

# CABLES FROM LONDON, PARIS, BERLIN AND ROME

## GERMAN MILITARY PARTY AND INCREASED ARMAMENT

### Agitation for Larger Army and Naval Forces Causes Uneasiness Over Whole Country—Drain on Taxpayer, but He Will Have to Contribute.

**(Special Dispatch.)**  
**BERLIN, May 16.**—The Reichstag has once more interested public opinion in Germany in the question of the national armaments. The threat of an early dissolution of the Assembly (which was elected early in 1913) at the behest of the powerful Junker-Conservative party, who still remember with bitterness the stand taken by the majority during the first day of the Ebert affair, hangs ominously over the horizon. The question is whether there is to be any attempt to utilize the uneasiness produced by this unpopular threat in attempting to obtain the acceptance of any further increases of the national forces.

The last four or five years have each brought their army or naval bills, but in this regard 1914 is still a blank sheet. It is true that a very cleverly worded sentence of Admiral Tirpitz's in the last debate on the Naval Estimates is considered by the majority as the promise of a "speeding up" of the naval building programme, but there is nothing yet to indicate when this acceleration is to be proposed.

The *Vossische Zeitung* states, however, with assurance on the authority of a "highly placed personage," that there is to be a further increase in the navy, making it twice as powerful as the fleets of France.

With regard to the question of the land forces, there have been signs innumerable of late that a large part of the conservative group would willingly see a further increase of strength on this side. The very noisy and rather reckless campaign against Russia and all things Russian, which started the diplomatists of Europe several weeks ago on account of the part which a section of the semi-official press played in it, soon subsided, but it has lately been replaced by a milder and cleverer and longer-winded campaign which stands a far better chance of bearing the desired fruit—bringing the Russian scarecrow level in size and fearsomeness with the rather tattered French hobgoblin. And, utilizing the wave of feeling thus produced, the extreme militarists of the

conservative party have lately been hard at work showing where the German army "needs" to be strengthened, and how easily it can be done. As usual, retired and highly distinguished officers of both services and higher civil servants are to the fore in this matter.

What the Chauvinistic group wants has recently been stated very plainly at the annual gathering of the Pan-German League. At least 65,000 more men to bear arms; that is the specific demand of the well known leader of the *Wehrverein*, General Kelm. And it is significant that a few days after making this demand (at the same time surprising all modern statisticians by saying that France has an army of 100,000 soldiers more than Germany) General Kelm was singularly honored by the attendance of the commander of the garrison of Strassburg, General Detmold, and the whole of his staff at a lecture given in the Alsatian capital, in which he repeated these remarks. From other quarters there are specific demands for new guns for the artillery, and also for new rifles. These, however, are more or less periodic pleas.

Meanwhile there has been a revival of the ominous "inquiries" into the state of taxation—how far the effect of existing taxation has gone, how much further the German taxpayer can go, and what new taxes should be imposed. A well known superior officer of the Customs, Herr Carthaus, estimates that the limit to which the German taxpayer can go will only be distantly approached when extra taxation to the extent of \$40,000,000 yearly has been extracted from him. According to Herr Carthaus, an extra farthing per gallon of beer, an extra 3d. per bottle of spirits, and a penny or so imposed on each bottle of wine and each packet of cigarettes would bring in some \$190,000,000 yearly without doing any considerable harm to trade and industry. The Reichstag might not like the idea, he admits. But as it is a question of life and death for the Empire, he says, this difficulty would have to be overcome. These remarks, published by an active high official in a semi-official newspaper in Berlin, have naturally stimulated curiosity.

## Young Italy Among Ruins of Old Rome Hope to Sell 5,000,000 Roses on Alexandra Day in England



This picture of His Royal Highness the Hereditary Prince Humbert of Italy was taken by his mother, Queen Helena, amid the ruins of Castel Porziano at Taranto during his recent prolonged cruise in the Mediterranean. Prince Humbert was born at Rome on September 13, 1904. He has three sisters.

### Cab-Committees in Three Hundred Centres of Country Will Invade Streets to Dispose of Queen Mother's Favorite Flowers—"Smart" Balls in Prospect.

**(Special Dispatch.)**  
**LONDON, May 16.**—QUEEN ALEXANDRA DAY, which has been arranged for June 24, will be celebrated this year on an even greater scale than before. The aim is to sell 5,000,000 wild roses, which is Queen Alexandra's favorite flower.

There will be sub-committees in three hundred centres throughout the United Kingdom, compared with seventy-two last year. The women who will invade the streets as sellers of the roses will be dressed in white, with white or light-colored hats trimmed with wreaths of the emblem of the day, their own contribution to the funds.

There were about fifteen thousand Alexandra Day women and girls in London last year. This year there will be more than twenty thousand. A feature will be an automobile floral procession, in which it is anticipated that hundreds of automobiles will take part. Both the automobiles and their drivers will be covered with roses, and should provide a pretty spectacle.

The Ritz Hotel still holds pride of place as the scene of "smart" balls for the coming season. Some people thought that the new Curson in Piccadilly would become the rage, but the builders' strike put an end to that idea for the present, at any rate, since the foundations of the prospective rival are in the same state as they were months ago. A hostess who entertains at the Ritz is certain of her guests putting in an appearance, if only for the supper, for which the hotel is famous—notably the quails served with muscatel grapes, which have served to draw many a young Guardsman and biased worldling from a rival hostess' dance before now, and will again.

After all, the dancing world, like any other, enjoys the consciousness of being at an expensively ordered function. For a ball, the Ritz charges \$10 a head, band and flowers extra. A hostess who has invited four hundred guests to the most fashionable of London's rendezvous will receive no change out of a check for \$5,000. That is why, when one is asked to a ball at the Ritz, the invitation is invariably accepted "with pleasure."

Arrangements for the Eighty Club ball at Claridge's Hotel on May 18 are now complete. The ballroom will be beautiful with white and pink flowers, and Casano's Band is to be in attendance. Already many well known hostesses have arranged dinner parties for the evening, and among those who intend to be present are Mrs. Asquith, Countess Beauchamp, the Countess of Granard, the Countess of Craven,

Viscountess Allendale, the Countess of Chesterfield, Mrs. Winston Churchill, Lady Glenconner, Lady Nunburnholme, Lady Clementine Waring, Mrs. Hothouse, Lady Mond, Countess Brassey, Lady Baring, Lady Inchcape, Lady Saye and Sele and Mrs. Robert Harcourt. Mrs. Lewis Harcourt and Miss Asquith have promised to act as hostesses, and will undergo the handshaking of the guests as they arrive.

## Find a Rubens in a Hotel Room

**(Special Dispatch.)**  
**LONDON, May 16.**—ROMANTIC picture "find" has been made by a Manchester hotel keeper, Mr. David Wigglesworth, of the Farmers Arms, Burnage, who has in his possession a large painting which is an almost exact replica of a picture entitled "Winter," ascribed to Rubens, which hangs in Windsor Castle.

The painting, the value of which, it is believed, may easily run to about \$50,000, was bought by Mr. Wigglesworth about two years ago at a sale at the residence of the late Mr. Norton, of Lee Gate House, Heaton Mersey, near Manchester. It was knocked down to him for \$5.50, considerably less than the value of the massive gilt frame containing it. Until recently it hung in the hotel smoking room, an object of merely curious interest.

One day a caller expressed the opinion that the dirty, dilapidated canvas was a masterpiece. Mr. Wigglesworth made inquiries. Expert opinion confirmed the caller's view, and the result of their inspection left little doubt that the work, if not an actual Rubens, revealed the master hand. It was probably begun by Rubens and finished by one of his clever pupils, and is believed to be the replica painted for King Charles I. and presented to the Marquis of Newcastle, whose manor house at Worksop was partially destroyed by fire in 1761. The salvage, including statuary, pictures and furniture, was sold to a Sheffield dealer and dispersed by him, and this picture, blackened by smoke and considered valueless, must have lain away, hidden and neglected for many years. The canvas still shows the effect of having suffered from the heat and smoke.

## The International Horse Show at Olympia Promises Well This Year

**(Special Dispatch.)**  
**LONDON, May 16.**—ALTHOUGH the International Horse Show is not held until June, the preparations for it are already far advanced and it is confidently promised that the decorations will make the interior of Olympia more beautiful than ever.

The prizes reach the sum of \$55,000, of which \$23,500 will be devoted to the jumping classes, which from a popular point of view form the backbone of the show. The coaching Marathon on Hampton Court to Olympia, which was won last year by Mr. Alfred G. Vanderbilt, again figures in the programme.

The two gold international challenge cups, presented by King Edward and King George, are likely to be more keenly contested than ever before. King Edward's Trophy was instituted in 1909 for the jumping over the course by teams of three officers of the same nationality in uniform. It has twice been won by Russia and twice by France, and if either of these competing nations carries it off this year it will become its absolute property. As British army jumping is understood to have improved immensely since the International Horse Show was started English officers

hope to make a more determined bid for the cup this year.

King George's Cup is bestowed upon the military officer of any nationality who does best over the jumps. Russia won it in 1911, Belgium the following year and France in 1913.

A new and interesting feature is the "international military trials," open to all British and foreign military officers on the active list. They are to extend over four days. On the first each officer will perform ten movements in the arena; on the second day the test will be a fifteen mile ride, with a jump around the course immediately on returning to Olympia; for the third day horses will be ridden from London to Aldershot—thirty-eight miles—with a ride over natural country on the way, and on arrival at Aldershot all competitors must go over the steeplechase course. On the last day the tests will be for hardiness and schooling, with jumping around the course in Olympia.

Competitors will be limited to one horse during the four days, because the object of these trials is to bring out the qualities of soundness and stamina, steadiness and unconditional obedience, which are essential in the charger.

## News from Various Parts of Europe

### SIDELIGHTS ON HISTORY OF RAMPOLLA PAPERS

**(Special Dispatch.)**  
**ROME, May 16.**—CARDINAL RAMPOLLA'S papers have produced some interesting disclosures, one of the most notable being the fact that after the famous Conclave of 1903, when he just missed being Pope, under the appearance of seclusion and disinterest in everything, the old combatant still existed and still attempted to influence the policy of the Papacy. Letters have been found addressed to him by Cardinal Lorenzelli when he was Nuncio in Paris, from which it appears that the Papal representative to the French Republic was more inclined to follow the directions of Cardinal Rampolla than those of Cardinal Merry del Val, his proper head. Mgr. Lorenzelli has already received the red hat; otherwise it is doubtful if this disclosure would not be a permanent bar to his promotion.

Other letters from the Countess Paravieino di Revel, of Milan, demonstrate that this lady, who is the head of the Catholic Women's League of Lombardy, but has been removed from the presidency, was an enthusiastic follower of Cardinal Rampolla and allowed herself to criticize strongly directions from the Vatican.

A correspondence between Cardinal Rampolla and Mgr. Bonomelli, the learned and liberal Bishop of Cremona, shows that the former was in indirect communication with Queen Margherita. Having heard that she admired his publication on St. Melania, he at once ordered his publishers to send her a copy, and he intimates that in a certain case (apparently with regard to the Vatican disapproval of the touching prayer written by Queen Margherita at the time of her husband's death) he had borne blame for which he should not have been responsible.

### HOW A GIANT GROWS

**(Special Dispatch.)**  
**PARIS, May 16.**—KING ALFONSO took a great interest at a recent circus performance in Madrid in a French giant named Eugene Arcaeu, who is aged nineteen, stands 7 feet 6 1/2 inches and weighs nearly nineteen stone.

The King sent for the giant to come to the royal box. There he made the giant hold out his arm horizontally while he himself stood underneath it. "Why, by the side of you I might be a child," exclaimed King Alfonso. "If you were a Spaniard I should very willingly enroll you in my guard. I wish very much that I could do so." Queen Victoria Eugenie was much amused to see the King side by side with the giant.

Arcaeu sleeps sometimes for thirty-six hours at a time, it is stated, and when he awakes finds that he has gained as much as four inches in height. Doctors expect him to reach a height of nine feet by the time he is twenty-five years old.

### BAN ON WEDDING BU-REAUS.

**(Special Dispatch.)**  
**BERLIN, May 16.**—THE Kaiser has put his foot down on officers of the active list securing wives through matrimonial agencies.

Recent trials in the courts have disclosed that officers when hard up are in the habit of applying to the agencies to find them wealthy brides, in return for which the agents are paid a handsome commission from the bride's dowry.

The Kaiser has in consequence issued a secret order announcing that any naval or military officer who is found to have employed a marriage broker will be at once dismissed from the service.

A list of agencies against which all officers are warned is issued with the order.

## SIR E. SHACKLETON'S PLANS FOR DASH TO THE POLE

**(Special Dispatch.)**  
**LONDON, May 16.**—SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON, at a Spicers' Club gathering at the Savoy Hotel, outlined his plans for his polar expedition and kept his audience enthralled all the time he was speaking.

Sir Ernest's scheme is to cross the Antarctic Polar Region from the Weddell Sea to the Ross Sea, taking in the Pole en route. He begins his great adventure next October.

"We are going to try to cross the South Polar Continent," said Sir Ernest. "Why we go I cannot say. What the impelling force is that makes explorers, I cannot describe. It is one of the sort of things of which, if you could describe it in so many words, half the charm and half the interest would be lost. When you are in the Antarctic you have an uncomfortable time, frozen one minute and roasted the next, but when you come back to civilization and sit down to dinner, before you have been home six months you want to get out on the lone trail again."

Sir Ernest said that he could imagine nothing better in life than to be marching through unknown country like those regions and then, after sleep, to awake and find surrounding them hills or mountains which they knew no man had ever seen before. There must be some sort of inferior pride that made one want to look on things no man had previously seen. He would not analyze the psychology of travel.

He had often been asked what was the good of it all. If any one were to offer to defray the cost of this expedition, if he could point to any single economic fact of value in such an expedition, he would reply that the cost of the last expedition had been saved in three years by the magnetic work that was accomplished.

By studying meteorology in the Weddell Sea they hoped to benefit the stockbreeders of the Argentine and Chili, because it had already been found that dense ice in the Weddell Sea meant heavy rains in those countries. "Sentiment is the driving force. It always has been the driving force in any work which counts for the ages to come. It will be the first crossing of the last continent to be crossed and we want to do it under our flag."

Explaining how they hoped to cross the South Polar Continent in four and a half months, Sir Ernest declared that their food would contain the highest amount of nutritive value. The "tabloid business" was wrong, it was useless to live on tabloid food. They must have something that would fill as well as heat. The last food he took contained a large percentage of water, which was an absolute dead weight, as there was potential water at their feet.

"Each step taken into the unknown unfolds a page of mystery, and as long as there is any mystery on this globe it is not only man's right but also his duty to try to unravel it, so that in future ages we shall not be pointed at as the men who lived in the dark ages of the twentieth century. I am not going to do any flag-wagging. The flag we are carrying costs half a crown with bunting." If all went well they might expect to hear from them about the middle of 1915. "It lies on the knees of the gods what is going to happen, but if we fail it will not be my fault nor the fault of my comrades. It will be the forces of nature. We will try to do our best."

Effect and promoted comfort—which meant efficiency—when the men were in value in such an expedition, he would reply that the cost of the last expedition had been saved in three years by the magnetic work that was accomplished.

### THE POPE'S AFFECTION FOR HIS SISTERS

**(Special Dispatch.)**  
**ROME, May 16.**—It is now more than a year since the death of the eldest sister of Pope Pius X., who, with her two younger sisters and their niece, Gilda Parolin, lived in a humble apartment in the Piazza Rusticucci, close to the vast mass of the Vatican Palace.

The sisters of the Pope are characteristic and interesting figures, who, notwithstanding the exalted position of their brother, remained in the Eternal City as simple and unpretending as in their early days at Riesa. Like most women of their class, they never wear hats and

### MAIDS WHO KNEEL BY THE FOAM TO A SEA GODDESS.

**(Special Dispatch.)**  
**LONDON, May 16.**—A LAND where strange native gods are still worshipped was described by Mr. E. Amaury Talbot at the Royal Geographical Society meeting in a paper on the Eket district of Southern Rhodesia, "the Land of the Ibibbos."

In the Kwa Ibo estuary, where the perfect sand is strewn with gleaming shells, come at low tide Eket and Ibeno maids, who, casting off their robes, kneel on the edge of the foam to pray to the sea goddess, Uman Ibeno, to send them husbands. Men, too, come to plead with arms outstretched to help in unexpected difficulty or danger. To all who seek her aid the goddess ordains a sacrifice of white cocks and hens, varying in number according to the wishes of the petitioner.

## "Don'ts" for Tourists in London Who Wish to Avoid Being Robbed

**Don't Talk with Persons Dropping a Pocketbook, Don't Tell Your Affairs to Strangers and Don't Place Your Valuables or Money with Others.**

**(Special Dispatch.)**  
**LONDON, May 16.**—All criminal dodges to obtain money, perhaps the oldest of all is the "confidence trick." The incredible part of it is that it succeeds in London every day and astute Americans and colonial are the principal dupes. The tourist season has begun and some hints to Americans coming over may be useful.

As the name implies, the confidence trick man, who invariably employs a confederate, worms his way into the confidence of his victim and then despoils him. A smartly dressed man will walk about in the vicinity of the Strand on some spot to which tourists usually go and watch for a likely victim. Often a really intelligent man, unfamiliar with the trick, falls into the net. The trickster will then walk ahead and drop a pocketbook, purse or small parcel in full sight of the prospective victim, who immediately picks it up and returns it. The trickster is profuse in his thanks and says the pocketbook contains a large number of notes, or even, as has occurred many dozens of times, "jewels for the Pope."

The latter is a bait held out to a man whose first speech suggests that he is Irish or an Irish-American. The two get into conversation and the trickster usually suggests refreshment—in a hotel in which his confederate is waiting. The confederate joins the others as a stranger and the three exchange confidences, the confederate often taking the pocketbook of his chief into the street for a few minutes and returning as a proof of his honesty. Then the dupe is asked to confide his valuables to the others, who may in turn display their honesty. In nine cases out of ten he does so—and loses them.

So here are a few points for tourists to London to remember—

Don't encourage conversation with a man or woman who has dropped a pocketbook.

Don't believe a story about a stranger coming into a fortune, part of which has to be given to charity, however strong the evidence may appear.

Don't tell your affairs to strangers you may meet in the vicinity of the Strand, the British Museum or the Tower of London.

Don't be too anxious to let a perfect stranger show you all the sights of the city.

Don't place your valuables or money for so long as a minute into the care of a second person, even though the plausible stranger may declare he is an American and show apparent proof that he comes from the same State as yourself.

## Boiling Wax Baths for Gout Are To Be Tested in London at Once

**Assertion of French Physician That This Treatment Is Beneficial Is Attracting Attention in Hospitals—Must Be Unpleasant Because of Extreme Heat, Is One Opinion.**

**(Special Dispatch.)**  
**LONDON, May 16.**—The hot paraffin wax bath, said by a noted French physician to be the best treatment for rheumatism and gout, is just now exercising the attention of many medical men in London, particularly those who work extensively in the hospitals. Dr. Barthe de Sandfort for some time has used plasters of superheated wax on wounds and ulcers with success, and has now discovered that wax at 125 degrees Fahrenheit is equally efficacious when applied to the whole body.

The house physicians at St. Bartholomew's Hospital told an inquirer that the paraffin wax treatment had come to their notice, and had impressed them to the extent that they were going to experiment with it at once. It was very difficult to say before trying it, however, whether there was any foundation for the French physician's assertion, as paraffin wax possesses few real medicinal properties. "Our electrical treatment for rheumatism," it was said, "is very successful, and the other London hospitals have modelled their own upon it. But we are going to give paraffin wax a thorough test."

The physicians at the London Hospital have discussed the French theory, but are uncertain yet whether to place any faith in it. It will be decided very soon whether experiments are to be made. As one of them said, paraffin wax is already used in a few cases, internally as a mild aperient, and externally as an emollient.

"This new treatment," he said, "reminds me of medicinal torture, and it must be most unpleasant to go into a bath of boiling wax. At this hospital we rely mainly upon hot air baths for cases of rheumatism and gout, and they are fairly successful, though by no means infallible."