

OPEN DOOR IN CHINA. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL. MR. HUGHES' PLAN BOARD TO SETTLE ANY DISPUTES.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday. The following is the official revised text of Mr. Hughes' resolution regarding the "open door" in China:—

(1) With a view to applying more effectually the principles of the "open door" or equality of opportunity in China for the trade and industry of all nations, the Powers, other than China, represented at this Conference agree to support their national interests in seeking any arrangement which may purport to establish in favour of their interests any general superiority of rights with respect to commercial or economic developments in any designated region of China.

No Self-Seeking. (b) Not to seek or support their national interests in seeking any arrangement which may purport to establish in favour of their interests any general superiority of rights with respect to commercial or economic developments in any designated region of China.

It is understood that this agreement is not to be construed as to prohibit the acquisition of such properties or rights as may be necessary to the conduct of a particular commercial, industrial, or financial undertaking or the encouragement of invention and research.

China's Part. (2) The Chinese Government takes note of the above agreement, and declares its intention of being guided by the same principles in dealing with applications for economic rights and privileges from the Governments and nationals of all foreign countries, whether they are parties to the agreement or not.

(3) The Powers, including China, represented at this Conference agree in principle to the establishment in China of a Board of Reference, to which any question arising on the above agreement and declaration may be referred for investigation and report. (A detailed scheme for the constitution of the Board shall be framed by the special conference referred to in Article 1 of the Convention on Chinese Customs Duties.)

Power to Review. (4) The Powers, including China, represented at this Conference agree that any provisions regarding an existing concession which appear to be inconsistent with those of another concession, or with the principles of the above agreement or declaration, may be submitted by the parties concerned to the Board of Reference when established, for the purpose of endeavouring to obtain a satisfactory adjustment on equitable terms.—Reuter.

FRENCH OBJECTION.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday. Mr. Balfour signified his approval of the second resolution proposed by Mr. Hughes in the principle of the open door to China and instituting a Board of Reference to aid its operation.

M. Shidehara (Japan) is in accord with the principle, but stated that he wanted more time for examination of the proposal.

M. Sarraut (France) objected entirely to the resolution.—Central News.

Reuter says that Italy supported the proposal.

"HONEST" WINES.

FRANCE TO WAGE WAR ON IMITATORS.

During a national "wine week" which is being organised in France many interesting aspects of the industry are to come under review.

Among the questions to be discussed are the "times" of the industry; the relations between the wine trade and the banks; credit in direct relations between producer and consumer; what measures can best assure the "honesty" of French wines; the rôle of the hotelkeeper and tourist agent in the diffusion of wine on the French market, and, finally, the sale of wine in Canada and America.

In connection with an effort to remove the debt on the maintenance account of the Prince of Wales's General Hospital, the governors have received a promise of £500 from Sir Albert Barnett on condition that ten other sums of £50 each are forthcoming, and also a further £500 from Mr. James Richardson provided five other sums of £100 each can be obtained.

"KING LEAR."

MR. BAYNTON'S REVIVAL AT THE SAVOY.

"Please remember," Sir Henry Irving is recorded to have said to a young actor who overdid the antiquity of Old Gobbo, "that he is only ninety-nine, not nine hundred and ninety-nine." I could not help thinking at the Savoy yesterday that it would have been a good thing if someone had spoken in the same strain to Mr. Henry Baynton when he was preparing his King Lear. In many ways it is an exceedingly fine performance. Mr. Baynton seems determined to exaggerate the "four poors and upward" to an almost inhuman point.

This Lear appeared with his face in a bush of hair and beard that reminded one, not of a hitherto respectable old king, but of a put it at its mildest, of Miss Van Winkle or of some "fakir" who had sworn from early manhood never to have his hair cut. There is no need for this. Garrick—the last actor who made a popular and favourite part of King Lear—represented Lear as a little clean-shaven old man with straggling wisps of white hair—something between Jeremy Bentham and John Wesley.

This may have been false to history, for old men certainly were better covered in Lear's day than ever lived at all. But it suited Shakespeare's convention well enough. It made facial play effective, full expression possible, and modern sympathy far easier to get.

More Blue Pencils.

As it was, Mr. Baynton's Lear was interesting without being poignantly appealing. Amidst contemporaries—such as Gloucester—who were decently trimmed he appeared on occasion as little else but a dishevelled and self-assertive old bore, who set one now and then sympathising even with Goneril and Regan, since they had to put their heads with him, but with his horde of "debauched" followers as well!

On the other hand, there was a fine pride about the early scenes, and there were wonderful points in the madness that was a necessary criticism that the mad scenes were cut to almost nothing and some of the very best stuff in the play missed out altogether. Mr. Baynton's big speeches were not so good. The storm speech, in particular, delivered in a half-light at the back of the stage, with the stage thunder almost inaudible. Still, there were moments—memorable little flashes, like the mouse-and-cheese whimsy—that go very much to Mr. Baynton's credit.

Mr. Wickstead's Fool.

Then there was a really admirable Fool, played by Mr. Kenneth Wickstead as an old retainer—Lear's comrade in years as well as fortunes. This lent a very happy sense of companionship. So long as Lear and the Fool were talking together, and Mr. Shapcott set down for them all was as right as could be.

Unfortunately, however, the blue pencil had made havoc of the immortal "hovel" scene and others. That wonderful graded trio of the really-mad Lear, the professionally-mad Fool, and the pretendedly-mad Edgar, was thus shorn of half its meaning. Even in the lovely last scenes with Cordelia one missed line after line.

Of the others, Miss Gertrude Gilbert and Miss Henrietta Goodwin as Goneril and Regan, Mr. Murray Kinnell as Edgar, and Mr. Frederick Victor as honest old Kent, were particularly good, and in spite of the vital omissions and the difficulty of getting sympathy for such a needlessly outlandish Lear, the revival is well worth seeing.

Old Lear's eyes are, by the way, taken out in full Grand Guignol fashion, facing the audience. "Out, vile jelly!" was, perhaps, the one phrase that modern nerves did not mind forfeiting! S. R. L.

KNOWING LONDON.

TEN YEARS' STUDY, DOING ONE HISTORIC POINT A WEEK.

"It would take a person ten years to know all the historic points of London, doing one a week."

This was the opinion expressed by Mr. Walker, the well-known lecturer on Old London, who spoke at the King George's Hall, on the enthusiasm of Wren. Mr. Walker said for putting domes on Norman buildings had ruined many. The finest piece of work in London was certainly St. Bartholomew's.

The story, he pointed out, that Dick Whittington was poor was picturesque, but, unfortunately, untrue. As a matter of fact, he gave a banquet to Henry V. on the occasion of the battle of Agincourt. A window near Gog and Magog, he added, had recently been discovered. It had remained hidden and intact through the Great Fire of London.

Prof. Rapson, Professor of Sanskrit at Cambridge University, will preside at the annual reunion and dinner of Old Merstonians at the Holborn Restaurant on Friday.

LAND OF CHARMERS CHARMED.

LOYAL INDIA'S TRIBUTE TO THE PRINCE. ASSEMBLY'S WELCOME.

CONSTITUTIONAL PATH TO SELF-GOVERNMENT.

DELHI, Monday.

In the Legislative Assembly here today, Sir Janettee Jejeebhoy moved a loyal address extending a respectful and cordial welcome to the Prince of Wales to "the country of ancient civilisation and culture, which is described as the 'brightest jewel' in the British Crown."

He deeply regretted, he said, that a small body of non-co-operators should in any way have marred the success of the Royal welcome, and he paid a glowing tribute to the charming personality of the Prince of Wales.

Working to the Goal.

The address continued: "Supported by the declared resolve of the Imperial Parliament to enable India to attain the goal of responsible government, the Legislature of this country are applying themselves to the task of attaining to the fullest extent the opportunities afforded them for promoting the welfare of the country, and are demonstrating their capacity for working the new representative institutions, in the confident belief that a passage from the present transitional form of government to a full measure of responsible government will not be long delayed."

Equal Partnership.

"The people are eagerly looking forward to the day when India will take her proper place as an equal partner in the British Commonwealth of Nations, when she will be a self-governing dominion under the aegis of the British Crown, and when the Indian nation will speak in the Council of the Empire through the voice of her chosen Ministers."

British Sympathy.

"We trust that in our loyal and constitutional labours for a realisation in the near future of the aspiration of the nation we shall receive the unstinted sympathy, co-operation, and support of His Imperial Majesty and the British nation."

The address was accepted amidst acclamation.—Reuter.

FUTURE OF PALLADIUM VARIETY TO BE REPLACED BY REVUES.

A new policy will come into force at the Palladium from next Monday. On that date this well-known house of entertainment will cease to be a music-hall.

Variety performances, with which it has hitherto been associated, are to be eliminated, and in future the theatre will be devoted to revues. There will be two houses a day instead of three—one in the afternoon and one in the evening—and for the present "Aladdin," the pantomime now running there, will be played twice a day, until a new revue, now being arranged, is ready for presentation.

Changed Public Habits.

Mr. Charles Gulliver explains that these changes have been arranged because the habits of the public have changed. "Motor-cars and other things have taken people farther from London to live," he suggested to a "Daily Chronicle" representative, "and six o'clock in the evening is too early for many. They don't like to miss the earlier trains, and many of them cannot wait for the later part of the performance."

"Then the public seem to want something to please the eye and ear, and can only be satisfied by big stage pictures and clean, healthy comedy. We are also going to revert to pre-war theatre prices."

NAILS AS "MONEY."

BARTERED FOR FOOD UNDER A COMMUNIST REGIME.

Nails and wire are being used as currency in the Amur province of Siberia, according to travellers from the district, says a Central News wire from Tokyo. The Communist Government printed paper money until it had become worthless, and now, to pay its officials, it is handing out the Government stores, which are bartered for food.

Nothing is done but by barter, and the peasants have ceased to bring food to the towns.

The Government consists of a committee of five Communists and one social revolutionary. It is not surprising to learn that the armed forces of the Government do more pillaging than anything else.

RAND MINES FLOODING.

NO PROGRESS WITH PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. SITUATION WORSE.

JOHANNESBURG, Tuesday.

The situation on the Rand continues very calm. The Village Deep and Modder East mines are still flooding. Pumping in other mines is proceeding satisfactorily, although extremists at Benoni are angry with the underground officials for carrying on essential services.

General Smuts and the Government are in touch with the situation day by day.

Bitter Disappointment.

A communiqué was issued this afternoon by the conference which is taking place between the Chamber of Mines and the Industrial Federation, stating that no progress has been made.

This is a bitter disappointment, and the position is described as the worst since the beginning of the strike. Yesterday everything was hopeful, but now it is evident that even every minor point is being made part of the issue in the fight for supremacy.

It is expected that Johannesburg will be without trams and light on Saturday.—Reuter.

LEISURE HOUR CAMPAIGN.

STATE SCHEME TO HELP SPORT AND EDUCATION.

The provision of a national institute for workers' leisure is contemplated in a Bill which has been introduced into the Belgian Chamber of Representatives, says "Industrial and Labour Information."

The institute would be to encourage projects and organisations intended to secure the best possible use of their leisure by the workers.

It would be subsidised by the State from credits opened under a special head, and would also receive grants from the province and communes, or donations and bequests from individuals, associations, co-operative societies, or Trade Unions.

A Superior Council.

It would be administered by a Superior Council of Leisure Institutions, composed of thirty members, nominated for five years, of whom ten would be directly nominated by the Government and twenty selected by it from a list of candidates submitted by federations of societies for sports, art, and popular education.

This Superior Council would also be required to study all questions relating to recreation and education of the people, especially those submitted to it by the Government.

Home Decoration Tests.

Among other things, the national institute might organise travelling art exhibitions, and competitions for the furnishing and decorating of the home. It would encourage workers' allotments, physical culture, instrumental and choral music, a popular theatre, and general education.

Each year it would organise a national conference on popular education.

IN FLAMES IN A CELL.

ARRESTED WOMAN DIES IN HOSPITAL.

Found in flames in a cell in the West Ham police-station about five on Saturday evening, Margaret Swain, aged forty-one, a domestic servant, died in the Hampstead General Hospital this morning. She had been placed under arrest on a charge of stealing £7 and a handbag belonging to her employer, and was placed in the cell about 11.30 on Saturday morning.

While in her cell she had practically stripped herself, rolled her clothing in a heap, and set light to it with a match, her body being badly burned.

How she came by the match is unknown.

MARSHAL PETAIN.

PARIS, Wednesday. It has been stated that the French War Office will be reorganised, and that the principal post carrying with it the rank of Marshal Petain.

The "Echo de Paris" does not believe that such a post will be created, but the "Matin" announces that Marshal Petain has accepted the appointment.—Central News.

TOBACCO DUTY RAISED.

STOCKHOLM, Wednesday. The Government has introduced a Bill increasing the duty on tobacco which is expected to bring in a revenue of 10 to 12 million kronor a year.—Exchange.

THAT HAUNTING MELODY.

STREET SONG CAPTURES KREISLER.

"LONDONDERRY AIR."

MR. LLOYD GEORGE ALSO PAYS TRIBUTE.

Out of the night air of Glasgow, as it was draped by a street singer, came a rare melody that haunted Fritz Kreisler, the famous violinist, and compelled him to set down the song on paper.

The story of the finding of the song was told by Kreisler, who, says the New York correspondent of the Central News, described it as "wonderful."

Singing in His Bars.

When in Glasgow several weeks ago he had gone early to the concert hall because he wanted to run through a few numbers before his concert began. Crowds of people were standing in front of the hall, and, taking advantage of the opportunity of such an audience, was a ragged street singer, who stood by the curb holding out his hat as he sang.

For such a humble minstrel he had a wonderful voice, and Kreisler stopped a moment to listen. The song struck him, but he was in too great a hurry to linger long, and he went into the hall.

As he dressed for the concert he was annoyed to find the song of the street musician ringing in his ears.

"Just an Old Irish Song."

During the first part of the concert he still had the melody haunting him, and, apparently, could not forget it. And the more it lingered with him the more he realised the beauty and charm of it.

When the interval came he sent a messenger into the street to find the singer. He was still there, and the boy brought him back to Kreisler. The minstrel of the street sang his song again, after which the violinist sat down and transcribed it.

Asked why the street singer replied: "just an old Irish song called 'Londonderry Air.'"

Since that time Kreisler has constantly played the song, and will continue to play it during his American tour, as he considers it one of the most charming he has ever heard.

Premier Affected.

What Kreisler does not tell is the aftermath of the story. When he was at Downing-street, having visited Mr. Lloyd George to hear the singing of the Welsh choir, he sent to his hotel for his violin, and among other tunes played the one that he had heard in the streets of Glasgow.

At the close, it is said, Mr. Lloyd George was greatly affected, and observed: "If you had played that at the Irish Conference we would have had peace six months ago."

Kreisler described Mr. Lloyd George as a charming man, whom Americans would love, because he "is so American himself in manner."

HOUSES NOT NEEDED.

COWES COUNCIL UNABLE TO FIND TENANTS.

Having regard to an official assurance repeatedly given that the expenditure of local authorities in housing schemes would not exceed a penny rate yearly, Cowes Council last night passed a resolution, a Ministry of Health order holding authorities liable for the rent of vacant houses. Owing to inability to get sufficient tenants, the Ministry were asked to agree to a reduced rent for unoccupied houses.

KAPELANS HARD PRESSED.

COPENHAGEN, Wednesday.

Advices from Helsinki state that the Karelians are meeting with great adversity, and that the Bolsheviks crossed the River Svir and are encroaching near the Finnish frontier north-east of Lake Ladoga. The Karelians are, it is stated, retreating towards the frontier, where the Finnish guards had been strengthened.

Measures have been taken with a view to the disarmament of Karelians crossing the frontier.—Exchange.

GUATEMALA HERSELF AGAIN.

The Guatemalan Consulate-General in London has received cable advice announcing that in view of the hostile attitude of the Federal Council, Guatemala has withdrawn from the Central American Pact of Union, resuming her sovereignty as an independent Republic. The Union consisted of the Central American States.