

# NEWS OF FOREIGN CAPITALS

## English Troops In Great Numbers to be At The Coronation

(By PHILLIP EVERETT.)  
 London, Feb. 4.—If they are not needed by Mr. Winston Churchill to hunt anarchists in the East End, the presence of a large body of troops will be one of the distinguishing features of the coronation as indeed at every English coronation for the time of Edward the Confessor. Many voices are raised in protest against the prominence which is again to be given to the military, but in spite of these, the army council has now arranged to have the coronation route lined with 60,000 British, Indian and Colonial troops, which are to be encamped in Hyde Park and other open spaces near the city of London.

An important feature of the coronation festivities will be a gala performance at His Majesty's Theatre. This feature has been officially incorporated in the scheme, in accordance with a suggestion made by the late Prince Francis of Teck, of which His Majesty most graciously approved. The entire proceeds of the occasion will be devoted to theatrical charities.

Gen. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, who arrives in London about the end of March and will afterwards go to Kissington, where he will stay for some time before the meeting of the Imperial Conference.

Mr. Verran, the Premier of South Australia, will not attend the coronation owing to pressure of business.

South Australia will be represented by the Agent-General in London.

All the London hotels are looking forward to a record season this summer. The coronation festivities are expected to at least double the usual American tourist traffic. Never have we seen London so full of Americans as last summer, and if their number are to be doubled goodness knows where they will all put up. Over eighty per cent. of these trans-Atlantic visitors are expected to arrive with the hotels and their servants, as they rarely touch liquor and give very poor tips. At the United States Embassy ten times more applications for presentation at court have been made than in former years, but only four persons can be presented.

General Booth informs us that he believes the Salvation Army is on the eve of finding a new way of dealing with criminals willow to reform, and that he is now corresponding with the home secretary, who seems very willing to cooperate with him.

"As far as our actual social operations are concerned," said the General to the other day, "our best efforts are devoted to dealing with questions of unemployment, which just now overshadow everything else."

"They tell me wherever I go that trade is better, but in every town I find a mass of poverty that would make the angels weep. Surely, there must be some means of dealing with these suffering people, these families huddled into single rooms, in miserable tenements and miserable slums."

"My granddaughters, who are cadets in the army, tells me that in her visits in a London suburb she is compelled every day to look on raggedies of hunger and helplessness that would make the stoutest optimist despair."

"The Army has acquired 400 acres of ground near Colchester, cut up into five-acre plots, each with its cottage and I have every hope that the experiment will prove a success."

Undoubtedly the most interesting American woman who has visited England for many years is Mrs. Anna B. Eckstein, who at the last Hague conference presented a petition for international peace signed by five million people.

King George, as well as Queen Alexandra, have both expressed a desire to meet Mrs. Eckstein, whose present mission is on a far larger scale, for it is her ambition to have presented at the next conference a peace petition signed by one hundred million people, a majority of the adult population in the forty-four countries to be represented at the Hague.

Mrs. Eckstein is very optimistic about her great task. "I have been most enthusiastically received everywhere," she told me today. "My object is to impress upon the inhabitants of the world that at the next Hague conference we must expect something definite—something that will lead in a logical way to international peace without involving danger or any nation. We want disarmament to come gradually."

"In the petition we ask that conventions be agreed upon, by virtue of which all nations shall mutually pledge themselves that any change concerning the autonomy and territorial integrity of any nation shall be brought about exclusively by treaties, these treaties to be concluded with the voluntary consent of all nations concerned in any given case."

"Further we ask that all other international interests shall be adjusted, also by treaty as far as possible, and that difficulties which may arise from these other interests, and which are not settled by diplomatic negotiations, shall be referred to an international court of arbitration pledged to respect the guarantee pertaining to the national autonomy and this proposal is far."

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King Manuel of Portugal is finding life at "Abercorn" his new residence in old-fashioned old Richmond, exceedingly dull, and is spending as much time as he possibly can in London, going back and forth in his auto. But he cannot help noticing that the people of the sleepy town seem to have nothing else to do than to keep tab on his movements a fact which annoys him very much.

To tell the truth, the old ladies of Richmond are shocked to see how many nights "the nice young boy," as they called him when he first came, spends away from home. There is no doubt in their minds that he spends most of his time "with play-actresses and such like" and "small wonder is it that his dear mother, who was born in England and got an English education, always looks so sad." It is safe to say that many an old spinster at Richmond daily prays that the Lord will put into the heart of King Manuel to mend his dreadful "continental" ways.

As he is now behaving he is decidedly a disgrace to the God-fearing community of Richmond.

Preparations for the Pageant of London are going ahead, and neither money nor pains are being spared to make its twenty-four scenes both beautiful and accurate. The Pageant is to be one of the principal features of the great festival of Empire to be held at Crystal Palace from May to October. No less than fifteen thousand performers are to take part, and a research committee has been formed to see that the costumes and dresses are correct in every detail. For the last eighteen months a large staff of artists and decorators have been occupied in making copies from old paintings in the museum and private collections of the styles of the different periods; and of the ten thousand costumes required for the Pageant over six thousand are already finished, and the staff of over two hundred is still working practically every night and day to complete the rest.



Mrs. DAVID JAYNE HILL.

Mrs. David Jayne Hill, wife of the American ambassador to Germany, who is fast becoming a social factor in Berlin. At the time of Mr. Hill's appointment, there was considerable opposition manifested, which it is said emanated from the German court, due to the ambassador's plain method of living and his democratic ways. It was claimed that he and his family would not fit in with the dignified social life of the French court.

Time, however, has dispelled this belief. Mrs. Hill now occupies a very prominent social position as compared with that of the wives of many other American diplomats. Her rapidly becoming the principal social assistant largely in her social duties intimate with the Kaiser's daughter.

## The French General Labor Federation Is Now Doomed to Die

(By GEORGE DUFRESNE.)

Paris, Feb. 4.—A victim of its own misdeeds the General Labor Federation of France is doomed. There is no more democratic country in the world than France, no country where the contrast between the rich and poor is so small, no country where public sympathy is so readily extended to the oppressed, and so when the workmen of France decided to organize their forces to improve the wages and conditions of labor, not a single voice was raised in protest. The General Labor Federation was born at a fortunate moment and all good fairies brought gifts to its cradle, but it has cruelly disappointed the expectations of the public. Conscious of its immense power, it has time and again defied the laws of the country crushed all opposition among its own more sensible members, destroyed public property and made its own well-wishers suffer to further its own unreasonable and selfish ends.

When it paralyzed the country's means of communication, when it stopped a railroad and postal service and caused France to lose untold millions, the French people's patience with its former pet came to an end, and when the government announced that it meant to crush the federation, not a voice was raised in its defense.

Now, just as the government is about to bring suit against it, the General Federation of Labor, has received a crushing blow—its talented legal light, Maitre Bonzon, one of the most distinguished lawyers of anti-militarists, strikers, etc., has publicly announced his intention of severing his connection with the federation. "There is a tendency," he says, "to confound the lawyer with his client, and I find that, as defender of the greater part of the members of the federation against whom judicial proceedings are taken, there is a tendency to confound the case with the federation itself, or rather, with the individuals who control it."

This is not to say that Maitre Bonzon has suddenly discovered that he has no sympathy with the aims of the majority of the French working classes. On the contrary he is careful to explain that it is only the purely revolutionary tactics with no definite aim against which he rebels. "Five years of social struggle," he

says, "have convinced me of the dangers and weakness of revolutionary anarchism, but on the contrary of the force for good in revolutionary syndicalism. I believe that France can be transformed, and only syndicalism is capable of rendering society more just, but it must not thwart its own ends and make the whole justice loving, democratic French public its enemy, and this is what the leaders of the General Labor Federation have done."

I have heard an amusing explanation of the Monaco "revolt," which has led to a constitution being drawn up. The Monégasques have no particular desire for a parliament—they are happy folk who have no taxes and no snow—but they want jobs in the Casino. The native-born population is extremely small and extreme in its principal positions of trust in the principality are given to Italians, French and Germans rather than to the natives. The army of one hundred, with five officers, including a colonel, two captains and two lieutenants, is mainly French; the Frenchmen, who have police duties inside the Casino, are also foreign. So are the police proper, for the most part, though amongst the four hundred croupiers are some Monégasques.

It is to be observed that the constitution is dated from Paris, where they since are fond of residing when they are not ocean voyaging. The Casino, of course, runs everything in Monaco and pays a personnel of five thousand. The constitution does not please, but the alternative is French by unrelaxable, apparently, if this tiny territory was eventually sold to France, one wonders whether the roulette would be sanctioned. It is said to attract eight to ten thousand visitors a day, and represents daily in gross receipts \$120,000.

The hospice for the aged at Ivory continues to have Pere Schomel, the centenarian, as one of its inmates. Pere Schomel has been much talked about of late, and as he is now nearly 104 years of age, his memory goes back to things that happened a century ago. His diary from now on might be entitled "Things that I Saw 100 Years Ago." He also has the distinction of being the only person born on the grounds of the then Imperial Chateau of Versailles, who

has lived into this century. His father was one of the keepers of the chateau, and Pere Schomel was born there on August 25, 1807.

Pere says that he remembers the Empress Josephine very well, and also the Empress Marie Louise. Among the anecdotes which he relates with pleasure is that Napoleon one day tapped him on the cheeks and took him up in his arms. When young he learned the tailoring trade, and finally became the regular costumer of a number of actors and actresses, at the Theatre Francaise. He was, as it were, exclusively charged by Talma with making all his costumes, and he was familiar with all the theatrical celebrities of the Second Empire. A few weeks ago Pere Schomel became indisposed, but he has now fully recovered, and still works with the needle at the hospice.

A telegram from Rome states that a new aeroplane has been built, which answers all requirements as regards equilibrium and stability, and will be perfectly safe in gusts of wind. The machine, it is said, cannot be either upset or precipitated to the ground. Even should the engine fail to do its work, landing would be in no way difficult.

Mr. Patrick Mac Swiney, the former papal chamberlain, whose hereditary honors and papal decorations were recently annulled by the pope, threatens, according to the "Vita," to take proceedings against the vatican for the refunding of over \$5,000 when the title was conferred upon him. He will also claim damages, as the annulment was illegal and contrary to the laws of heraldry. I am informed that the vatican will not refund the money, as it does not represent the price of the purchase of the title, but was a spontaneous charitable contribution which is irrevocable. Besides, Mr. MacSwiney, owing to his divorce and remarriage to a German Protestant lady, has practically adjured the Catholic faith, and has thus lost the right to the papal title and decorations, which are liable to annulment at the pope's pleasure.

The vatican believes that Mr. Mac Swiney is not likely to take legal proceedings, since no court can try the case.

## Man Confesses Awful Murder

Berlin, Feb. 4.—A railway navy named Fischer, employed on the line near Manover, has confessed to having murdered Captain von Krosigk at Gumbinnen on January 21, 1901. Fischer, who says that his uneasy conscience had driven him to make this avowal, first confessed to the foreman of the gang in which he worked, and then repeated the statement to the police after arrest.

The Krosigk murder attracted unusual attention at the time owing to the strange circumstances surrounding it. Captain von Krosigk was drilling his squadron in the barrack yard when he was shot through the heart and died immediately. Just outside the wall surrounding the barrack yard a carbine was found from which the shot had been fired through a peephole. The dragoon to whom the carbine belonged could not have been the perpetrator, because at the time of the murder, he was at drill. Three commissioned officers named Martin, Hinkel, and Dornig, were arrested on suspicion, and after a court-martial Martin was acquitted.

Against this acquittal the military prosecutor appealed, and the military court of appeal reversed the verdict and sentenced Marten to death. Marten appealed to the Supreme Military Court of the Empire, which suspended the death sentence, and ordered a new trial. Marten being finally acquitted. The other two, Hinkel and Dornig, were also acquitted. After making his formal confession today, Fischer withdrew it, declaring that he uttered it when intoxicated. He was certainly serving in the dragon regiment stationed at Gumbinnen at the time of the murder, but it is not clear whether his confession is genuine or not.

## Queen Maria Pia Seriously Ill

Rome, Feb. 4.—The health of Queen Maria Pia, who is residing at the Royal Palace, Naples, is causing some apprehension.

The queen has been ailing since her arrival in Italy, shortly after the revolution in Portugal. After spending a month with the king and queen at their castle at San Rossore, she was recommended to go to Naples, where it was hoped that she would benefit by the mild climate.

Her health, however, has not improved, and she is now practically kept to her bedroom.

The doctors declined to assume the responsibility of allowing her to undertake the journey to England, where she has been repeatedly invited by her grandson, King Manuel.

Recently the queen's condition became worse, and the Sovereigns, as well as Queen Barkherita, went to Naples to visit her.

The Duke of Oporto, who only intended to spend the New Year holiday in Naples, has decided to remain by his mother's bedside. King Manuel has not yet visited his grandmother, owing to the difficulties over the Italo Vatican etiquette, for it he visits the king in Rome he will not be received by the Pope, while he cannot visit the Pope and omit to visit the king, who, besides being a near relative of his grandmother would be his host. King Manuel may go to Naples in strict incognito if the queen's illness becomes alarming; meanwhile news of her health is telegraphed to him daily.

## Powers Acknowledge German Superiority In Nation Politics

(By FREDERICK WERNER.)

Berlin, Feb. 4.—As the New Year grows older it becomes evident that the powers of Europe are preparing to acknowledge without further protest the indisputable fact, that the diplomatic skill of the kaiser and his advisers has succeeded in establishing the absolute supremacy of Germany in European politics. The Potsdam meeting between the kaiser and the czar stirred up political activity all over Europe and brought forth violent denunciation of German treachery in France and England, where Germany is always suspected of evil intentions, but even in these two countries the most anxious minds have calmed down and the international political outlook at present is quite bright.

The recent debates in the French chamber of deputies showed in the most striking manner how great has been the suspense in that country since the kaiser invited the czar to discuss the political situation with him at Potsdam, and many statesmen openly asserted, that from that moment the Franco-Russian alliance has ceased to exist. An official explanation, however, was given by the Russian premier, M. Stolypin, to the Matin's St. Petersburg correspondent, which had the desired effect of allaying the fears of the French people, and when the French minister of foreign affairs, M. Pichon, was asked in the chamber by the socialist leader, M. Jaures, as to what happened at Potsdam, the minister was able to reply that Nicholas and Wilhelm had talked only about the Persian question.

M. Pichon's reply was absolutely in accordance with truth, for from the most reliable source I know that neither kaiser nor czar suggested or accepted any proposal directly affecting the present grouping of European powers. Russia remains, as before, the faithful ally of France, but the czar's government reserves the right to look after Russia's own interests outside of Europe without asking the permission of France, and this means first of all the Russian minister of foreign affairs is anxious to avoid any conflict with Germany in Persia. What happens in Persia today is plain enough: The kaiser has forced Russia to plunder that country, to give Germany her share of the plunder. German commercial interests in Bagdad are immense; millions and millions of German capital are tied up in Persian enterprises, and Germany's interests in the greatest of all Persian enterprises, the Bagdad railroad, has several times before caused European diplomats many uneasy hours.

There is not the slightest doubt that the kaiser has accomplished a diplomatic masterpiece at Potsdam, even if he and the czar "only" discussed the Persian question, and French statesmen, who wish Germany no good, are justly dissatisfied with the kaiser's success, which emphasizes their own misfortunes, for French diplomacy has recently suffered many setbacks, and France has not yet forgotten the failure of arranging the Turkish loan in France, and Germany's successful bid for this important piece of business.

After their silent speech of M. Jaures in the chamber, in which he said that even if France had been defeated by Germany forty years ago, there was no reason why it should now be satisfied to pay the political part of a conquered nation, the leading public men of France have calmly expressed their happiness in the knowledge that the Franco-Russian alliance still exists, though silently deploring the fact that Europe's political center of gravity now seems permanently fixed at Wilhelmstrasse.

The part of President Taft's message to the United States congress, which calls for the permanent fortification of the Panama canal at first created quite a stir in the German press, many papers expressing a doubt as to whether America had any right to fortify the canal, as this part of the treaty between the United States and the Republic of Panama of November, 1903, had never been intentionally ratified, but common sense has prevailed here and it is generally admitted that when no protest has been raised during all these years, it is rather late to make a fuss now. The canal will be fortified, and if Germany had paid her good money for its construction, she would undoubtedly now do just what President Taft recommends. Looking at the affair in this light, the German press is satisfied to say nothing more about it.

Satisfied though the German people are with the present foreign policy of the empire, which has made Germany the leading power of Europe, they are anything but content with the domestic politics of the Bethmann-Hollweg regime which are exceedingly reactionary. The government is tied to, what in Germany is called, "the black-blue block" which is literally beating the masses of the people black and blue, imposing upon them nearly half a billion marks in new direct taxes and robbing them of every prospect of a reform of the unjust and clerical laws. The demands of the clerical party are also becoming more and more unbearable and the cries of the people for free import of meat and cattle are never heeded by the government, though meat has become a luxury which only the well to do can afford.

"Who can expect any reforms from Bethmann-Hollweg," said a prominent member of the Reichstag to me yesterday. "It is enough to read the Prussian speech from the throne, which was read in the royal palace not long ago, to see that there is

no hope of any. Not a word about election reform, and the revision of our direct taxation is again postponed. Germany has never seen such a period of reaction during the last sixty years."

When the minister of finance, Dr. Lentze, recently said that the finances of Prussia are sound, he is undoubtedly right, but this is not a fact which is due to the government. The tireless energy of the German people is too great to be crushed, even by the most reactionary government. The German people are always toiling on, always creating new values, taxes on which flow into the Prussian treasury, but the government makes a great mistake if it imagines that the people will continue to submit patiently to all kind of abuses. Every day makes it clearer that a day of reckoning is coming in Germany, when the government will have reason to regret that it refused to listen to even the most reasonable demands of the people, for after that day it will be the German people that dictate and the clericals and the "Junkers" who must submit.

According to intelligence received from the Kirghiz Steppes, from Odessa, and from Manchuria, the plague is spreading rapidly, owing to the helplessness of the authorities to arrest its advance. In Manchuria the deadly malady is carried from place to place by the inhabitants, who are seized with panic on its outbreak, and seek refuge in towns which had been immune, but which are forthwith infected by the refugees.

Moreover, the Chinese obstinately refuse to observe the preventive measures prescribed by the Russian medical authorities, and the two nationalities being at daggers' ends co-operation is impossible. The result is that the plague is advancing steadily towards Europe.

In Odessa there were a couple of months' lull in the plague, and the present outbreak is ascribed by physicians to the plague-stricken rats, which find much more easy access to the houses than in western Europe. An experienced Russian doctor appeals to the authorities to destroy the rats on a large scale, and safeguard the children from their attacks.

An extraordinary order of the day has been issued on the subject by the military sanitary inspector in the Caucasus, who calls upon wizards or sorcerers, some few of whom must, he holds, be at present in the army, to come forward and cast a spell upon the disease-bringing rodents. The military inspector writes: "The hypnotic influence of music, as employed by wizards and witches, should not be pool-hooped. Absolute quiet must prevail in the place where the experiment is to be tried. The rat-catcher must sit down in the middle of the court yard and play on a little pipe sounding high notes. The tunes selected should be monotonous. The wizard should regulate his breathing that he can continue playing for hours. At last he rises to his feet and moves, followed by an endless procession of spellbound rodents. It is very possible that among the soldiers of the Caucasian military district there are such wizards."

Stubbs was feeling his way to the kitchen stove in the dark, when he fell over the coal scuttle. "Oh, John," called Mrs. Stubbs, sweetly, "I know what you need. You should get what they have on bottles." "What's that?" growled Stubbs, as he rubbed his shins. "Why, a range finder." And what Stubbs said about woman's wit was plenty.

The worst thing about the silver lining theory is that you have to turn a cloud inside out to find it.



MRS. WALDORF ASTOR.

Mrs. Waldorf Astor, who with her husband has just returned to London, after several weeks rest at St. Moritz, Switzerland, where they were recuperating from the rigors of the recent election. Mr. Astor and his father, William Waldorf Astor, were both expatriated American, were both elected to the house of commons.



QUEEN MARIA, PIA.

Queen Maria Pia, grandmother of the deposed King Manuel, whose poor health is causing considerable apprehension.

## New Life Saver For Submarine

London, Feb. 4.—A new life-saving helmet for the crew of submarines has been adopted by the admiralty.

It is believed that its use will preserve the men's lives in the event of a submarine being disabled beneath the waves, and will enable them to ascend to the surface of the water. The helmet is large enough to allow the head free movement within it, is sloped away to fit the shoulders, and is continued into a sort of water-proof jacket.

Inside the jacket is a pocket containing a combined purifier and oxygen generator. Two small chambers are charged with a patented substance which, when in contact with the water vapour of the breath, gives off pure oxygen gas and forms a caustic alkali.

The alkali takes up the carbonic acid gas of the expired air, and forms and alkaline carbonate. In this way the same air, purified and re-oxygenated, is used over and over again.

The jacket, which is surrounded by a flexible chamber, can be inflated on reaching the surface, and in this way it forms a life-belt. The apparatus can be put on in thirty seconds without assistance.

Frank had been sent to the hardware store for a thermometer. "Did your mother say what size?" asked the clerk. "Oh," answered Frank, "gimme the biggest one you've got. It's to warm my bed room with."—Success Magazine.

A burned child dreams the fire, but the mother and the flame still seem to get together.

Those who believe in reincarnation would probably object to being called has-beens.

Ted—I hear he's giving a lecture on "How to Live on Fifteen Cents a Day." Is he doing well with it?

Ned—Fine. I met him in a restaurant after the lecture, and he was eating a \$2 dinner.—Puck.