

## SUICIDE INCREASES IN RUSSIAN ARMY

Long Periods of Service in Isolated Districts Held Partially Responsible.

### OFFICERS AFFECTED ALSO

Prolongation of Term of Service to Three Years and One-Half Not Regarded as Apt to Lighten Homesickness.

**ST. PETERSBURG, May 30.—(Special)**—The "Razvedchik," the semi-official organ of the Russian army, published some startling figures about the extent of the suicide mania among Russian troops, quoting a report recently presented to a Moscow learned society by a well-known military surgeon, Dr. Prozoroff. It appears that in 1905 no fewer than 1,410 cases of suicides occurred in the Russian army. In the following year the number rose to 192. Since then it steadily kept on growing, being 210 in 1907, 242 in 1908, 282 in 1909, 265 in 1910, 341 in 1911 and 465 in 1912. With such figures there, therefore, the number of suicides increased about 150 per cent.

The figures for 1912 have not been published, but according to Dr. Prozoroff, the first eight months of the year show a still greater rate of suicide, 189 cases of attempts at suicide. That the mania is not confined to common soldiers is shown by the fact that out of the 377 cases of suicide just mentioned 72 occurred among officers.

German papers point out the conditions in the German army are also grave enough. It has recently been calculated that since 1870 the total number of suicides in the German army has amounted to 10,439, which makes about 140 cases a year. In addition there yearly occurs on an average in the German army from 130 to 150 attempts at suicide. Nevertheless the figures of the Russian army are considerably higher and, what is more important, they exhibit an unmistakable tendency to rise, whereas the German figures are declining steadily.

It is pointed out that a large portion of the troops are stationed in desolate places in Central Asia or Siberia. In the same direction the general rule to draft the recruits for service in other localities than those in which they are raised, so that a soldier from Little Russia often finds himself compelled to live three years amidst all surroundings in Poland, where language even is unknown to him, and a soldier from Poland has to pass the most impressionable years of his life, say, in the Caucasus or the wild solitude of the Czar's forests.

Again it is considered that the prolongation of the term of military service to three years and a half is not likely to afford relief to the depressed spirits of those who are inclined to get after their homes.

### OLD MASTERPIECE FOUND

Restoration Reveals Signature of Painter Under Outer Coat.

**VIENNA, May 30.**—The Lemberg Journal says that a genuine Titan has been found in a coat in a gallery belonging to Count Ossolinski. The portrait represents an elderly nobleman in a fur mantle. The face is in an excellent state of preservation, and gives the impression of a master hand at the first glance.

The remainder of the picture, however, has been painted over by several places by an incapable person. The picture was dispatched to the Vienna Art Academy to be restored at the request of a high Polish aristocrat.

During the recent visit of the tyro to the studio discovered Titan's "Titianus I" underneath a superficial coating of paint. The portrait is of Don Giovanni de Castro, dates from the year 1516, and is described as a magnificently beautiful specimen of the master's work.

### UNITED EMPIRE IS DREAM

Fight Against Home Rule Weakens Nation, Says Loyal Englishman.

**LONDON, May 30.—(Special)**—Rev. Father Vaughan, answering a question as to what he thought of the prospects of the home rule bill, said: "I am not a follower of politics, but an observer of men, and the only thing I can say in answer to this question is that having traveled over the world for the last two years, I, as an Englishman, loyal and true to King and Country, am satisfied that those who are conspiring in the rejection of home rule are busying themselves in weakening the foundations of the empire, not merely near home, but even in our far-reaching dominions. In Australia, Canada, India and South Africa."

"This is what we have not now—an empire with every section of it united in a federation of Christian friendship."

### LARGE POWERS ARE GIVEN

Authorities Under Bill, May Prohibit Use or Sale of Absinthe.

**BERLIN, May 30.**—The government's new licensing bill, now before the Reichstag for action, contains an interesting paragraph of which no notice has been taken until now. It gives the licensing authorities the power to restrict or to forbid entirely the use of absinthe in any of its forms.

This far absinthe has never become popular in Germany, and there has been no occasion to regulate its production and sale, but the authorities desire to have a weapon against the possible extended introduction. It is reported that the Reichstag will accept the bill, and thus far there have been no protests from the liquor trade against any of its provisions.

### DRASTIC LAWS OPPOSED

Two Sections of Members Leave Council When Party Passes Act.

**JOHANNESBURG, May 30.—(Special)**—A situation which is believed to be unique in the British colonial part of the Transvaal Provincial Council, when the members of the government and Dutch opposition left the house in body in protest against the action of the party in forcing through legislation declared to be too drastic by the law officers of the Crown.

The Labor members remained and passed the legislation in question which deprives the government of nearly all its powers.

GREAT BRITAIN'S FOREMOST LIVING ACTORS SNAPPED WHILE ASTROLL IN LONDON PARK.



LEFT TO RIGHT—SIR HERBERT TREE AND SIR GEORGE ALEXANDER.

A rather unusual photograph was caught recently of the two greatest living actors of Great Britain—Sir Herbert Tree and Sir George Alexander—as they appear in private life, without the tinsel and glare of the stage. The photograph was made just as the two foremost Thespian exponents were recently leaving Tandridge Church, London, and entering a park.

## JAPAN URGES PEACE

Envoy Sent to Remove Prejudice of Australia.

### WAR RUMORS ARE DENIED

Peasants Invent Novel Methods in Transferring Property Title.

**GENEVA, May 30.**—In the Canton of Argovie a strange custom exists in the selling and buying of horses among the peasants, who delight in outvying each other in discovering original methods.

A few days ago, at the village of Sulz, a peasant bought a horse from another at the rate of \$200,000 a mile. The buyer thought he had a bargain, but was soon undeceived by a veterinary surgeon, from nose to tail, the price worked out at \$470—about \$150 more than it was worth.

A lawsuit followed, but on the suggestion of the judge an arrangement was reached out of court.

messages over certain towns. The weather was wet and stormy, but each squadron reached Doberitz intact.

The best flight was made by the Cologne officers, who reached Doberitz after a flight of 100 miles from Cologne, having made an average of 103 miles an hour. The Cologne pilots had the wind with them most of the way, while those from some other parts of the country had a hard struggle against wind and rain.

The military authorities are extremely pleased with the results achieved.

### HORSE BOUGHT BY MILE

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### GAME PRESERVATION AIM

Russian Minister Proposes to Utilize Forests of Kuban.

**ST. PETERSBURG, May 30.—(Special)**—M. Kasso, Russian Minister of Education, has brought forward a scheme for the preservation of the rarer kinds of game, such as the bison and ibex.

He proposes to appropriate state forests covering an area of over \$50,000 acres in the province of Kuban in the north of the empire to form a park where the animals would be allowed to run absolutely wild.

The building of towns or villages would be forbidden, and neither farmer nor mining operations would be allowed.

### ARMORED AIRSHIPS BUILT

Steel Shield Protects Two-Seated Bi-planes to Be Tested Soon.

**PARIS, May 30.**—Six armored aero-

plans will undertake their official trials soon at the camp of Mally before a military committee. It is expected that they are the only machines so far which have come up to the preliminary qualifications imposed by the authorities.

They are two-seated biplanes, and the place where the pilot and passenger sit is surrounded by a steel shield.

The Pacific side, as the name indicates, is the one of the world where the question of nationalities or continents, where it might be decided whether Asiatics or Europeans should be the destinies of the world.

The feeling of antagonism of which the Japanese complain is not confined to Australia and New Zealand.

England, visiting those dominions infected with it. General Sir Ian Hamilton, Inspector-General of Overseas Forces, who is paying an official visit to the Antipodes, referred to it in a speech he delivered at Wellington, New Zealand.

As regards the question why extraordinary precautions were being taken in Australia and New Zealand, he said it was because of the shortening of distances caused by the advent of electricity and aeroplanes and of high speed.

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Other reasons, no less obvious, were the place where the pilot and passenger sit is surrounded by a steel shield.

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