

Austria
Wien

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R' Ambasciatore d'Italia

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THE NEW YORK HERALD.

WHOLE NO.: 23,590.

EUROPEAN EDITION—PARIS, MONDAY, MARCH 25, 1901.—EIGHT PAGES.

PARIS, 15c.; LONDON, 2a.; DEPARTMENTS, 20.

SANGUINARY ENCOUNTER.

St. Petersburg Workmen Parade the Newsky Prospect After Demolishing Government Liquor Shops.

STATE OF SIEGE THREATENED.

Public Warned Not to Go Into the Streets—Serious Repressive Measures Inevitable.

St. PETERSBURG, Sunday.—Yesterday 5,000 workmen from the Obuchow Metal Works paraded the Newsky Prospect. On the way thither they demolished numerous State brandy booths. Eight hundred Cossacks, with drawn swords, met the workmen, and a very sanguinary encounter ensued. The number of killed and wounded is kept secret. Yesterday the mayor caused placards to be put up at all the street corners forbidding crowds and meetings under a penalty of three months' imprisonment or a fine of 500 roubles. St. Petersburg is threatened with a state of siege. The whole of the police and the Cossacks are armed with ball cartridges. Serious demonstrations are feared to-day. Although the public is warned not to go into the streets the general opinion seems to be that matters are rapidly approaching a critical stage, and that very serious repressive measures are inevitable.—Daily Mail.

TSAR'S MINISTERS MEET.

Extraordinary Council Held at Tsarskoe Selo—Attempt to Avenge Count Tolstoy.

St. PETERSBURG, Sunday.—All the Ministers went to Tsarskoe Selo yesterday to hold an extraordinary council under the presidency of the Tsar, with a view to discussing necessary measures.

It is said that the attempt upon M. Pobiedonostseff's life is an act of intimidation similar to the threatening letters recently addressed to the Ministers of Justice, Interior and War.

Lagovsky is a fervent disciple of Count Leo Tolstoy and wished to avenge the excommunication of the latter, which was due to the Procurator of the Holy Synod.—Figaro.

RUSSIA MODIFIES THE MANCHURIAN CONVENTION.

Changes Made in a Number of Articles and Immediate Signature by China Demanded.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH BOERS.

Mr. Herbert Paul Declares that Their Failure Caused Great Disappointment.

THE WAR MUST CONTINUE.

As Far as Can Be Seen It Must Be Carried to Its Close at Any Cost.

LONDON, Saturday.—The rejection of Lord Kitchener's terms, or, rather, the terms proposed, through Lord Kitchener, by His Majesty's Government, is more disappointing than surprising to those who have watched the progress of the negotiations. The delay itself was ominous, and the best hope of peace was the belief, now seen to be erroneous, that the overtures came from General Louis Botha. The country is heartily sick of the war, and would have welcomed the conclusion of an honorable peace. At the same time, there is a strong and natural reluctance to throw away the fruits of the war. The difference of opinion is not really so much about ends as about means. All Englishmen, whether they support or oppose the Government, earnestly desire to prevent the recurrence of a civil war, or a race feud, in South Africa. Unhappily, the question how the desirable end should be secured opens a chasm.

On one side, it is said that if the Boers are allowed to retain any sort of independence, they will use it to prepare for another campaign; and that if the Dutch rebels in Cape Colony are pardoned, the British loyalists will cut the painter. On the other side, it is with equal confidence affirmed that until the Boers are given a full measure of autonomy they will continually fight, at all available opportunities, to throw off British rule, and that if the wishes of the Cape Dutch are not consulted, South Africa cannot permanently remain a portion of the British Empire.

A Compromise Probable.

Between these two poles of thought it seems futile to attempt a reconciliation. They remind one of the clergyman who, after a long theological argument, said to his antagonist, "So, then, your god is my devil." The result will probably be a compromise, which may or may not satisfy anyone. One hears less of the stock phrases: "We are in for it," "We must see it through," "We must fight to a finish," and so forth. But I am bound to say that comparatively few people here yet accept the impossibility of subjugating Dutchmen, so powerfully urged by Mr. Chamberlain twenty years ago. The prevalent notion still is that the Boers, or for that matter any other race

A TALK WITH SIGNOR ZANARDELLI

He Tells a "Herald" Correspondent that His Programme Is Based on Liberty, the Constitution, Fiscal and Economical Reforms, and Will Triumph.

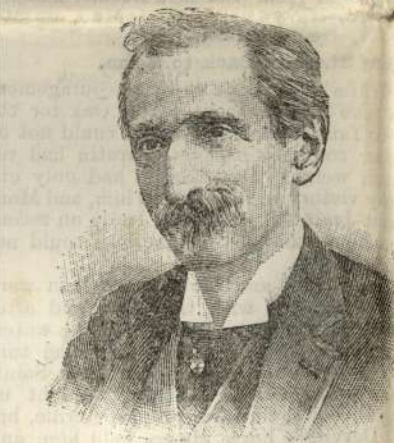
TOULON VISIT WILL BE ANOTHER PLEDGE OF FRIENDSHIP.

ROME, Wednesday.—I have just had the honor of being received by the President of the Council of Ministers.

No lengthy introduction of Signor Zanardelli is necessary for the readers of the HERALD. It is quite sufficient to remark that during the period preceding the constitution of modern Italy he personified the noblest and most enlightened patriotism. An eminent jurist, in a country which contains many, he has always maintained a very prominent position in the Italian Parliament, of which he is one of the most illustrious ornaments.

He held the portfolio of the Interior in the first Ministry of King Humbert I. who, like his son, the present King, at the commencement of his reign confided the governmental power to the Liberal party, represented by Benedetto Cairoli. Signor Zanardelli has been Minister of Justice upon several occasions, and it is he who gave Italy its Commercial and Penal Codes.

Victor Emmanuel III., desirous of inaugurating his reign with a Ministry animated by broad, liberal and progressive



SIGNOR ZANARDELLI.

ideas, certainly could not have called to the presidency a statesman of wider or more profound culture, or who enjoys greater esteem than Signor Zanardelli. He has the gift of winning and retaining the respect and consideration even of those who are his political adversaries. In fact, he is regarded with admiration throughout the country.

A Great Orator.

Signor Zanardelli is one of the most powerful orators of the Italian Par-

liament. His support to a Cabinet that has been able to win the confidence of the country. We have had to deplore, here and there, some agitation among the working classes and the peasants, caused in some instances by genuine misery and, in others, by very different difficulties for which we certainly cannot be held responsible. But the affirmation of a Ministerial programme based upon respect for liberty and for the Constitution and fiscal and economical reforms has restored calm.

Discussion is possible, it is evident, on the subject of the fiscal reforms that we advocate before the Chamber, but, in any case, they confirm the principles that I exposed in the programme-declaration of the Ministry, and which are nothing else than the principles of the Liberal party, namely, the necessity of lightening the burden of the poor, of diminishing, above all, the taxes upon the communes, which are very onerous for the people, and to devote to this object the economies of the budget, which presents itself under very favorable conditions, without compromising its equilibrium in any degree.

"The struggle will be long and difficult, but victory is certain, for our financial programme corresponds to the most pressing needs of the country, and this Ministry is the first that has dared to strike out boldly in this direction."

Foreign politics then claimed attention. I had not courage to bring up too suddenly the burning question of the moment—that of the Triple Alliance, which expires within a comparatively brief period, and with which the entire European press is occupied. But the President did not allow me to complete my hesitating allusion, and remarked with the utmost frankness and clearness:—

Foreign Policy.

"Yes, the present Ministry will have to deal with this question. No discussion is possible upon the score of previous engagements and Italy will carry them out. But as far as regards the future, Italy will not bind herself until after ripe reflection. The interests of the country must come before any other consideration. The Ministry will have to deal not only with treaties of alliance, but also with treaties of commerce, and you know how much influence, in practice, commercial relations can have upon political relations. In our case, the political treaties of alliance of Italy will expire before the treaties of commerce, but we shall know long in advance what decision to take with regard to both one and the other.

"In any case, if a renewal of the treaties should take place, they can have no other object than the preservation of peace, and it is absolutely necessary that any suspicion should be dissipated of animosity towards France, a suspicion that has been

AUTOMOBILES IN THE MUD.

Great Week of Racing at Nice to Be Begun Early This Morning.

RAIN MAY SPOIL RESULTS.

"Chauffeurs" Are Rather Cast Down by the Prospect—Changes in the Course.

"No luck" is the glum observation made by the hundreds of automobilists assembled at Nice for the great racing week which begins this morning at six o'clock. For it is raining along the Riviera, and the big pneumatics slide from one side of the road to the other, rendering even moderate locomotion dangerous.

Baron de Dietrich is heart-broken, says the "Auto-Velo's" correspondent at Nice, because yesterday, as a result of the slippery condition of the tramway tracks at Cannes, his automobile has one of its wheels twisted out of shape.

The committees decided on a slight modification of the route. In view of the danger made possible by the rain, it was agreed to cut out one of the dangerous sections. A resolution was adopted, by which the portion between Pont-du-Var and Cannes-La Bocca is to be "neutralized."

The racers will be stopped at the foot of the ascent of Pont-du-Var, and they will be sent off again to Cannes-La Bocca. On the return trip they will have the same neutralization.

Consequently, the length of the race is reduced to 414 kilometres. The decision mentioned applies to the "touristes" as well as to the fast brigade.

The itinerary of the "Course de Vitesse" by kilometres is as follows: Nice (0k. start); Pont-du-Var, Cannes, La Bocca, Neutralization 1hr. 30min.; Fréjus (44); Le Luc (83); Brignoles (107, neut. 10min.); Saint-Maximin (126); Aix (166, neut. 10min.); Saint-Cannat (184, neut. 5min.); Senas (214); Salon (232, neut. 10min.); La Fare (245); Aix (266, neut. 10min.); Brignoles (307, neut. 10min.); Fréjus (370); Cannes (407, neut. 1hr. 30min.); Nice (414).

The itinerary of the "Course des Touristes" is as follows: Nice (0k. start); Pont-du-Var, Cannes, La Bocca, neutralization 1hr. 30min.; Fréjus (41); Le Muy (58); Draguignan (66k. 500, stop of one hour); Le Muy (86); Fréjus (110); Cannes (123, neut. 1hr. 30min.); Nice (145).

The "Figaro's" correspondent says that the "Corso Fleuri" yesterday was terminated in a hurry to escape the rain. Nevertheless, twenty-two different auto-

M. J. JAUBERT ON WEATHER.

Director of Paris Municipal Observatory Discusses Causes and Effects of the Present Cold Spell.

COLDS ARE LEGION IN PARIS.

Inclement Skies Will Cause Swallows to Postpone Their Coming Till After April 12.

M. Joseph Jaubert, director of the Paris Municipal Observatory of Montsouris and the Tour Saint-Jacques, sends the HERALD the following communication:—

"Although, from the point of view of the astronomer, we are now in the spring season, the bad weather still continues. There are constant alternations of periods of cold and periods of rain, and on Thursday morning last we even had a little snow. The dull, misty, rainy days of the beginning of the week were followed by a cold series, which began on Friday morning with a renewal of frost throughout the region surrounding Paris. Since then the minimal thermometrical readings have fallen each morning to 2deg. and 3deg. below zero in the outskirts of Paris, while within the city they have stood at 1deg. This means an average minimal temperature between 4deg. and 5deg. below the normal reading. The winds continue to blow from the north, inclining to the north-east, or retrograding towards the north-west. While these winds continue there can be no improvement.

This falling of the thermometer below zero during the latter days of March has appeared very striking, as the frost generally disappears in the early days of March. However it would be incorrect to augur an offensive return of winter. The frosts rarely extend beyond April, and there have been years, rarely, it is true, during which March has been entirely exempt from frosts. Such was 1896, for instance. On the other hand there were sixteen frosty days during March in the year 1883.

Not Very Severe.

The frosts this month have not been very severe. But the temperature has been rendered very trying by the lowness of the maximal readings. As the sky has generally been clouded the sun was powerless to combat the effects of the night frosts. They have been somewhat attenuated, but there has been no diurnal "warming-up."

The damp and the absence of light are two other meteorological causes which, combined with the maintenance of a brisk temperature, have had an unfavorable influence on the public health. As is well known, the air, at equal temperature, appears colder in proportion as it is

Changes Made in a Number of Articles and Immediate Signature by China Demanded.

PEKING, Sunday.—It is understood here that the Russian Government has consented to the following modifications in the Manchurian Convention:—

1. That Kinchow and Port Arthur shall not be annexed by Russia, but leased, as before.

2. The omission of the clause insisting upon a Russian Resident at Mukden.

3. Permission for the Chinese army to maintain order in Manchuria until the completion of the Manchurian Railway, without necessarily requiring the protection of Russian troops.

4. Russia will forego the demand that the mining and railway concessions in Mongolia, Turkestan and Kashgaria shall be exclusively Russian, but stipulates that persons of nationalities other than Chinese shall be forbidden to undertake such enterprises.

In view of these modifications of the Convention the Russian Government insists upon its signature at an early date. The Chinese Minister at St. Petersburg thinks the modifications satisfactory. The Court and its advisers, however, still refuse ratification, and the Viceroy Lin-Kun-Yi likewise strongly protests against the idea of ratifying even the modified Agreement. Li-Hung-Chang says that the responsibility for the signing of the Convention rests with Yang-Yu, the Chinese Minister to Russia.

The Russians continue to threaten to bring more troops if China fails to comply with the demands of the Tsar's Government.—Daily Graphic.

COREAN CUSTOMS DIRECTOR.

YOKOHAMA, Sunday.—The Korean Government has dismissed Mr. Brown, Director-General of Customs. The British Chargé d'Affaires at Seoul is making representations to the Korean Government in the matter.—Reuter.

GENERAL VON SCHOTTENSTEIN.

The ex-Premier of Wurttemberg Said to Have Committed Suicide at Ulm.

BERLIN, Sunday.—According to a telegram from Stuttgart published by the "Lokal-Anzeiger," General Schott von Schottenstein, of Wurttemberg, president of the Council and Minister of War, who resigned office in consequence of having been subpoenaed as a witness in a case of a scandalous nature, has committed suicide at Ulm by shooting himself through the head.—Daily Chronicle.

CROSSING THE CHANNEL.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Carnegie Among the Passengers from Dover to Calais.

[SPECIAL TO THE HERALD.]

DOVER, Monday.—Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Carnegie crossed the Channel yesterday, bound for the Antilles, as also did Mr. Gustave Luders, the well-known composer of "The Burgomaster," who is fresh from Boston, and was on his way to Paris to complete the writing of his opera for Chicago.

He was accompanied by his charming newly-married wife. The Marquis d'Hautpoul was also a passenger across the Channel, returning to London.

ing Dutchmen so powerfully urged by Mr. Chamberlain twenty years ago. The prevalent notion still is that the Boers, or for that matter any other race of men, have only to taste the blessings of British administration, and that they will forthwith accept it as a priceless blessing. If these optimists are reminded that the Boers rose in arms after three years' experience of the privilege of 1880, their answer is that the blundering of a military martinet was accountable for the failure.

It is natural enough that Englishmen should think themselves capable of governing the world. Their splendid successes in India, and the prosperity of the colonies they have founded in such totally different regions as Canada and Australasia, foster the theory. There is nothing easier than to talk about putting oneself in somebody's else place. There is nothing more difficult than to do it.

A Perilous Fallacy.

When Englishmen had to live under Dutch Government in the Transvaal, they grumbled from morning till night. It will be said, with some truth, that that was a bad Government, and that ours would be a good one. But in this reasoning there lurks a perilous fallacy. The value of freedom depends upon the principle, or, if you will, the sentiment, that to manage your own affairs badly is better than to have them managed well for you by others.

What the Transvaalers and the Free Staters are fighting for is independence. They have the active sympathy, and more than sympathy, of the Cape Dutch. They have a large and enlightened body of public opinion in Europe, although foreign Governments will do nothing for them, and decline to encourage them in an apparently hopeless resistance. Now that the threatening incident at Tientsin has been satisfactorily settled, there is no prospect that Asiatic complications will compel the British Government to withdraw a single soldier from South Africa.

Courageous Adversaries.

For a continuance of the struggle the Boers must rely upon their own resources, and upon these alone. There is, so far as I can see, no reason to suppose that they rely upon anything else. Nine Englishmen out of ten, without reference to the origin of the war, admire the dauntless courage and bulldog tenacity of Botha, and Delarey and De Wet.

But of course that admiration, so eloquently expressed by Mr. Winston Churchill, implies no reluctance to go on with the war or to pay the necessary taxes. There is as much stubbornness here as there. "My country, right or wrong" is, in the sphere of opinion, not patriotism but folly. In the sphere of action it is more respectable, and the war must now, so far as human foresight extends, proceed at whatever cost to its close, which will be the victory of overwhelming numbers in a contest where valor is equally divided.

HERBERT PAUL.

ALARMIST REPORTS FROM CUBAN CAPITAL.

Ministerial Council Sitting Devoted to Consideration of General Wood's Demand for Reinforcements.

NEW YORK, Sunday.—Recent despatches from Havana state that the situation in Cuba continues to be alarming. Yesterday's meeting of the Ministerial Council was entirely devoted to the examination of the report of General Wood, urgently demanding that the Santiago garrison be reinforced.—Presse.

A Great Orator.

Signor Zanardelli is one of the most powerful orators of the Italian Parliament. His rhetoric, both supple and subtle, is always admirably logical, with the result that it arrests attention and convinces the listener. As a conversationalist he is brilliant and invariably agreeable, while his knowledge covers a wide range of subjects. He never seeks to disguise his real sentiments but examines any and every question frankly and expresses his opinion clearly and in a style that is limpidity itself, all with the greatest good humor.

In spite of his seventy-four years he is as agile in movement as a young man. His manner of speaking, the clearness of his reasoning, the vivacity of his regard, the promptitude of his sallies, all prove a vitality that is exceptional at his age.

The President greeted me with the most exquisite courtesy, and immediately showed me that he is fully aware of the importance of the HERALD, familiar with its wide circulation, and cognizant of the influence it exercises upon political opinion throughout the civilized world. He spoke in the most cordial and grateful fashion of the consistent and powerful friendliness evidenced towards the Italian Liberal party upon every opportunity by the HERALD.

Signor Zanardelli's Views Generally.

Other subjects were then touched upon, and to avoid any possibility of a misapprehension, I may remark that the conversation was carried on and developed in such a manner as to exclude any suggestion of an "interview." The President did not dwell at length upon any particular topic, but expressed his views clearly in a few words and continued upon some other line of thought. Consequently, it is quite possible in transcribing our conversation a few minor or incidental phrases were not actually uttered by him but are the logical outcome of others really spoken by Signor Zanardelli.

Referring to the young King who, at the present moment is awaking such a spirit of hope in Italy, the president expressed his opinion with all due respect. Victor Emmanuel III. is both well-informed and extremely studious. He is not satisfied with understanding any question in a general way. He insists upon knowing all the details, the least important nuances, particularly in those connected with Italy's foreign policy, in which the sovereign's influence is expressed habitually more directly. His ideas are very well defined and his will is decided. He knows perfectly well what he wants, and he follows with minute and careful attention every manifestation of the life of the State or the country.

In speaking of the composition of the Ministry, formed by adherents of the different groups in the Chamber, the President said:

Not a Coalition Ministry.

"I had no idea of forming a coalition Ministry. My whole life, my frequent resignations when the Ministries of which I was a member no longer represented my views, would have effectually opposed any arrangements tending to result in a coalition Cabinet. But the position of the Parliament and of the country was so obscure and called so imperatively for a prompt solution that I considered it my duty to accept without discussion the sole combination necessitated, in my opinion, by the existent conditions.

"The position, assuredly, is not an easy one. To carry out its programme the Ministry has to deal with a Chamber elected under very different auspices. But matters will arrange themselves as time goes on, for the Parliament will be forced to give

object to the preservation of peace, and it is absolutely necessary that any suspicion should be dissipated of animosity towards France, a suspicion that has been manifested more than once. It is the duty of us all to work for this object since France and Italy ought under all circumstances to remain friends."

The President emphasized these words with all the vigor that a long-held conviction could impart. It may not be inappropriate to recall that already upon previous solemn occasions Signor Zanardelli has expressed sentiments of great friendship for France. In 1892, when addressing his electors at Iseo (October 23), he said:—

Italian Friendship for France.

"Who could fail to cherish a feeling of friendship for France? I seem to see again the victors of Magenta, in the tents that encircled my Brescia with a white girdle, enflamed with the enthusiasm that was to lead those liberating troops to the heroic onslaught at Solferino!"

Upon another occasion, seven years later, when the sad news of M. Félix Faure's sudden death spread over Italy, Signor Zanardelli expressed the same sentiments from the presidential chair in the Chamber (February 12, 1899):—

"We, who represent Italy," he said, "we feel sincerely how closely our country is linked to France by a strong and ancient community of sentiments, by the bonds of solemn and indestructible recollections, by lofty and reciprocal moral and material influences."

And, continuing, he recalled with emotion that it was under the auspices of M. Félix Faure that a fresh pledge of union had been established, and confirmed so cordially by the parliaments of the two nations.

My conversation with the President closed with an allusion upon his part to the forthcoming visit to Toulon of the Italian naval squadron under the command of the Duke of Genoa, the visit being arranged in honor of the President of the French Republic. Signor Zanardelli expressed the conviction that this visit would constitute another gage of friendship between the two countries, and might offer a propitious opportunity to manifest reciprocally their ancient fraternity.

The HERALD, which voiced this same hope and this same prognostic only a few days ago, cannot fail to be gratified to see its sentiments echoed by such an illustrious personage as Signor Zanardelli.

CARRIER PIGEONS AT SEA.

The Havre journals state that the Naval Bureau there last Thursday handed over to the agent of the Compagnie Transatlantique several tubes containing messages sent by carrier pigeons.

One bird had been picked up by a fishing boat off Ushant. The message was sent from the steamship Gaseogne at seven o'clock on the morning of the 17th inst. The bird was exhausted.—Français.

STARVING 28 DAYS.

Its Brest correspondent sends the "Presse" details of an extraordinary adventure which befell Corporal Desrats, of the 2nd Colonial Regiment. He disappeared on February 24 and was thought to be a deserter.

Quite accidentally he has been discovered in a disused mine by several comrades, who heard sounds issuing from a ventilating shaft, down which he had fallen.

The unfortunate man had been twenty-eight days without food, and lying in water. He is slowly recovering.

The "Figaro's" correspondent says that the "Corso Fleuri" yesterday was terminated in a hurry to escape the rain. Nevertheless, twenty-two different automobiles took part, parading before the jury's stand, where the banners were distributed. The finest banner was awarded to M. Fernandez, who had arranged his automobile in the shape of a "trolley-car," all covered with flowers. Other banners were awarded to MM. Abel Sue, Dupré-Neuville, Princesse d'Essling, Baronne de Zuylen, Morozowicki, Bessy, Larue, Hennesy, Gueyraud, Guidi, Garin, Baron Arthur de Rothschild, Vélo-Sport de Nice, Lafarge, Gounet, Desgranges, Lieutenant Marquiset, Captain Williams, Schwab, Gondoin and Comtesse Potocka.

"YANKEE DOODLE'S" ACCOUNT.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

NICE, Sunday.—Thirty automobiles participated in the "Corso Fleuri." Prince Lubecki distributed to each one a banner. The prettiest were those of Prince d'Elchingen, Comtesse Potocka, Baron Arthur de Rothschild, Baron de Zuylen and MM. Fernandez, Gondoin, Guidi, Paul Dupré, Gounet, Schwab and Williams. A pity the sunshine was missing.

AUTOMOBILES AND CYCLES.

The "Vélo" publishes the census of cycles and automobiles in France this year, as shown by the inland revenue returns. There are 975,878 cycles, 11,252 motorcycles and 5,286 automobiles.

In the Seine Department alone there are 212,510 cycles, 3,449 motorcycles and 1,436 automobiles, of which 581 carry two and 855 more than two passengers.

Only two of the departments contain more than forty thousand cycles, viz., the Nord, 44,371, and Seine-et-Oise, 41,119.

With the advent of the voiturette, it is to be expected that the number of automobiles will be doubled next year.

The value of the cycles may be placed at 250,000,000fr. Reckoning the motorcycles at 1,500fr. each, this gives another 16,878,000fr., and the automobiles at 7,000fr. apiece, 37,002,000fr., or altogether, 303,880,000fr.

AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT.

At the Croix d'Augas, in the Fontainebleau Forest, an automobile, driven by a well-known Parisian, skidded yesterday while taking one of the sharp turns of the descent and came into collision with a tree.

The automobile was literally crushed, and the occupants—four adults and a child—scattered over the road.

It is a miracle that they were not killed. The driver and a young lady were gravely, but not mortally, wounded. The other passengers escaped with severe bruises. A danger post should be erected at this descent.—Vélo.

CHAMPS ELYSÉES CYCLE PATH.

MM. Jules Auffray and Quentin Bauchart have proposed to the Municipal Council to lay a cycle path down the avenue des Champs-Élysées similar to the one in the avenue de la Grande-Armée.—Presse.

WHERE TO HIRE AUTOMOBILES.

IN PARIS.
Compagnie Routière, 79 rue Laugier., Teleph. 555.00.
IN NICE.
Compagnie Routière, 3 boulevard Gambetta.

temperature, have had an unfavorable influence on the public health. As is well known, the air, at equal temperature, appears colder in proportion as it is charged with humidity. The excess of moisture which we absorb acts upon those parts of our organism with which it comes directly into contact—the throat, the bronchial tubes, and the stomach. As damp air is the best conductor of heat, it follows that the air we breathe takes up heat from the human body in proportion as it is more or less laden with moisture. This explains why the prolonged inhalation of cold, damp air causes troubles in the human organism. At the present time colds and allied complaints are legion in Paris.

Lately it has rained a great deal, not quantitatively, but from the point of view of frequency. The total height of the water collected in the rain-tube is not extraordinary, but the number of days on which rain has fallen is very large.

In the southern regions things have been much worse. Tempest centres have followed one another in close succession on the Mediterranean, and some of them have remained a long time, causing heavy showers and even extraordinary rains on the Italian coast. Abundant snowfalls have been reported in the South of France. Snow is still falling in Austria and in Northern Italy.

Rivers Swollen.

The rainy weather has swollen all the streams of the basin of the Seine, and raised the river to a high level. At the Pont d'Austerlitz 2m. 90cm. have been registered lately. And as the Yonne has risen considerably, a further rise of 40cm. in the Seine may be expected by Monday, and we must count on the passenger traffic being impeded. The present rise of the Seine may be classified among winter rises. These are nearly always due to a prolonged period of rains, which determine successive swellings of the affluents. The waters carried by the torrential tributaries arrive first, causing the river to rise. Later come the masses of water poured in by the steady affluents, and these maintain the swelling. This is why the Seine rose some days ago, and remains at the present height.

Another result of the present meteorological conditions must be mentioned. In the outskirts of Paris scarcely any budding has yet been reported. The few buds which have appeared are puny and too scarce to evidence a commencement of spring. All vegetation is retarded.

The migration of the birds may be affected by the prolongation of the present weather. The swallows, who have sometimes been seen in Paris as early as March 25 (e.g., in 1892) will probably defer their arrival till later than the average date, which is April 12.

MORE HOPEFUL OUTLOOK

NOW AT MARSEILLES.

Some Disturbances and Strikes in Various Trades Continue but Tension Is Lessened.

Snow and dull weather gave Marseilles a very mournful appearance. The strike of the bakers, carters and mechanics continues, and a few disturbances were caused at night by the tramway strikers, but the situation is greatly improved since the dock labor dispute promises to be adjusted by arbitration.

The curious effect of the strike will be to modify the census returns. Within the last ten days 11,000 Spanish or Italian laborers have left, and many thousands of troops have entered the city.—Figaro,