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progress was slow. He saw, however, the possibilities of the great exposition to open in London in 1851 and decided to take advantage of it. He had made important discoveries in the casting of large masses of Bessemer steel, which had been an insurmountable task previous to his time. The exhibit he sent to the London exposition fairly astonished the world, being a block weighing 45 German quintals. It at once established his reputation.

The making of heavy ordnance, which has made the name of Krupp famous the world over, was at first not a prominent part of the business. But soon general foundry work and the making of small arms began to take second place at Essen, as heavy steel siege guns and armor plate demanded more and more attention. During the past half century Krupp ordnance has roared all over the world. The huge guns with which the Germans poured shells into Paris during the siege were made at Essen. Some of the guns that fired at Dewey's squadron at Manila came from there. All European nations purchased guns there, France alone excepted, for since the Franco-Prussian war the Krupps have refused to make guns for that nation.

As the business grew collateral industries developed, and Essen, which had been a tiny village, expanded into a large city. Statistics published for the past year show that the firm employed nearly 70,000 officials, clerks and workmen. The coal and coke consumption for the year amounted to 2,491,406 tons. The number of steam engines in the plant was 569. The firm has its own enormous electrical works and gas works and maintains an independent telegraph and telephone system with upwards of 400 stations. The cast steel works alone required 87 miles of railway, 52 locomotives and about 3,000 cars. In the development of its industry the firm has bought its own coal mines, coke ovens, iron mines, steamships and railroads.

Alfred Krupp died in 1887 and was succeeded in command of the works by his son, Friedrich A. Krupp. Under the latter's management the works continued to prosper and expand. At the time of his death in 1902 he was by far the richest man in Germany. He left the bulk of his wealth, including the great steel and gun works at Essen, the shipyards at Kiel, the gun and armor works at Magedburg and the coal and iron mines, to his daughter, Bertha, who in 1906 was married to Herr von Bohnen and Halbach, who has since taken a prominent part in the management of the great concern. Frau Bertha von Bohnen and Halbach is popularly called the Empress of Essen—the richest woman in the world—the most powerful.

Though today was the centennial anniversary of the birth of Alfred Krupp, whose discovery laid the foundation for the tremendous business that has since developed under the family name, there was no observance of the day, as it has been decided to combine the celebration with that of the centenary of the Krupp works. The dual celebration will take place at Essen next August and will be attended by the kaiser at the head of a brilliant galaxy of his fellow-German sovereigns, officers of the army and navy, and civic dignitaries. Distinguished representatives of the iron and steel industry in all parts of the world will be present. Special invitations are to be sent to Andrew Carnegie and Charles M. Schwab asking them to head the delegation from the United States.

A feature of the festivities will be a series of sham battles. Men armed with weapons of the era of Emperor Maximilian I will make such headway as they can against an army equipped with modern rifles and artillery. The emperor and other royal guests will be entertained during the celebration at the Villa Hugel, the magnificent country house of "Frau Bertha," just outside Essen.

Louisiana Bankers in Session.

Covington, La., April 26.—A large and representative gathering of bankers and business men marked the opening here today of the annual convention of the Louisiana State Bankers' association. The program for the meeting covers two days and provides for addresses by several bankers of wide reputation and the discussion of numerous questions relating to banking and finance.

Joe Jeanette, who is in Paris, says he will return home at once if there is any chance for him to arrange a fight with Champion Jack Johnson.

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ANNIVERSARY OF KRUPP NEAR

STORY OF ORDNANCE MAKER IS THRILLING ONE.

Rise of Poor Inventor to Man of Wealth and Power His Story in Life.

Berlin, April 26.—Today marked the centennial anniversary of the birth of Alfred Krupp who, while he was not the actual founder of the great Krupp gun works, was the one who gave the works their international character and at the time of his death was Germany's greatest manufacturer. The father of Alfred Krupp was a small blacksmith at Essen. Alfred inherited the family iron forge, employing three men, and which had been in operation since 1810, and he at once set about enlarging the business, but had no money or powerful friends, and his