without a check we have little or no control over them. Each household should have a cab tariff, and warn foreign arrivals as to what they should pay, or advise them to defer payment of cabmen until they have



Count Dessewffy's Mansion at Finta.

remains standing. Such tyrants deserve to be left as straphangers.

Then should you get into the wrong 'bus do not storm at the conductor, and peremptorily order him to stop for you to alight, as if the blame were his and not yours. Rather show your regret, and offer to pay the minimum charge for having put him to the trouble of stopping to pick you up and put you down. As likely as not the conductor, if he be one of nature's gentlemen — and, believe me, there are very many on our trams and 'buses — he will refuse to accept your money, and assist you off with the best grace possible. A surly, impertinent conductor is the exception, not the rule, on London conveyances.

In riding on omnibuses and trams it can hardly be expected that undue preference be given to

met their host or hostess. Do not argue with the cabman at your door as regards his charges. If you have reason to believe they are exorbitant, and he is obdurate, take his number and state your case to Scotland Yard. In a day or two you will have a satisfactory reply to your letter.

Taxis have a wonderful way of «slipping up» the price of a ride in them, and are a decided luxury, although so much used. In Paris they cost just half the price they do here. In Paris also, by the way, one gets more for an English sovereign than one does at home. Talking of taxis, it would be a good idea if a few rules of etiquette could be drafted for the use of drivers.

A few weeks ago I had a call from two Hungarian ladies, who drove from their hotel on the Embankment to North London in a taxi. When

they alighted and asked the fare, the driver said curtly:

«Three and a tanner.»

The ladies were amazed, and asked what he meant. «The word 'three' I know, but what is a tanner?» said one.

Seeing something was wrong, I appeared on the scene, and explained matters.

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of Baron and Baroness Armin Groedel, of Gyulafalva and Bogdán, was united in marriage with Stephen Lónyay, son of the late Alexander Lónyay, Imperial and Royal Court Chamberlain, Member of the Upper House, and his wife Celesta, née Baroness Wangenheim.

Baron Hengelmüller retired.

The official gazette announces that His Excellency Baron Ladislas Hengelmüller, late Austro-Hungarian Ambassador at Washington, has at his own request been relieved of his post; and that His Majesty the King in recognition of the valuable services of the ex-ambassador to the State has



The Dobay Countryseat at Dobó.

Topical Notes

Archduchess Isabella's Marriage Dissolved.

The Munich Supreme Court last week pronounced its decision dissolving, as a legal contract, the marriage that took place on February 10th last year between Prince George of Bavaria and Archduchess Isabella Maria, daughter of Archduke Frederick. Shortly after the wedding the archduchess forsook her husband, owing to domestic dissensions, and all efforts to cause her to return to him proved in vain. The decree of the Church is now awaited with keen interest by the public of both States.

Fashionable Marriage.

On the 29th ult. at the Evangelical Reformed Church, Calvin-tér, Baroness Paula Groedel, daughter

been pleased to confer upon him the Grand Cross, in diamonds, of the Order of Leopold.

His successor will be Dr. Dumba, who was formerly Austro-Hungarian Minister in Stockholm, and who represented Austria and Hungary at the Conference on the laws of maritime war in London in 1908.

Concert at the Lipótváros Casino.

A most enjoyable concert was that given the other evening at the Lipótváros Casino. Ernest Lengyel's renderings of pieces from Chopin and Liszt displayed brilliant technique and won the hearty applause of the audience. Carlo Albani, of the New York Metropolitan Opera, next played an aria from *Tosca* and also a Spanish serenade. The two sisters Harrison, May and Beatrice, drew warm

recognition for their splendid violin performances, a demand for an encore being responded to.

Cost of a Snow-Storm.

For four whole days and nights the snow has descended incessantly in Budapest. It is interesting to note the consequences to the ratepayers of such a fall of snow. In clearing it away were employed on the first day 15 superintendents, 25 foremen, 86 ordinary, and 685 extra men, besides 14 horse-ploughs, and 2 motor-sweepers. On the second day, 40 superintendents, 81 foremen, 86 ordinary, and 706 extra men, 2 motor-sweepers, and 108 carts. The expenses during the two days amounted to 14,113 crowns, to which those for the remaining days have to be added.

Hungarian violinist.

Instrumental Recital at Pontypridd. The popularity of the annual concerts promoted by Mrs. John Lewis, L. R. A. M., Pontypridd, continues unabated. On Thursday night the new Town-hall was well thronged. On this occasion the function took the form of an instrumental recital, the artists being the celebrated pianiste, Madame Amina Goodwin (pupil of Clara Schumann) and the renowned Hungarian violinist, Mr. Louis Pecsikai. Beethoven's seldom-heard «Kreutzer Sonata» for piano and violin, provided ample scope for the display of technical skill, and the rendering was magnificent, the melting «Andante con variazione» and the final «Presto» being, perhaps, the two movements which elicited the warmest approval. The artists had to

re-appear at the conclusion to bow their acknowledgments in lieu of the encore which was called for.

Mr. Pecsikai's interpretation of Bach's «Adagio and Fugue in G minor» was given unaccompanied. The passionate emotion in the glorious adagio was intense. The artist re-appeared and bowed his thanks, but this did not satisfy, and he had to respond with a well-executed item. A conjoint item, Grieg's «Sonata in G major, Nr. 2.» by both artists was finely played. Mrs. John Lewis proved a tactful and resourceful accompanist.

Fiume Harbour.

The Naval Engineers have in hand plans for widening the Zichy Mole and the Rudolph Mole by ten metres, and also for increasing the depth of water alongside, as well as for doubling the rails. These plans will require two years to carry out, but when they are completed will be a great boon to mercantile interests. The great Hungarian port is becoming much congested with the amount of traffic which has to be disposed of. Count Stephen Wickenburg has just placed the above-mentioned plans before the Minister of Commerce.

Women's Congress.

The ladies have progressed so far with their propaganda for female suffrage that the World Association of Female Suffrage in calling a Congress, June 15th—20th inst., are able to invite delegates from no less than twenty-three countries. In this cause not merely all nations but practically all religions too are able to unite, and the spectacle



Count Emil Dessewffy's Mansion at Hanusfalva.

of Chinese, Japanese, Egyptian women assembling along with their Christian sisters in Budapest will be most interesting. The Congress will mark an epoch of progress.

The St. George-Czéh Society

has conceived the idea of promoting Hungarian art by arranging popular visits to the homes of the national magnates. Count Julius Batthyány, who has taken the matter in hand, has succeeded in preparing a programme for visits of inspection, commencing on the 20th ult. to be paid to the mansions respectively of Count Imre Károlyi, Count Ladislas Szápáry, Countess Géza Batthyány, and Count Géza Andrassy. Other interesting show places will no doubt be included later in the programme.

«My name's Johnson.»

Some years ago a surveyor, named Johnson, let us say, was working in the back districts of Canterbury, a place known as «No Man's Land». It was a rare thing to meet any one in that out-of-the-way place, but a second man happened to be there at the same time. Noting the appearance of Mr. Johnson on the scene with some surprise, he approached him with the words, «Dr. Livingstone, I presume?» «Oh, no», said the newcomer, «my name's Johnson!»

Grown while you wait.

In Berlin a new experiment has been tried of serving a dinner party with salad grown before the guests. The following is the recipe tried—it is said successfully—before the Prince and Princess Blucher: «Take good germinating lettuce-seed and soak it in alcohol for about six hours, sow it into an equal mixture of rich soil and unslaked lime, and place it on the table. After the soup, water in with lukewarm water, whereupon it commences to sprout immediately».



Opening of the New Ritz Hotel in Budapest.

THE COMPLETION of the new Ritz Hotel, pleasantly situated on the Danube embankment and commanding a superb view of the opposite shore, was celebrated by a grand banquet one evening last week. The president of the Ritz Hotel Ltd., Count Paul Szápáry, and a distinguished company were present on the auspicious occasion, among the guests being Count Ladislas Széchényi, Zoltán Jekelfalussy, Government Commissioner for Emigration, Dr. Stephen Bárczy, Burgomaster Count Julius Csekonics, John Marx, General Director of the Royal Hungarian State Rlys., Count Leopold Edelsheim-Gyulai, Baron Fredk. Harkányi, Paul Beöthy, Count Béla R. Zichy, Count Bissingen, Leo Lánzy, P. C., Philip Weiss, Louis Tolnay, State Secretary Joseph Kazy, Dr. Wm. Elischer,

Madame Ritz, Béla Liphay, Adolf Libits, Dr. Albert Hirsch, Dr. Imre Pekár, Dr. Antal Nemes, Tivadar Bódy, Baron Julius Madarassy-Beck, Baron Alexr. Voinich, Emil Gerbeaud, Fredk. Kállay, M. P. Baron Julius Rudnyánszky, Adolf Ullmann, Joseph Rust, Dr. Béla Rudnyánszky, and many others. Count Szápáry raised his glass to the health of His Majesty, to which Béla Liphay, Imperial and Royal Court Chamberlain, responded. The next toast was drunk to Madame Ritz; and followed by others. The Hotel was officially opened for public use on the 18th ult.



Közgazdaság. — Financial News.

Hungarian Rentes. According to reports current in Viennese and Budapest financial circles, Dr. Telszky the Hungarian Minister of Finance will initiate negotiations with the Rothschild group not later than next week respecting the taking over of an emission of Hungarian Rentes to the amount of 200 to 300 million crowns, to be issued both in crowns and foreign currency on a fixed scale of value. The emission is expected at the end of January, while the intended Austrian loan will probably not be issued before March.

The Austro-Hungarian State Bank. The closed accounts of the Austro-Hungarian State Bank for 1912 show a net profit of 40,079,628 crowns (£1,669,984). An 8½ per cent. dividend on the share capital has been declared as compared with a 7⁷/₁₆ per cent. dividend last year. The Austrian and the Hungarian Governments receive between them nearly half of the net profits, the Hungarian share amounting to 10,160,000 crowns and the Austrian share to 8,120,000 kronen, the largeness of the Hungarian share being due to the disproportionate total of bills discounted by the Hungarian branch of the bank.

The weekly statement shows an improvement in the position of the bank, the excess of the note circulation above the tax free limit having fallen during the first week of the year by £7,121,081. The excess now stands at £22,388,766.

The Hungarian Corporation (capital £100) is pretty obviously designed to keep a good title «till things come round».

A Belvárosi Takarékpénztár Részvénytársaság napokban tartott igazgatósági ülésében megállapította az 1912. évi mérleget, mely 1,812,193 korona 62 fillér tiszta nyereséggel zárult az 1911. évben elért 1,779,494 korona 96 fillér tiszta nyereséggel szemben, melyből részvényenkint 36 korona osztalékot fizet.

Az Egyesült Budapesti Fővárosi Takarékpénztár igazgatósága mai napon tartott ülésében megállapította a takarékpénztárnak 1912-ik évi vagyommérlegét és elhatározta, hogy a február 8-ára egybehívandó közgyűlésnek részvényenkint, úgy mint tavaly, 120 korona osztaléknak kifizetését fogja indítványozni.

Mult évben a Foncière Pesti biztosító intézet életbiztosítási osztályánál 5481 ajánlat 25,112.735 korona biztosítási tőkére és 16.160 koronajáradékra nyújtott be; 4941 kötvény 22,752.735 korona tőkéről és 14.960 korona járadékról állított ki. A díjbevétel 6,765.712 koronára rúg. Haláleset 285 jelentetett 1,166.373 korona összegről.

Egyszersmind utalunk ama különös kedvezményekre, melyeket ezen hazai intézet (alapította 1864-ben, 4 millió korona részvénytőkével nyereség és díjtartalékai és évi bevételei körülbelül 50 millió korona) az életbiztosításnál nyújt.

1. Hadbiztosítást díjpótlék nélkül a népfölkelők védkötelezettjeire nézve a teljes biztosított összeg erejéig. (A katonai szolgálat egyéb kötelezeteire nézve mérsékelt díjpótlék mellett.)

2. A feltételek értelmében a biztosítás érvényének megtámadhatatlansága még az esetben is, ha a biztosított párbaj vagy öngyilkosság folytán halt volna el, vagy ha utólag kitünnék, hogy a biztosított a biztosítás alapjául szolgáló ajánlatban lényeges körülményekre nézve tévedett.

3. 1, 3 vagy 5 évi nyereségfelosztással egvbekötött biztosításokat eszközöl.

A biztosításnál 3 évi fennállása után a biztosításra jutányos feltételek mellett a) kölcsönt ad, vagy azt b) visszavásárolja, vagy c) minden további díjfizetés nélkül tőkésítést eszközöl, anélkül, hogy a félnek utóbbiért folyamodnia kellene.

The New Municipal Loan. The Budapest municipality has received 48,396.003 crowns current loan, of which 21,000.000 will be debited to next year. A considerable amount will be spent on improvements. It is on the cards that no less than 270 millions will be invested in this way. The amortisation loan may be expected to bear interest at 9 1/2 %.

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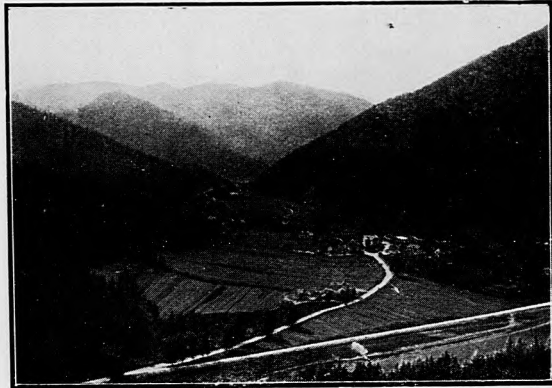
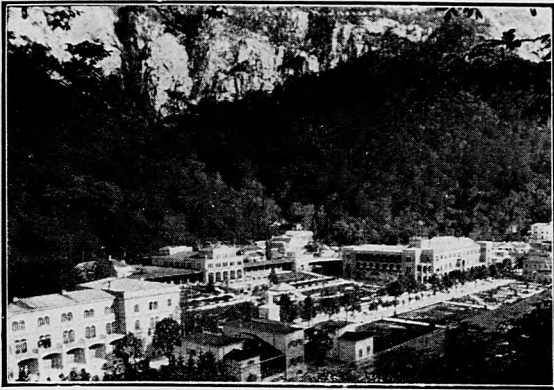
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Hercules Baths ...

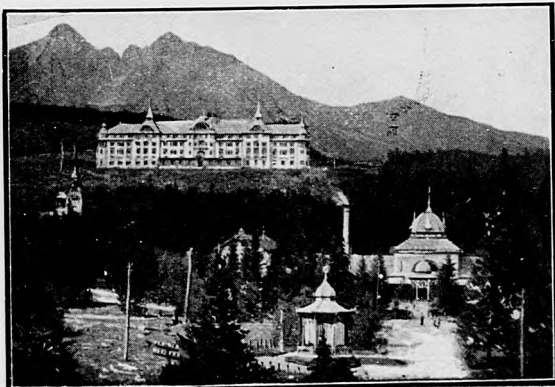
Thermal Baths and Health Resort, the property of the State, situated in the country of Krassószörény, at an altitude of 168 metres, in the picturesque valley of the Cserna, amidst wooded hills rising to a height of 1200 metres. Twenty minutes from the State Railway-Station. Natural saline and sulphurous springs at 56° Celsius. The saline baths are an excellent remedy for general debility, anaemia, neurasthenia, kidney disease, scrofula, and swollen glands. The saline and sulphurous baths are most efficacious in cases of gout, rheumatism, and ichoria. Excellent table-water. Hydropathic treatment. Eau de régime. First-class Kur-salon. Most agreeable climate, magnificent vegetation. The Season commences in May, but the Establishment is in part open all the year round. Moderate charges. For further information apply to the **Manager, Royal Hungarian Baths, Herkulesfürdő, Hungary.**

Railway Time-Table :

9-40	2-40	11-30	Dép.	Budapest-Ouest	Arr.	12-50	1-30	6-35
6-53	12-34	8-29	Arr.	Herkulesfürdő	Dép.	3-45	3-24	8-55
0-15	—	—	Dép.	Budapest-Ouest	Arr.	7-15	—	—
9-25	—	—	Arr.	Báziás	Dép.	4-15	—	—
10-—	—	—	Dép.	Báziás Bateau	Arr.	2-10	—	—
3-10	—	—	Arr.	Orsova Bateau	Dép.	6-—	—	—
3-5	6-05	8-16	Dép.	Orsova	Arr.	1-00	1-42	—
3-45	6-44	8-55	Arr.	Herkulesfürdő	Dép.	12-30	1-45	—

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10-45	Dép.	—	—	Budapest Est	Arr.	6-50
4-04	Arr.	—	—	Kassa (Ránkfüred)	Dép.	1-10
4-10	Dép.	—	—	Kassa	Arr.	1-00
6-30	Arr.	—	—	Poprádrelka	Dép.	10-35
6-47	Dép.	—	—	Poprádfelka	Arr.	9-27
7-35	Arr.	—	—	Tátralomnicz	Dép.	8-45

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Fenyő- ... háza

Railway Time-Table :

7-05	5-15	Dép.	—	Budapest-Est	Arr.	7-10	9-50	9-15
1-47	4-25	Arr.	—	Ruttka	Dép.	8-30	11-24	2-43
2-30	4-42	Dép.	—	Ruttka	Arr.	7-50	7-57	2-28
3-04	5-27	Arr.	—	Fenyőháza	Dép.	7-01	7-14	1-56

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Vizakna

Railway Time-Table :

7-20	2-00	12-20	Dép.	—	—	Budapest	Arr.	7-40	6-40
6-20	12-29	9-44	Arr.	—	—	Kiskapus	Dép.	6-50	1-00
7-10	2-28	11-20	Dép.	—	—	Kiskapus	Arr.	6-15	12-33
8-42	3-34	12-38	Arr.	—	—	Vizakna	Dép.	5-14	11-37



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