

A BILLION DOLLARS FOR DREADNOUGHTS

Huge Sums the Great Powers Are Spending for Great Battleships.

WORRY OVER THE COST

England Would Like to Make an Agreement to Limit Naval Armaments.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—At present the great powers are in a fever of naval construction and preparation.

Mr. Churchill need not have limited his observation to Europe, for Japan is reported to have arranged a comprehensive programme for increasing her fleet.

Japan finds cause for dissatisfaction and worry in the knowledge that her alliance with England is not to apply whenever a nation with which England has an arbitration treaty incurs Japanese enmity.

Three years ago, during the lifetime of the present British Ministry, the German naval administration furnished the Admiralty here with figures of the amounts it intended to expend in 1909 on new vessels.

The Admiralty was confused. It met the situation by asking Parliament for four battleships with additional authority to build four more if the reports at variance with the German official communications proved to be correct.

Germany showed deep resentment at this display of British suspicion. It was announced that the exchange of figures would be resumed, but it is said that there was no such exchange last autumn.

Recent events have indicated that England will welcome some arrangement among the powers for a limitation of naval armaments.

Germany's original programme for the immediate future contemplated the construction of eighteen dreadnoughts and a large number of smaller vessels in six years.

She has nine dreadnoughts ready, five launched and seven on the ways, and to this total of twenty-one must be added the fifteen or eighteen to be constructed, making thirty-six or thirty-nine that will be comprised in the fleet along about 1920.

The future programme, including this year's construction, has not been announced, and its scope will depend on what other nations, and particularly Germany, intend to do.

The United States has six dreadnoughts, with two more launched, four under way and two additions to be laid down at Keel.

Russia has no dreadnoughts in commission, but four have been launched, three are under way and it is reported that four more are to be authorized in 1912.

According to statements printed in Tokio but not officially confirmed by the Minister of Marine to the Budget Committee, the irreducible minimum of naval expansion was eight battleships of the super-dreadnought class and eight armored cruisers of the same class, which would be started in 1913 and completed in 1920.

Even Brazil has two dreadnoughts, with one under construction. The Argentine Republic has launched two.

France has none completed but four are under construction, two of them having been launched, and three more are contemplated. But France, once an energetic builder of ships of war, has fallen behind lately and unless there is a decided increase in her construction her fleet will become virtually obsolete.

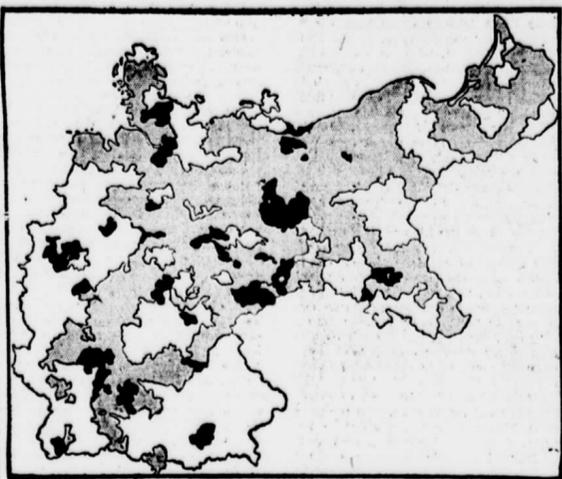
Italy with three dreadnoughts launched, one laid down and two contemplated has made a good start toward a dreadnought fleet in being. Austria has three building and one in prospect. Spain has three under construction. Turkey has one building and plans another.

Flummung Russia's problematical increase and any new dreadnought that may be authorized by the Congress in Washington, there are just 100 dreadnoughts built or building for the great and other nations of the world with fourteen or fifteen others in contemplation.

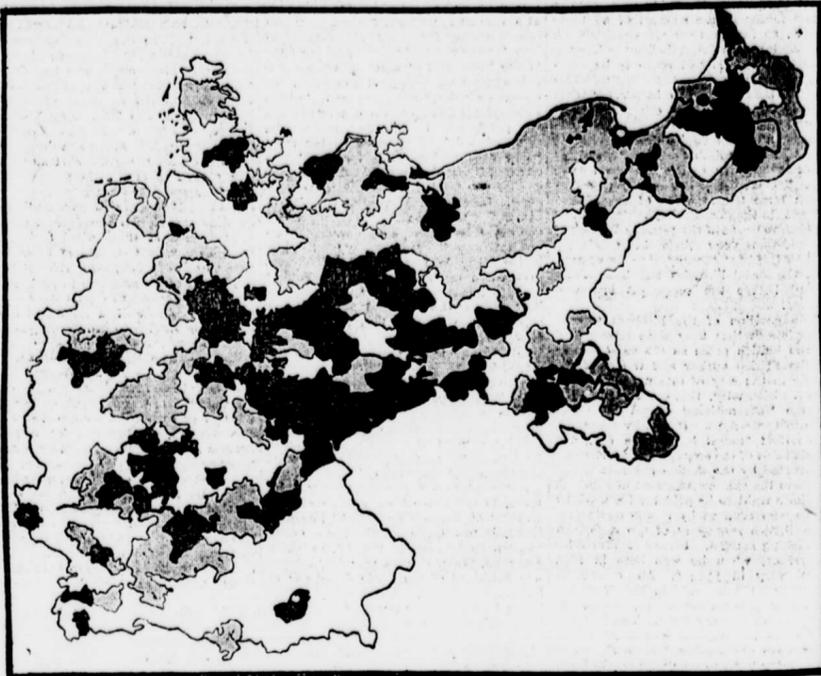
They are afraid to lag in the race to keep abreast of present tendencies but murmurings from those who feel the weight of increased taxation and the burdening to be heard and there can be hardly any doubt that if suspicion of one another were not rampant a proposal to limit naval armaments would be welcomed joyously.

As far as England and Germany are concerned the suggestion that they agree to a limitation of armaments is beset by the embarrassment of differences in the estimates obtained by each of the countries for a proportionate limitation of naval construction.

Gains of Socialism in Germany at the Recent Election.



ELECTORAL MAP BEFORE THE JANUARY ELECTION. The areas for which Socialist members of the Reichstag were returned are in black, those held by the Catholic Centre party are white and those represented by the other parties are tinted.



ELECTORAL MAP AFTER THE JANUARY ELECTION.

RED CROSS SHIP FOR THE BRITISH NAVY

Plans Drawn Up for a Floating Hospital Which Will Cost \$500,000.

READY FOR WAR OR PEACE

To Be Completely Equipped With Operating Rooms and Other Surgical Needs.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The British Admiralty has now had complete plans drawn up for a specially built navy hospital ship, which is to be ready in June, 1913.

Before this all hospital ships have been merely merchant ships converted and have consequently suffered from inevitable defects. The new vessel will have accommodation for 350 patients in war and 200 in peace and a permanent staff of eight medical officers and forty male nurses.

Other Gibson girls who left Seymour Hicks to get married were Miss Gates to Baron von Dittion, Miss Hilda Harris to Mr. Drummond of Drummond's Bank, Miss Barbara Deane to Basil Loder, a member of a family closely connected with several noble houses.

There will be two large operating rooms with two extensive preparation rooms adjoining, a special ophthalmic dark room, a dental room, a special laboratory for bacteriological tests, an elaborately fitted X-ray room, isolating wards and a magnificently equipped dispensary.

Consul Griffiths' Protest Against the Kind of American News Printed in English Papers.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—John L. Griffiths, United States Consul-General in London, made a speech at an authors' club dinner this week in which he appealed to London newspapers to print fewer horrors and more real news of a higher character from America.

Mr. Griffiths brought laughter when he said he thought there was no way in which to control the press. It reminded him of the Welsh minister who described the devil to a little congregation in a remote Welsh valley.

Hammerstein's Easy Money. The First He Got in England, and His Luck May Have Changed.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—There was an exciting sprint in the lobby of the London Opera House the other night in which Oscar Hammerstein and four of his managers participated.

His cigar, which had been drooping with the bad weather sign, was hoisted to the "everything fine and lovely" attitude for the rest of the evening.

A short time before this incident Mr. Hammerstein asked his stage manager, Signor Cini, "What would you do if you had all the money I have lost in London?"

Cini thought for a moment and answered: "Why, Mr. Hammerstein, I would go to some little place in Italy and live comfortably the rest of my life."

Oscar's eyes flashed. "Little place," he snapped. "Why, if you had all the money I have lost you wouldn't need to go to a small place; you could go to a big place; yes, and buy a few automobiles as well."

ANOTHER STAGE BRIDE.

Pearl Anfrede the Latest London Dancer to Find a Husband of Social Rank.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—Pearl Anfrede, one of the young women who dance in "The Quaker Girl" at the Adelphi, has made a slight variation in the course usually pursued by members of George Edwards's company when they become engaged.

Miss Anfrede's first appearance on the stage was in the "Gay Gordons" with Seymour Hicks. In the "Gay Gordons" there was a troupe of "Gibson Girls" among whom the matronly mien of the bride was conspicuous.

Other Gibson girls who left Seymour Hicks to get married were Miss Gates to Baron von Dittion, Miss Hilda Harris to Mr. Drummond of Drummond's Bank, Miss Barbara Deane to Basil Loder.

Miss Kathleen Dawn to Mr. Harding, a ward of the Duke of Portland; Miss Eva Hillis to Mr. Smithson, Miss May Kennedy to Peter Kelly, and Miss Christina Humphries to Mr. Anderson.

The cot will be made to swing with the motion of the ship. Ten of the beds will be specially constructed with firmer bottoms and somewhat larger than the others for the use of patients with fractured thighs and other injuries which require a specially stable bed.

She will be painted white outside and mostly green inside, with one yellow funnel. Her flags will be the red cross and the blue ensign, with the Union Jack.

She will travel with the fleets to various seas in peace and war, as the Maine does now, making frequent journeys to the naval bases to disembark patients.

Before the plans were drawn up the Admiralty considered the reports of medical officers who specially visited the United States hospital ship Solace and the two Japanese hospital ships which went through the Russo-Japanese war.

NEW BISMARCK STORIES.

Early Letters Tell of His Ambition to Enter the Diplomatic Service.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—Some interesting traits in Bismarck's character are brought to light in a volume of his correspondence with Gustavus Scharlach, which has just been published.

Scharlach was Bismarck's companion at the University of Göttingen. Leaving the university a term before Bismarck, he began a correspondence with him which lasted with more or less regularity for a long time.

In another letter he writes: "If in ten years time you come to see me I invite you in advance to drink as much potato spirit as you wish and to break your neck hunting the hounds as often as you like."

While awaiting the results of the various examinations Bismarck wrote in June, 1837, referring somewhat bitterly to the red tape delays:

"I doubt," he said, "if the most perfect fulfillment of my desires, the longest title, the greatest decoration in Germany, the most dazzling honor, will compensate me for such an existence."

BANDITS RAID AND KILL IN SALONICA

Conditions There Described as Worse Than in Abdul Hamid's Day.

MURDERS IN MONASTERIES

Lot of the Macedonian Peasant—Venue of Outlaws—Officials Killed.

SALONICA, Feb. 2.—Trustworthy news received in Salonica through various channels shows that the situation in the interior is worse than it ever was in Abdul Hamid's day.

While a Bulgarian wedding was being celebrated in the village of Snylar, Strumitza, a band of eleven Bulgars swept down on the assembly and seized three individuals named Janas, Nicola and Elias.

Two Turkish officers and two privates proceeding from Polygore to Salonica fell into an ambush prepared by brigands. One soldier was killed and the band then escaped.

Passing through the woods at Krungel, Voden, a group of soldiers discovered the mutilated bodies of three individuals who had been assassinated.

While the Christian inhabitants of the village of Rehleva (Carafaria) were assembled in church unknown assassins entered the house of a certain Nachko and killed his two daughters, aged 8 and 13 years, with hatchets.

Two Greeks, Vano and Dano, meeting the Mayor of Valchik village on the highway, shot him dead.

Twelve gendarmes, recruited from among the Muselman Bosnian immigrants in the village of Troce, visited the village of Pousderis during the night and killed the Mayor and his wife.

Returning home with their mules laden with merchandise, two Bulgarians, Smiloff and Georgioff, were carried off by a Turkish band. All trace of them has been lost.

A military detachment of sixteen men entered the village of Sondryk and commenced to pillage the houses. Many villagers who resisted were nearly beaten to death.

Following the discovery and extermination of Mitchell Stamen and his band many acts of savagery have been committed in order, if possible, to punish the individual who gave the information as to the brigand's whereabouts.

A band some twenty-five strong entered the monastery of Guriche and having seized and bound Alexi, the superior; Kala, his mother, aged 90, and nine other persons, mostly over 80 years of age, dragged them to the chapel and there assassinated them.

The family drove him out through another window and he again cut himself. Then he ran across to Ward street pursued by several boys and was finally run over in a yard on Squire street.

The damage to the Griswold parlor and windows will amount to about \$50. The only redress the family has is an appeal to the next Legislature or some succeeding one.

ANCIENT ETRUSCAN TEXTS DECIPHERED

Prof. Martha Believes He Has the Key to a Long Lost Language.

MORE INSCRIPTIONS READ

French Scholar's Solution of a Mystery That Has Long Puzzled Science.

PARIS, Feb. 15.—Prof. Martha, who believes he has succeeded after twenty-five years' study in finding the key to the Etruscan language, which has so long been a mystery, has read a second paper before the French Academy of Inscriptions, giving further translations from inscriptions found on vases, tombstones, votive offerings and linen rolls.

Two inscriptions from drinking bowls are evidently slightly varying versions of a stock sentiment for such use. "This wine is the best method of wearing out grief," and "The way to wear out grief is to drink."

An epitaph runs: "For Tite Cale. The little boy is full of strength. Five days pass. He is shut up asbes. The little murmur of his chatter is done."

On a votive offering, presumably of a lovedick maiden who is alighted, is this inscription: "Here is the great lamentation of the wretched Athonia; Aule, the son of Nuna, is in question."

On one of the finest vaults in Etruria the inscription runs: "This is a tomb. My regretted master has appeared to me. The time has come, he said, for confirming the promise of freedom. Build [a tomb] here for the offspring of Aule Precu, son of Larthi, and for the son of Costna and Larthi and you shall be freed, oh slave of Precu. Do not work by halves that the rounded arch may be truly solid."

The longest text that Prof. Martha has translated has a curious history. It is preserved in the Museum of Agrigento, Sicily, which is a book of prayers and propitiatory ceremonies, with the sailors' responses, for use at the commencement of a voyage.

"The departure being due," the sailor is advised, "strike with a mallet so as to assure yourself the sides hold and the pitch covering protects the planks. Then shall the priest pray aloud:

"Be our protector, O Sea! Be bright and calm despite the wind, the thunder and the lightning! And the sailor shall repeat these words in chorus.

"Then wait. If the noise that comes from far in the direction of Jupiter is fairly long lasting it is good; if there is a short, loud crash it is bad."

The chorus is repeated and there is another prayer. If there is a violent crash it is because the movement of the head and the calm closing of the eyes have been deficient. That is, the sailors have not prayed with sufficient fervor or in accordance with the rites.

At the end of the ritual technical advice and religious prescriptions are curiously intermingled:

"Cry aloud," the priest tells the sailors: "Cry, O Supreme Power, be favorable! If the omen is bad it means that there are cracks and the vessel is not watertight. Then ask in a loud voice:

"What is lacking? Is not the framework properly free from cracks?"

"Reply: 'Properly.'"

"Is it not free from cracks completely?"

"After these words and as a reply make a gesture signifying powerlessness with the hand and say: 'O Priest! look, it is completely free of cracks and it is perfectly watertight.'"

Then the priest says: "Well, then, start!"

The ritual enjoins that these questions must be repeated at least twenty times, as the rotting of wood, the cracking of the timbers and the rapid disappearance of the pitch are due to failure to offer prayers correctly, so that men should pray often and in accordance with the proper ritual.

The Academy of Inscriptions followed with intense interest this resurrection of a language that was believed to be beyond recovery. Suetonius, Strabo, Festus and Varro have given the equivalents for some eighteen words borrowed from the Etruscan, and M. Theodore Reinach asked Prof. Martha if he had compared these words with the languages, those of Finland, Lapland and Hungary, wherein he had found Etruscan roots.

M. Martha replied that he had for some but not for all, and he quoted some names of objects, tools and figures, notably the figure 5, which showed the relationship.

M. Breal then congratulated M. Martha on the success that had crowned twenty-five years' difficult work and suggested that the opinions of scholars of the north of Europe and of Budapest should be obtained.

M. Martha's claims to have solved what was considered an insoluble mystery will doubtless not be admitted without questioning. His methods of investigation are open to all inquirers so that they can follow his deductions step by step. He is a calm, quiet worker and said nothing about his efforts until he was convinced that they had resulted in success.

Rule for Chess Players. A proposed rule in the chess match between Messrs. Lasker and Capablanca provides that if a player shall not interfere with the play of any game on the ground that it is the business of the players to train themselves that their bodies shall be in perfect condition, and it is their duty, which by this rule is enforced, to study their health and live accordingly.



AMBULANCES IN THE ABOR COUNTRY IN INDIA. Soldiers wounded in the recent British punitive expedition carried in baskets under Red Cross supervision.

Wild Deer Springs Through Parlor Window

From the Hartford Times. A small wild deer came to an untimely end early this afternoon following severe injuries sustained when the animal jumped through the parlor window at the home of W. Griswold, Jefferson street.

The little deer appeared on Jefferson street about 12 o'clock. No one knows whence he came. He became frightened and jumped through the window at Mr. Griswold's house.

The family drove him out through another window and he again cut himself. Then he ran across to Ward street pursued by several boys and was finally run over in a yard on Squire street.

To Stock Lakes With Frogs.

From the St. Paul Dispatch. The Department of Commerce and Labor of the United States will make an investigation of the possibilities of the frog industry, according to a letter received yesterday by George H. Hazard, Interstate Park Commissioner.

The letter was in answer to Mr. Hazard's letter asking that the Department stock some of the inland lakes with frogs.

The Commissioner of Fisheries declares that he has no objection under consideration for some time. He believes there are opportunities in the industry.