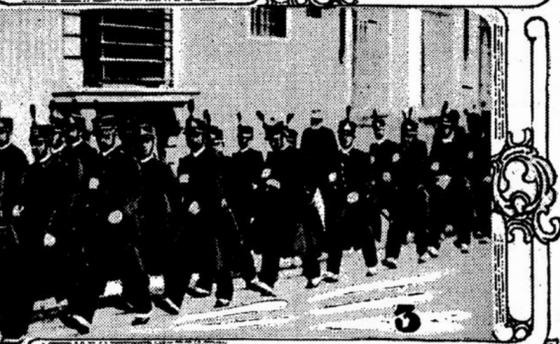
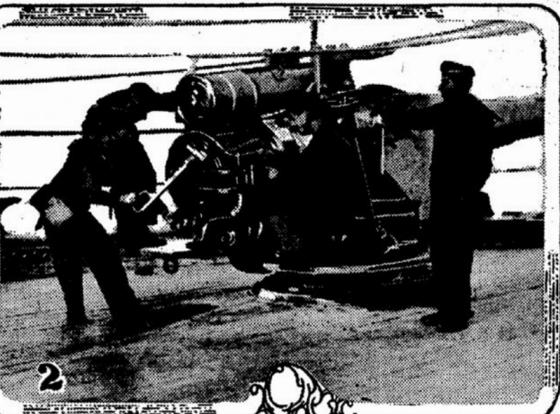


# How Italy Sizes Up In Europe's Mixup



Photos by American Press Association.  
1.—King Victor Emanuel. 2.—Italian gunners on warship. 3.—Officers on parade. 4.—Territory Italy has long wanted.

Hope of Obtaining Ancient Italian Territory of Trient and Trieste, Now Belonging to Austria, Have Long Been a National Aspiration—Her Army and Navy Compare Favorably With Those of Other Powers.

WITH the advent of spring and milder weather the buglers of the contending armies sounded the call to be up and at it. This was the signal for the fighters to creep from their trenches, pause to stretch their limbs, as it were, and rush into the thick of the ever-increasing fury.

Spring, too, has been awaited with anxiety by the world, as this was the time generally accepted by those who should know when the doubtful neutral powers would step into the gory maelstrom.

Bulgaria, Greece, Roumania and Italy, the latter, which by the queer turn of events abroad, has become an all powerful factor, armed to the teeth throughout the winter months. They were prepared to enter on the battlefield with a full force if occasion required it.

**Italy's Unique Position.**

Italy's position has been one of the most extraordinary outcomes of the European embroglio. A member of the triple alliance with Austria and Germany she backed out when Germany declared war, saying she was bound only in case of a defensive war. Her hereditary hatred of Austria overbalanced any written agreements. Since Italy's first rejection of war on the side of Austria and Germany the Italian people have been persistently agitating for the acquisition of Austrian territory, particularly the ancient Italian provinces of Trient and Trieste. The voice of the people seemed to dictate that war on the side of the allies was Italy's opportunity to gain her ends, although the efforts of Von Buelow, the German ambassador, to hold the kingdom in check met with considerable favor among her statesmen.

**3,400,000 Armed Men.**

Italy's power lies both in her army and navy. Her total army war strength is roughly estimated at 3,400,000 men, but of these over 2,000,000 comprise what is known as the territorial militia, which is practically untrained. There are twelve army corps, each district except Rome having two infantry divisions. Rome has three. Recently the corps on the Austrian frontier has been greatly strengthened, and the others since the beginning of hostilities in Europe have been mobilizing to their full war strength.

The organization of Italy's permanent army includes ninety-six regiments of line infantry, twelve regiments of bersaglieri and eight Alpine regiments, in all 389 battalions. There are twenty-nine regiments of cavalry and thirty-six of field artillery. The army also has a regiment of horse artillery, two regiments of mountain artillery, ten regiments of coast artillery, two of fortress artillery and six regiments of engineers. A large battalion of aviators has been organized in the last few years for use in war.

Italy also has a fairly large navy. It comprises twenty-one battleships, ten armored cruisers, thirteen protected cruisers, seventy-seven torpedo boats, about thirty torpedo boat destroyers and about twenty submarines. Incidentally Italy was the first Mediterranean power to begin the construction of battleships of the Dreadnought type. The newest Italian Dreadnoughts, the Andrea Doria and Conte D'Ultono,

have completed their speed and artillery trials.

The completion of the two new vessels brings the number of Italy's Dreadnoughts up to six. The first vessel of this class in the Italian navy was the Dante Alighieri, completed in January, 1913. Four super-Dreadnoughts, carrying fifteen inch guns each, are projected.

**Premobilization Announcement.**

The following premobilization announcement was published in Rome: "The first and second categories of the ten classes from 1886 to 1895 are to be assigned to the first line troops; the third category of the same classes, besides the three categories of the ten classes from 1876 to 1885, are to be assigned to the mobile and territorial militia."

Thus all able-bodied men between the ages of twenty and forty are to be included. Four classes—those of 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895—are now with the colors. The three classes recently trained and sent home are liable to immediate mobilization.

All Italians are liable to military service for nineteen years from the age of twenty. Two years are spent with the colors, six "en conge," four in the mobile militia and seven in the territorial militia. In case of general mobilization the peace strength of 15,172 officers and 289,448 men is increased to a total of 3,433,150 as follows:

Officers	41,892
First line troops	283,448
Second line troops	491,807
Mobile militia	328,601
Territorial militia	2,281,902
Total	3,433,150

The categories of each year's recruits are regulated by family conditions specified by law. Those belonging to the first category pass only one year with the colors, but must pay about \$200 to \$300 annually thereafter for exemption. This privilege ceases in case of a call for general mobilization such as is now imminent in Italy.

**Pictureque Alpine Troops.**

When the armies of Italy are hurled into the great European conflict some of the most interesting and picturesque actors of the world's war stage will take up their parts.

All eyes will be upon the Bersaglieri, with their plumes of cocks' feathers, and the Alpine troops, who march up perpendicular cliffs with more ease than they walk on level ground. And there are the royal carabinieri and the Royal Piedmont regiment of cavalry, both holding celebrated positions among all the fighting forces of the world.

Favorites among them all are the bersaglieri, called "the most picturesque of the corps de'elite of the armies of the world." They are the fleetest infantrymen in the world.

In a peculiar way the great general went about training his men. One of his ideas was to have all the doors secretly locked when the men were in quarters and to have the first dinner bugle sounded. A moment later the second dinner bugle sounded. The men, in obedience to the call, rushed with their pans in their hands to the doors. The doors were all locked, of course.

But the men must get their mess. The orders were to present themselves immediately after the second call, get their rations and return at once to the quarters. There was nothing left to do but make ropes of blankets and sheets and let themselves down from the windows while they held the pans in their teeth. They got their allowance of the usual thick soup and bread. The bread was easy—it went into their pockets—But the soup! There was no other way; they went up as they came down, pans in mouths. Some got back with the most of their soup; some got back with half of it; some got back with the pan wet. But out of 700 men in one trial all but two got back up the improvised ropes.

The bersaglieri have continued to be a national institution. Their traditions of readiness in emergency have not been allowed to die.

No less remarkably trained and no less picturesque are the Alpine troops. The mountains are their homes. Whole regiments have been drilled in all the difficulties of battling above the clouds or on the steep sides of cliffs, where only avalanches are supposed to travel. In the maneuvers are to be seen long files of men, small, looking like flies on the wall of some terrible precipice, dragging inch by inch some big field gun by means of cables and pulleys.

The whole idea of such training is that some day it would be necessary to meet an enemy equally daring and skillful among the dangerous Alpine solitudes. Perhaps that day is now at hand, and the Carnic and Rhetian Alps on the border between Italy and Austria may see battles most strange in comparison with the ordinary aspects of warfare. Here may be aerial battles of another kind, scarcely less thrilling and novel.

**A Celebrated Corps.**

Were it not for these most picturesque parts of the Italian army there would be more cheers for the Royal Piedmont regiment, one of the most celebrated corps, a corps whose favorite maneuvering feat is swimming deep rivers on horseback. Those who have witnessed these maneuvers tell of seeing a prince of the house of Savoy plunge into the river Arno at Florence at the head of his hussars and the entire regiment swim across, each trooper with his arm about his trained charger's neck.

Only a few years ago the Italian soldiers had a taste of real war. In 1906 there was trouble with Emperor Menelik of Abyssinia. Italy had dreamed of a protectorate and a vast African empire. Honorable defeats at the hands of the fierce Abyssinians soon turned into complete disaster. But the Italians came back home with a few lessons which they turned to good account in the brief victorious war with Turkey.

# Baseball Gossip

By "SCORE KEEPER"

**Lajoie to Have Freer Rein.**

While it may be assuming a lot to criticize the batting of so expert a batsman as Larry Lajoie, it is believed in Philadelphia that Connie Mack will change the system under which the big Frenchman worked while with the Cleveland team.

It was a noticeable fact that Lajoie whenever he faced the opposing pitcher with men on the bases would play the hit and run game. It did not take the pitchers very long to wise up to this fact, and as a result Lajoie under such conditions got few balls that he could punish, usually being handed something just out of range which he would be forced to go after because the base runner would be advancing.

Baseball men have always doubted the wisdom of letting Lajoie play this sort of a game for the reason that he is a hard hitter and if allowed to pick his own ball is apt to clear the bases any time he connects.

**Bresnahan Utility Man.**

Roger Bresnahan, manager of the Chicago Cubs, has assigned to himself a job as utility man. "We are allowed to carry only twenty-one men, and so every resource must be made to count," said Bresnahan recently.

**Mack's Wise Move.**

Joe Birmingham, manager of the Naps, thinks Connie Mack made a wise move when he secured Nap Lajoie to plug up the infield gap left by the sale of Eddie Collins. Birmingham declared recently that Lajoie is still a premier ball player, despite his age. "He had a little trouble with his legs last year," said Birmingham, "but, playing between Barry and McInnis this will never be noticed. Larry will be hitting above .300 this year, too, or I miss my guess."

**What Collins Will Do.**

"Eddie Collins is the greatest ball player in the game today, and he'll make the Chicago White Sox one of the best teams in the league this year," said Ban Johnson recently.

"Collins is a wonderful fielder, a great batter and one of the smartest men playing baseball. He'll make Weaver a 25 per cent better shortstop and will make the White Sox feared by every other team."

**Who Got the Fed Money?**

What on earth becomes of the fortunes that the Federals refuse to take back from the repentant jumpers? Whenever a player leaps back to his old club and returns the big bonus

that the Feds advanced him it is solemnly announced that the Federal league "will refuse to accept the money." Ivy Wingo's \$1,000 advance roll has been sent back and refused; therefore another thousand is added to the \$6,000 refused from Walter Johnson, a sum of perhaps \$5,000 refused from Bill Killifer, and various other wads of kale. In all—if you believe these "refuse to take it" statements—there must be \$30,000 floating aimlessly 'round the atmosphere crying aloud, "Come, reap me."

**Will Cobb Again Lead?**

Will Ty Cobb again lead the country in batting? This question is being asked by the fans now that the 1915 season is here. Cobb did not show any signs of falling off in batting last year, but slowed up considerably on the paths, due mostly to increased weight. He has proved himself to be the best



Photo by American Press Association.

**Ty Cobb Waiting For His Turn at Batting Practice.**

batter in the country for several years, but there are many who are willing to wager that he will be topped by some other star this year.

Cobb himself says he will be there with rings on the batting honors and also in the bag pilfering line. True, Cobb did put on considerable weight last season, but during the spring training trip he reduced to such an extent that he is now going to make them go some to approach him in hitting and base running.

# SUBMARINE CABLES.

Placed End to End They Would Reach Halfway to the Moon.

The various governments of the world own together 880 cables, having a total length of 14,480 miles and containing 21,560 miles of conductors. The French government, which takes the lead as to length of cables, has 3,400 miles in fifty-four cables. As to number, the Norwegian government comes first, with 255 cables, having a total length of 248 miles. Finally, as to the length of conductors, the English government comes first, with 5,468 miles of conductors, divided among 115 cables, having a total length of 1,588 miles. Private companies to the number of twenty-eight own 288 cables, having a length of 126,864 miles and containing 127,632 miles of conductors.

The French companies, only two in number—the Compagnie Francaise du Telegraphe de Paris et New York and the Societe Francaise des Telegraphes Sous-Marins—have eighteen cables with a total length of 7,240 nautical miles. The most important of the private companies is the Eastern Telegraph company, which operates seventy-five cables, with a total length of 25,347 miles. The total number of cables in the world is 1,168, with a total length of 140,347 miles and 149,193 miles of conductors. This is not sufficient to reach to the moon, but would extend more than halfway there.—London Tit-Bits.

# GEORGE'S BAD SPELL.

Washington Never Could Learn to Write Some Words Correctly.

Whoever heard that the great George Washington never could learn to spell correctly?

You see, it happened this way. When George was quite a young boy he came across a copy of an English book called the "Young Man's Companion," written in a "plain and easy style," as the title stated, which taught one how to write letters, wills, deeds, to survey, to navigate, to build houses, to make ink and cider, how to doctor the sick and how to conduct oneself in society, "all without the aid of a tutor."

Washington studied this book from cover to cover and from it acquired two qualities that clung to him through life. His handwriting, easy, flowing and legible, was modeled from the engraved "copy" sheet, and certain forms of spelling were learned that he never could correct.

To the end of his life Washington wrote lie, lye, liar, lyar; celling, cieling; oil, oyl, and blue, blew, as in his boyhood he had learned to do from this old book. Struggle as he did in trying to spell as the others of his day did, he never could be sure of certain words.—St. Louis Republic.

# HAITI'S OLD CITADEL.

Only Ruins Remain of Great La Ferriere, Built by Black King.

On the summit of a Haitian mountain over 4,000 feet high stand the wonderful ruins of the great citadel La Ferriere, built by the black king Christophe. Some of the walls are eighty feet high and sixteen feet thick, and heavy batteries of old fifty-six and thirty-two pound guns are still in position. They were laid to guard every approach of what was intended to be the last asylum of Haitian independence. Springs of water still exist in the interior, and there were secret subterranean passages and secret chambers for holding his hoarded wealth, much of which is supposed to be still buried there. Although partly destroyed by the earthquake in 1842, which demolished nearly all of the important buildings in the country, the colossal ruins of the citadel still attest the gigantic work of Christophe, and the world still wonders how the work was done and how the material for the construction and armament was ever got to the top of the mountain. Little authentic information has ever been obtained on the subject, and the whole enterprise is clouded in romance and anecdote.—Argonaut.

# Ambition.

Contented, unambitious people are all very well in their way. They form a neat, useful background for great portraits to be painted against, and they make a respectable if not particularly intelligent audience for the active spirits of the age to play before. But do not, for goodness sake, let them go stinking about, as they are so fond of doing, crying out that they are the true models for the whole species. Why, they are deadheads, the drones, the street crowds that lounge about gaping at those who are working.

They never know the excitement of expectation nor the stern delight of accomplished effort, such as stir the pulse of the man who has objects, hopes and plans. To the ambitious man life is a brilliant game—a game that calls forth all his tact and energy and nerve; a game to be won in the long run by the quick eye and the steady hand and yet having sufficient chance about its working out to give it all the glorious zest of uncertainty.

And if he be defeated he wins the grim joy of fighting; if he loses the race he at least had a run. Better to work and fall than to sleep one's life away.—Jerome K. Jerome.

# Sarcasm.

"You can't stand on the step," warned the conductor, mindful of the safety first campaign.

"It's all right. He ain't on the step," proclaimed another patron; "he's riding on my foot."—Buffalo Express.

# Where It Falls.

"Dobson's humor is quite original." "Yes, that is its greatest fault."—Boston Transcript.

# The Sunday School Lesson

SENIOR BEREAN.

Golden Text.—Love your enemies; do good to them that hate you (Luke vi, 27).

The Lesson Explained. Verses 5-8.—A secret visit.

Saul was resolved not to let David alone and followed him to the wilderness of Ziph, on the west of the Dead sea. David had established himself in the rock fortress of Engedi, which means "the fountain of the wild goat," suggestive of the wild gorges and deep ravines which abounded in this country. It was evident that Saul and his army of 3,000 men had little chance against David and his few footed and alert men. There were also numerous caverns in this region, and at nightfall Saul entered one which happened to be tenanted by David and some of his men. While the king was resting here David stole toward him and cut off a piece from his trailing robe. As soon as the king left this cave David came out and called to him and remonstrated with him in a truly noble spirit. He reminded Saul of the gross injustice which was being meted out to him. He pleaded his innocence, in proof of which he pointed to the piece from his robe that had just been cut. He asked the king why he should so humiliate himself as to come after so insignificant a person as himself, and he finally appealed to God in vindication of his equity. This speech had a wonderful effect on Saul, who broke out into weeping and confessed that he was guilty of wrongdoing. But this was a case of mere emotionalism. Not long after this incident Saul was again found encamped against David.

"Where Saul had pitched," David was familiar with all this country, and he was able to observe the operations of his enemy without being himself observed. He saw that the king was lying down "in the trench" "within the place of the wagons." This was an intrenchment built up temporarily by the transport wagons. With him was "Abner, \* \* \* the captain of his host," while around "the people pitched."

Like Gideon of old, David planned a night visit to this camp. He was accompanied by "Abishai, the son of Zeruiah," his sister. This nephew of David, together with his brothers, "Joab" and "Asahel," was to figure prominently in the later history of David. "His spear stuck in the ground." This is still regarded as a sign among the Bedouins to distinguish the sheik's tent; with Saul it signified his regal authority.

ty. They were all fast asleep in camp, and Abishai, full of the lust of blood, besought David to permit him to "smite" Saul, assured that so fatal would be this first blow that it would be unnecessary to strike "the second time."

Verses 9-12.—An act of restraint. David interpreted his opportunity in a different way. In spite of his association with daring outlaws, whose acknowledged chieftain he had become, there was no personal enmity in his heart. In spite of the wreck that Saul had made of himself, David could not forget that he was "the Lord's anointed," and as long as he was in office it behooved him to show reverence to the chosen king. He also had sufficient faith in God not to presume upon the divine prerogatives and functions. "The Lord shall smite him"—by some sudden stroke, as came on Nabal (chapter xxv, 38), or by natural death, or he may fall in battle, which last actually happened. "At his bolster" The spear that was at the head of Saul was, however, taken away and also "the cruse of water," and with these trophies David and his companion left the camp of Saul. In the "deep sleep" that had fallen on every one he saw the hand of Jehovah in his behalf.

Verses 13-16.—A charge of negligence. As soon as David had crossed over to his side he awoke the camp of Saul with his clear, resonant voice. "Stood on the top of a hill afar off." From this position he could be seen and heard. There is a note of sarcasm and irony in the words which were addressed "to the people and to Abner." The captain was indignant to be wakened out of a sound sleep, but we can imagine his humiliation when David taunted him with criminal carelessness, "because ye have not kept your master." To prove that he was not merely indulging in talk he asked him to look for the "king's spear" and "the cruse of water." The better nature again woke within Saul when he heard the familiar voice of David, who again expostulated with the king. Saul confessed that he was guilty of folly and had treated him in a disgraceful and dishonorable manner. But the tears of remorse were superficial, for, in spite of his promises, Saul had clearly proved himself incapable of keeping his word. Thus ended the unseemly persecution of David by Saul, who not only confessed his errors, but also commended David, declaring that for him was a brilliant future which would become the more exceeding bright after his own sad sunset.