

because of overwork and poor pay; communication was suspended between Allahabad and Bengal, and the business of Calcutta was at a standstill; the government formed boards of conciliation which settled the differences in January.—It was estimated in December that a quarter of a million Mohammedans died of the **plague** in the Punjab because they refused to leave infected villages, on the ground that Mohammedans are forbidden to flee from the wrath of God. The government printed and distributed a large number of copies of a decision of the principal *maulvis* of the Punjab declaring that the Koran expressly enjoined Mohammedans to quit places smitten by Allah with disease.—A deputation of influential Hindus petitioned the viceroy in March to secure religious instruction in the public schools.—An expedition was sent into the Bazar valley in February to punish the Zakka Khels for raiding the country.—The yield of the cotton crop for 1907 was reported officially as forty per cent below the yield of the preceding year. Great suffering has resulted from **famine**, and the number of persons in receipt of state aid throughout India has steadily risen until, on April 15, it was over a million and a half.

OTHER DEPENDENCIES.—It was reported in November that riots had occurred in **West Africa** on account of the compulsory employment of natives in road-making.—An uprising of the Kisii people in the middle of January in **East Africa** was suppressed by a punitive expedition.—Mr. Hesketh Bell took office on November 26 as the first governor of **Uganda**.—The governor of **Nyassaland** on March 31 opened a new railway, 100 miles in length, connecting Port Herald and Chiromo on the Shire, a navigable tributary of the Zambesi, with Blantyre, the capital of the protectorate. It is proposed eventually to extend the line to Zomba and Lake Nyassa.—The Anglo-French convention for joint jurisdiction over the natives of the **New Hebrides** went into effect on December 1. The joint court is composed of a judge appointed by each government and a president and public prosecutor appointed by the king of Spain.—There was considerable opposition in the **Straits Settlements** in December to the stamp ordinance imposed in order to meet the deficit in the budget.—The governor of **Jamaica** in opening the Legislative Council in January stated that Kingston was practically restored, thanks largely to contributors to the relief fund, and that the financial outlook was promising, the current year closing with the largest cash balance in the recent history of the island. The Council in March appropriated £100,000 as the first instalment of an insurance fund against future disasters. (For Egyptian affairs, see *infra*, p. 384.)

V. CONTINENTAL EUROPE

FRANCE.—The **Chambers** have been in session during the greater part of the period under review. The most important measures considered were: proposed amendments to the Separation Law of 1905, enabling direct heirs only to bring legal action for the recovery of property bequeathed to the church, the object being to defend the departments and communes

from the lawsuits with which they have been threatened by the Clericals; an income tax; an old-age pension bill; the budget; and an army bill reducing immediately the period of training for the reservists to two separate periods of 23 and 17 days, and that of the territorialists to one week. The church property or "devolution" bill, after a bitter six weeks' debate, was adopted in the Chamber of Deputies by a majority of 177, and, after being so amended that property devoted to masses for the dead might still be employed for that purpose, it passed the Senate April 10. The debate on the income-tax bill was opened by the Deputies on January 20, and its most important article was passed on March 9 by 361 votes to 143. The two Chambers differed on the details of the old-age pension bill, and the Deputies in March adopted, 474 to 66, a proposal of M. Millerand calling on the government to "obtain from the Senate during the present year a favorable vote" on the measure. The army bill was passed by the Deputies in December and by the Senate in February. The budget was voted on December 31. In addition to the foregoing measures, the Chambers passed a bill for the protection of art treasures, especially in churches and museums, authorized the appointment of an extraordinary commission to draw up a plan for the reorganization of the navy, and made special appropriations for the improvement of the port of Havre and the estuary of the Seine, and for the Franco-British exhibition in London. The Senate adopted in March the Briand bill, providing that judicial separation shall be changed into divorce after three years on the application of either party. A bill passed the Chamber of Deputies in April extending amnesty to offenders in connection with the wine-growers' agitation in the South, but an amendment for the amnesty of anti-militarists, anti-patriots and insubordinate civil servants was firmly resisted by M. Clemenceau and rejected by 460 votes to 73.—There is considerable agitation in favor of **parliamentary reform** by a group in the Chamber, including MM. Delcassé, Deschanel, Buisson, Ribot, Cochéry, Doumer and Abbé Lemire. They urge the *scrutin de liste* with proportional representation, the redistribution of seats and a reduction of the number of deputies. In November they addressed a memorial to the premier on the subject.—The central administration of the French Foreign Office was reformed on January 1 by amalgamating political and commercial affairs on the model of the British Foreign Office.—A partial redistribution of portfolios in the Clemenceau ministry followed the death of the minister of justice in January, M. Briand retaining the ministry of public worship while taking that of justice, and M. Cruppi becoming minister of commerce.—A section of the **Socialist party**, led by M. Paul Brousse, issued a manifesto in November denouncing as monstrous and anti-Socialistic the anti-patriotic propaganda undertaken "by a small noisy group that is trying to introduce into the Socialist party the theory and methods of anarchy." M. Hervé, the anti-militarist, was sentenced in December to one year's imprisonment and a fine of 3000 francs for libeling and insulting the French army and navy, and his associates on *La Guerre*

Sociale, MM. Almereyda and Merle, were each sentenced in contumacy to five years' imprisonment and a fine of 3000 francs.—The tenth anniversary of the publication of Émile Zola's famous letter "*J'accuse*" was celebrated on January 13. The ashes of the novelist were transferred to the Panthéon on April 2.—A group of Parisian Protestants addressed a petition to the Senate in February, expressing "the invincible horror which they feel for every infringement of the liberty of worship and of private property," and urging that all citizens, of whatever religion, be placed under the safeguards of the common law.—The establishment of a native consultative chamber in French **Indo-China** under the Clémentel administration seems to have increased the agitation for local self-government.

GERMANY.—The **Reichstag** met on November 19, and on the next day received the imperial estimates for 1908: revenue and expenditure balance at about 685 million dollars, of which 210 are for the army, eighty-seven for the navy and fourteen for the colonies. The navy bill, calling for the construction by 1917 of seventeen battleships together with seven large and nineteen small cruisers, encountered strong opposition from the Radical and Centre deputies but was passed early in April. An important associations law was passed in March, in spite of the opposition of the Poles, the Socialists and the Clericals, by which the use of the German language is made compulsory at all public assemblies except international congresses and election meetings, with the provision that in those districts where more than sixty per cent of the inhabitants are of non-German origin the use of their mother tongue is to be permitted at public meetings for the next twenty years. The Bundesrath recommended in February that the revenue necessary for the increased budget be derived from a state monopoly of a part of the intermediate trade in spirits and from an excise duty on cigars and pipe tobacco.—The so-called Colonial Council was dissolved by imperial decree in February and its functions distributed among several committees.—The election to the presidency of the **Navy League** of General Keim, a political agitator who opposed the Catholic Centre in the last general election, caused the withdrawal of the Bavarian branch of the League just at the time when the debate on the navy bill was in progress in the Reichstag. It was announced in the *North German Gazette* on January 10 that Prince Henry of Prussia, with the concurrence of the emperor, would resign his position as patron if General Keim continued to hold the office of president. A general meeting of the League at Cassel on January 19 expressed its confidence in its officers, and the Bavarian delegates left the hall.—The first German Dreadnought, the "*Ersatz Bayern*," was launched in the presence of Emperor William at Wilhelmshaven on March 5.—The second trial of Maximilian Harden (see last RECORD, p. 771), this time for criminal libel, lasted from December 16 to January 3. He was found guilty of having libeled Count Kuno von Moltke, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment and costs, and has appealed to the Imperial Court at Leipzig. A court-martial of the guards corps tried General Hohenau

and Count Lynar in January on a charge of being implicated in various scandalous proceedings brought out in the Moltke-Harden litigation; the former was acquitted, and the latter was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment.—The libel case of Dr. Peters, the former colonial official, against the *Cologne Gazette*, which was tried in January, once more resuscitated the whole story of the "Peters scandals," and resulted in the acquittal of the editor and the fining of the writer of the article in question.—The **Prussian Diet** opened on November 26. The speech from the throne, read by Prince Bülow, referred to the unsatisfactory condition of the Prussian finances and foreshadowed a deficit on account of greatly increased expenditure. The chief bill presented was one for the expropriation of **Polish** landholders, which in its final form gives the state the right to acquire through an expropriation commission land for German settlers to a total extent of 70,000 hectares, lands held by churches or recognized charitable foundations before February 26, 1908, being exempt. The bill passed both Chambers by a majority composed of Conservatives and National Liberals against a minority of the Radicals, Poles and Centrists. As a consequence of the passage of the bill the Poles are organizing a league for the boycott of German goods, and the movement is assuming serious proportions.—A Radical motion in the Diet on January 10 for the introduction into Prussia of universal, equal and direct suffrage with secret ballot was successfully opposed by Prince Bülow, who said that the influence of the middle class must be maintained. In Berlin, on January 12, as a result of a Socialist demonstration in favor of franchise reform, there was considerable rioting with many casualties and a hundred arrests. Less disorderly demonstrations occurred in many other Prussian cities.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.—The **Delegations** were opened on December 21 and voted provisional supplies. The Poles in the Austrian Delegation entered a protest against the spoliation of their fellows in Prussia, but Baron von Aehrenthal, minister for foreign affairs, stated that he could not interfere in the internal affairs of a friendly state.—A complete amnesty for all military offenders and deserters of the two countries was proclaimed on December 2, the sixtieth anniversary of the accession of Emperor Francis Joseph.—The **Austrian** budget for 1908, involving expenditures of 429 million dollars, was adopted in November. An imperial rescript of March created a Ministry of Public Works and appointed the Christian Socialist leader Dr. Gessmann head of the new department. Some friction was caused in March by an effort on the part of the papal nuncio to influence the government to remove Professor Wahrmund from his chair of canon law at Innsbrück.—**Hungary** ratified the new customs agreement with Austria in December. The government has had great difficulty in dealing with the **Croatian** problem. The Croats in the Hungarian Chamber, supported by the president, employed obstruction tactics against the Kossuth ministry with such advantage throughout November and December that an amendment to the rules of the Chamber had to be drafted in January in order to

crush further Croatian or non-Magyar obstruction. The Croatian Diet assembled at Agram on December 12 but was immediately dissolved by the ban, who ordered new elections. A new ban, Baron Rauch, who was sent out by the Hungarian cabinet to rule with an iron hand, was received at Agram on January 15 with hooting and a shower of stones. The elections in February returned 44 deputies uncompromisingly hostile to M. Kossuth, 21 members of the Greater Croatian party, and only two supporters of Baron Rauch. This new Diet was opened by the ban on March 12 and was prorogued two days later amid scenes of disorder. It is presumed that the ban, supported by the Hungarian government, will attempt to break Croatian resistance by governing the country without the Diet. Anti-Hungarian feeling runs high throughout Slavonia as well as Croatia.

RUSSIA.—The third **Duma** was opened at St. Petersburg on November 14. Out of 327 deputies, only 62 were ascribed to the opposition, including 25 Constitutional Democrats; there were 166 avowed reactionaries; and the remaining 99, including 64 Octobrists, were more or less lukewarm progressives. The Duma was dominated by a *bloc* formed by the Right and the Octobrists, the former recognizing that the Duma was to be legislative and not merely consultative, the latter agreeing to renounce equal rights for the Jews. A small group of the extreme Right adhered to the program of the Union of the Russian People and refused to enter the *bloc*. On November 27 the Duma by 212 votes to 146 rejected an amendment of the Right to introduce the word "autocracy" into the customary address to the tsar. M. Stolypin in a ministerial declaration intimated that the autocracy was a supreme power to which the tsar would resort whenever the safety of Russia demanded it, as in the case of the promulgation of the electoral law of June 16. The *bloc* concluded an arrangement with the Centre in the Council of the Empire whereby all important measures are to be jointly discussed before their introduction into the respective Houses. The Duma voted in December fifteen million roubles for famine relief. A bill for ensuring freedom of conscience was withdrawn by M. Stolypin in January on account of the opposition of the Holy Synod. A measure for double-tracking the Siberian Railway was presented on January 27. The Duma committee rejected in March the credit asked by the government for the construction of new battleships but approved the remainder of the naval program. M. Kokovtsoff, minister of finance, at a meeting of the budget committee on March 21, estimated the absolutely necessary expenditures on Siberian railways, national defence and famine relief during the next few years at not less than \$75,000,000 annually and declared that new loans were inevitable. The Duma in April debated a temperance measure.—M. Kaufmann was succeeded in the ministry of public instruction in January by M. Schwarz.—Strong reactionary efforts have been made to compel M. Stolypin to shift his position further towards the extreme Right, which is highly dissatisfied with the government's tolerance of Finland, of the Jews and of the autonomy of the universities.—Several trials have attracted wide atten-

tion. That of 203 men accused of complicity in the mutiny of Vladivostok resulted in the sentencing, on December 2, of 20 to be shot, 34 to penal servitude and most of the others to be transferred. In December the treason case in which 55 members of the second Duma were implicated was tried by an extraordinary court, and, on the 14th, 26 were condemned to various terms of hard labor, 12 to exile, and the rest were acquitted. The trial for treason of the 169 members of the first Duma who signed the Viborg manifesto was begun on December 25 and concluded on December 31. All were convicted and sentenced to three months' imprisonment and loss of their political rights, save two who were acquitted on the ground that they had signed the paper under a misapprehension. An appeal was rejected by the Senate in March. The court-martial on the defence and surrender of Port Arthur began at St. Petersburg on December 10, and in February the court condemned General Stössel to death, reprimanded General Fock, and acquitted Generals Reuss and Smirnof. The tsar commuted the death sentence passed on General Stössel to imprisonment in a fortress for ten years. A court-martial at Zembiansk meted out severe penalties in March to 25 members of the so-called Peasants' Brotherhood, formed with the object of destroying the properties of landowners.—**Disorders** have been rife in various parts of the empire. Early in November, the crew of the destroyer "Skory," incited, it is said, by a Jewess, mutinied in Vladivostok harbor and bombarded the town. The mutiny was suppressed after several lives had been lost and the destroyer had been beached. In December, all Jews were ordered to leave the city within four days, except property owners, who were allowed eighteen days in which to wind up their affairs.—The new **Finnish Diet**, which met in November, was elected by universal adult suffrage, and of its 200 members 19 were women and 80 seats were held by Social Democrats. It speedily passed a drastic measure totally prohibiting all traffic in intoxicating liquors, the only exception being in behalf of the Russian troops in Finland. M. Gerhard was "relieved" as governor-general in February and was succeeded by the reactionary General Bekmann. A conflict ensued in the Diet over the Senate's attitude toward the Russian administration; the Social Democrats maintained that the Senate had not strengthened Finland's powers of resistance, while the Old Fennoman party accused the Senate of endangering Finnish autonomy by paying insufficient heed to Russian desires. The Senate on March 31 voted to present its resignation to the tsar, who on April 10 dissolved the Diet and ordered new elections to be held on July 1.—The repressive policy continues in **Poland**. The governor-general of Warsaw in December closed the Polish school society known as the "Matica."

ITALY AND THE HOLY SEE.—The Italian Senate, sitting as a High Court, found Signor Nasi, the prominent Sicilian politician and ex-minister, guilty of peculation and sentenced him in February to eleven months' imprisonment and four and a half years' interdiction from holding any public office, and the Court of Cassation in March confirmed judgment. The

trial was accompanied by several demonstrations in Sicily against the government.—The Chamber in February affirmed, as the principle of **religious instruction** in the public schools, that the state school is a lay school and that a lay school means one in which religious instruction is not obligatory but which must give religious instruction to those children whose parents desire it. An amendment for the abolition of religious instruction was rejected by 347 votes to 60.—Sr. Severino Casana succeeded General Vigano as minister of war on January 1.—The minister of public instruction has appointed a commission to supervise the excavations at Herculaneum.—Pius X announced on December 24 his intention of making provision, in the codification of the canon law now in progress, for the establishment of a special court in connection with each Congregation, the tribunal of the Rota being left above all these courts as a supreme court of appeal.

OTHER EUROPEAN STATES.—**Belgium** was agitated by the question of the annexation of the **Congo Free State**. A treaty concluded on November 28 between the Belgian government and that of the Free State was referred to a parliamentary commission of seventeen. The treaty encountered strenuous opposition, chiefly because of the exemption of the rich crown domain from taxation and from full Belgian sovereignty. The Liberals under M. Beernaert and the Socialists under M. Vandervelde were particularly hostile. The death of M. de Trooz caused a change in the cabinet, but M. Schollaert, president of the Chamber, who succeeded to the premiership in January, announced the determination of the government to adhere to the original proposal. On February 4, however, the premier stated that fresh negotiations had been opened with regard to the transfer, and early in March the king agreed to an "additional act," whereby in return for certain concessions the Congo budget would be voted by the Belgian government and the crown domain would be abolished. While the haggling between king and ministry was in progress the commission of seventeen was engaged in perfecting a colonial law. At an important meeting of the commission on March 25 the main question of annexation was carried by ten votes to two, a colonial law was approved by eleven votes to one, and it was decided, ten to four, to recommend that the Colonial Council be composed of eight members named by the king and six by parliament. The Liberals and Socialists carried on an energetic campaign in April against annexation under these terms, and urged the Chamber to adopt a proposal for a referendum. M. Cooreman, deputy for Ghent, succeeded M. Schollaert as president of the Chamber in January.—In **Portugal** Premier Franco pursued his policy of repression and government by decree throughout November, December and January, forbidding meetings for the purpose of political agitation, muzzling the press, applying to all political offences the procedure governing anarchist crimes, and appointing administrative commissions to take the place of the councils-general. These decrees aroused opposition in circles other than Republican, the cardinal patriarch of Lisbon, Mgr. Netto, resigning in November on account of his hostility to Sr. Franco.

At length on February 1, the very day of the publication of a decree giving the police court power to expel from the kingdom any person found guilty of threatening the security of the state or of disturbing social order, assassins attacked the royal family, who were driving through the streets of Lisbon on their return from Villa Viçosa, and killed King Carlos and the crown prince and slightly wounded the duke of Beja, the king's second son. The cabinet promptly tendered its resignation, and Sr. Franco left Portugal. The country remained comparatively calm, the assassination being disavowed both by the pretender and by the Republicans, although the latter blamed the reactionary dictatorship. The eighteen-year-old duke of Beja was proclaimed king as Manuel II, and after consultation with the party leaders and Queen Amelia entrusted the formation of a coalition cabinet which should represent all the Monarchists to Vice-Admiral Ferreira do Amaral. The new government announced at once that elections for the Cortes would be held early in April, and that there would be no further dictatorship. The measures for controlling the press and for providing summary procedure in political offences were annulled, and a number of political prisoners were released. The elections on April 5 were peaceful and resulted in a sweeping ministerial victory.—Negotiations were begun in January looking toward the establishment of a Portuguese line of steamers trading with Brazil.—The **Spanish** Cortes adopted a navy reorganization bill in December. A bill was introduced in January empowering the government to suppress anarchist newspapers, close anarchist clubs and expel the propagators of anarchistic theories. King Alphonso, despite the protests of his cabinet, visited Barcelona in March and received a hearty welcome.—King Oscar II of **Sweden** died on December 8 in his seventy-ninth year. Gustaf V, his successor, declined a coronation ceremony as being “unnecessary and not in accordance with the spirit of the age.” The Swedish budget, which was presented at the opening session of the Riksdag on January 16, balanced at about \$60,000,000. The Riksdag on March 4 ratified an agreement with Germany establishing direct railway transport between the two countries by a combined service of powerful ferry-boats between Trelleborg and Sassnitz.—M. Michelsen, premier of **Norway**, retired on November 1 on account of ill health, and was succeeded by M. Lövlund. The Storting was opened by King Haakon on January 13, and on the 18th unanimously approved the Norwegian Integrity Treaty (see p. 353). The ministry was defeated on an appropriation bill in March, and M. Knudsen formed a new Radical cabinet.—The **Danish** Chambers passed a franchise bill in April, by which all taxpayers, male and female, over twenty-five years of age and all married women whose husbands are taxpayers are entitled to vote in all communal elections.—The **Dutch** cabinet submitted measures in March for the amendment of laws relating to public morals, for the protection of workers and other social legislation, and abandoned an earlier proposal for the revision of the constitution.—The Federal Legislature of **Switzerland** directed in December the immediate

construction of the second Simplon tunnel.—The deplorable state of affairs in **Macedonia** continues to attract the attention of the powers (see p. 354). Frequent outrages were reported from the vilayet of Kossovo, and on January 8 a Greek band under the chief Pavlos burned alive some thirty peasants, including women and children, at the village of Dragosh near Monastir.—The **Roumanian** Parliament, which met on November 28, passed important agrarian legislation, authorizing the creation of communal pastures, the fixing by local boards of the minimum prices for labor and the maximum rent for peasant land, the establishment of an institute of credit to enable the peasants to buy land, a state monopoly for the sale of alcohol, the reform of rural justice, the transmission of peasant land by inheritance, the establishment of a separate department of agriculture, the reorganization of the gendarmerie, and compensation to farmers for damages incurred during the agrarian disorders (see RECORD of June, 1907, p. 382).—The **Servian** cabinet prorogued the Skupshtina in November because it had a majority of only nine votes.—A plot against the reigning family in **Montenegro** by 150 members of the Greater Servian party was unearthed in November and severely punished.—M. Malinoff, the leader of the Democratic party, became premier of **Bulgaria** in January. Prince Ferdinand married Princess Eleonore, daughter of Prince Henry IV of Reuss-Köstritz.

VI. ASIA AND AFRICA

JAPAN.—A trust was formed in December by the various companies engaged in the emigrant business.—Changes in the **Cabinet** portfolios of finance and of communications occurred in January. The budget as presented to Parliament on January 21, balanced at about \$300,000,000. A lively campaign was in progress in April in preparation for the general elections of May 15. The opposition was appealing to the anti-military sentiment among the commercial and industrial classes, urging a revision of the budget and of financial methods.—It was reported in April that the anti-Japanese movement in **Korea** was increasing, that revolutionists were active south of Seoul, and that two of the cabinet ministers had resigned.

CHINA.—An agitation in Che-kiang province in December was directed by the gentry and the students against further centralization of government and construction of railways. A contract was signed at Peking on January 13 for the building of the Tien-tsin-Yang-tsze main line, German capitalists constructing the section from Tien-tsin to the southern border of Shan-tung, and British thence to Pu-kow on the Yang-tsze opposite Nanking. The work is to be done by European engineers, but the control is vested in the Chinese government. The Shanghai-Nanking railway, 103 miles in length, was completed in April.—A decree was issued in February providing for equality in the courts between Manchus and Chinese. New press regulations issued about the same time make it an offence recklessly to criticize the government or to publish articles endangering peace or morals, and prescribe that the editor of every paper must be a Chinaman.