

### EMPERESS'S POWER IN ROYAL CIRCLES

#### Kaiserin, Handsome at 54, Wins Admiration for Her Many Charitable Deeds.

### POLITICAL TOPICS SPURNED

#### Although Sometimes Referred to as Being Haughty and Unbending, Mistress Has Respect of German Populace.

BY ARTHUR N. DAVIS.

(Dentist to the Kaiser for 14 years.) Although I had frequently seen the Kaiserin in the company of the Kaiser, I did not actually meet her until she became my patient in 1912, from which time on she visited me more or less regularly.

Because of the influence the Empress may possibly exert on the Kaiser's views, it may be not out of place to record here some of the impressions I was able to form of her in the course of my relations with her, although I do not believe her opinions carried very much weight with the Kaiser.

Without going deeply into her history, it may be sufficient to recall that when the Kaiser married her in 1881, she was the Princess Victoria, of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Augustenburg. She was a year older than her husband. It was said that the marriage was arranged not only to conciliate the province of Schleswig-Holstein, which had been filched from Denmark in 1864 and was hated more particularly, than the province of Alsace-Lorraine, which had been filched from France, but more particularly, to improve the Hohenzollern strain. It was a marriage of state and eugenics combined.

### Dentist Meets Kaiserin.

My first introduction to the Kaiserin occurred one Sunday afternoon at the Berlin Palace, where I had been instructed to be at three o'clock. There being three entrances, I was told to go to the main entrance at the front of the Palace, and when I arrived there I saw the Kaiser's three autos lined up in the court where the Kaiserin was waiting. I was conducted up the stairway and on the first landing I met the Kaiser, who was waiting for me.

"Well, Davis," she said, "I hope I haven't spoiled your Sunday afternoon, but I assure you, it was not for myself I sent for you, but for my wife. She is suffering greatly, and this is described to me as the Kaiserin's ailment, and explained that he had insisted upon my coming for a consultation with the Kaiserin's physician.

"My wife is suffering from several days," he concluded, "and we are going to have a State Ball on Tuesday and I want you to get her in order so that she can attend it. It is one of the most important social functions of the season. Follow me, and I will take you to my wife and introduce you."

### Empress Is Beautiful.

We entered a very large sitting room. It was finished in cream color and was furnished, rather too fully I thought, with a profusion of heavy furniture. The Empress, in a negligee of her favorite royal purple, entered and shook hands with me cordially. She looked very worn, and it was plain that she had been suffering considerable pain and loss of sleep. She had a handsome figure and was stately in her carriage, but her crowning glory was a profusion of white hair.

I know the Kaiserin loathed fat women. On more than one occasion he had said to me as he bade me farewell: "Well, Davis, you have kept me here talking so long, you have almost spoiled my morning, but I'll take a walk through the Tiergarten just the same," and then he would add disgustfully, "when I presume I will have to greet all the fat Jewesses in the park."

But to return to the Kaiserin: The Kaiserin's physician joined us, and there were several very superior young women—attendance upon their royal mistress.

After I had examined the Empress and had given my advice, the physician explained to me in a low voice that it was necessary to be cautious and not do much, as he was afraid of her physical condition.

"Anything you do for her majesty," he explained, "would require giving an anesthetic. She is not in condition to stand pain without. The only anesthetic her majesty will take is chloroform."

His alarming words caused quite a flurry among the maids and they crowded the Empress and begged her to have nothing done that day, but to endure her suffering a little longer in the hope that relief would come without the necessity of an operation at that time to their pleadings prevailed upon the patient to postpone the treatment.

"This made the Kaiser very angry, and he walked up and down the room impatiently.

"Here," he said, "I've got Dr. Davis to come in on a Sunday afternoon, and you want to be in shape for the ball on Tuesday, and now you won't have anything done! That's the way with the women!"

Then he turned to me and said: "Well, Davis, I'm sorry to have spoiled your day." And he dashed out of the room, apparently much provoked.

It was not long after I had known the Kaiserin before she made clear to me that she possessed a most dictatorial manner, which was quite in contrast with that of the Kaiser, at least when he was in my office, at least when he was in my office, at least when he was in my office.

She objected strenuously to removing her hat—and she usually wore a large one with a veil—but finally yielded when I explained that I could not accomplish my work satisfactory unless she did so. When I placed cotton rolls in her mouth, she insisted that as she did not like the sensation of the cotton against her lips or tongue, I would have to encase the cotton in rubber.

### Political Subjects Spurned.

The Empress never spoke on political subjects. She was not particularly brilliant and evidenced some reluctance to air her views on international affairs, as though she were not quite sure of herself. Certainly, she was not nearly as talkative as the Kaiser.

The Kaiserin came to me after the war with America started, but apparently she had felt some hesitation about doing so, because the Kaiser told me shortly before her visit that she intended coming, but pointed out that she had decided to do so only upon his recommendation.

In June, 1917, I received a letter from the Kaiserin's physician inquiring in which he said had been written by the Kaiserin, but which was both unsigned and undated. It requested me to visit the Royal Palace at Homburg, v. d. Hohe, which, in conjunction with the adjoining town of Kreuznach, was then the location of the great army headquarters.

I arrived at Frankfort on the Main, where it was necessary for me to stop off about midnight to catch an early train for Homburg. At the hotel where

I sought to engage a room for the night, the clerk asked me for my pass, and when he saw that I was an American refused to assign me a room until I had registered at the local police station, which was some six blocks away. The streets were darkened as a precaution against air raids, and I found the police station with difficulty. When I finally came to it it was closed.

### Hotel Room Is Refused.

Back I went to the hotel and explained the situation, offering to show the clerk the letter and telegram I had received from the Kaiserin, but he refused to look at the papers and suggested that I go to the police station, rang the bell to arouse someone and register in compliance with the regulations. There was nothing to do but comply, and it was nearly 2 in the morning before I finally got to bed, and I had to rise early to catch my train.

The consequence was that when I arrived at Homburg I was not only tired but rather displeased. A big Mercedes car, which was waiting for me at the station, took me to the palace, where I was given two rooms on the ground floor—a bedroom and a sitting room.

After breakfast I was conducted upstairs to a magnificent Oriental room, the doors and walls of which were richly decorated with old woodwork and contained a number of Oriental relics and works of art. A subdued light added to the effect.

The Empress came in and greeted me more cordially than usual, inquiring whether I had experienced any difficulty in getting to Homburg.

### Servants Well Treated.

I arranged a large upholstered chair near a window overlooking the beautiful park at the rear of the castle, but the Kaiserin would not be seated until her maid, Martha, had left the room, and she seemed very determined that none of her servants should be aware of the nature of the work I was doing for her.

When it was found that I needed a table in connection with my work, the Empress summoned Martha loudly. When the maid appeared she was directed imperiously to "go to Majesty's room and bring the small table which is in the room." I noticed that the Empress always referred to the Kaiser as "Majesty" when addressing the servants instead of saying "His Majesty," as is the custom, or perhaps the "supreme war lords" was entitled to less deference in his own household.

During the time I was there I could not help observing how extremely timid the servants seemed to be of the Kaiserin. One expected to find the utmost servility among the Kaiser's underlings, but I confess it came rather as a surprise to me to see the maids walking so timidly and talking so fearfully when in the presence of their white-haired, royal mistress.

I noted particularly how very gently they knocked at the door before entering and how, after knocking, they immediately placed their heads against the panel that they might catch the Kaiserin's eye, and when they entered, the first time, and so make it unnecessary for her to repeat it.

### Charitable Acts Approved.

The Kaiserin spent a good deal of time in the military hospitals and sometimes spoke of the horrors of war, but never discussed any of the political phases of the conflict. She asked many questions about churches and home life in America, and told me of the pleasure with which she looked forward to the coming baptism of her daughter's 2-months-old baby at Braunnechweig, where she was going for the occasion. She asked about baptism in America, and was asked when I told her I had not been baptized until I was 5 years of age.

Before I left Homburg, she asked me whether I was comfortably situated and if everything was all right for me. I told her that everything was quite satisfactory and mentioned particularly how nice it was to have food exactly as I had had it before the war.

"Yes," she replied, "we have everything. I am very careful what I eat. I watch my health very closely." I remarked, too, how wonderful it must be to have 50 palaces like the Homburg establishment, the beauties of which had deeply impressed me, adding: "His Majesty, I understand, has 40 of them, has he not?" "Not quite 40," she corrected. "Between 50 and 60."

Between 50 and 60 palaces! I could not help thinking of the remark the Kaiser once made to me when talking of the manner in which American millionaires made their fortunes: "It breeds socialism!"

When the time came for me to return to Berlin, the Kaiserin bade me adieu but uttered not a word of thanks for my having given up my practice for three days to work exclusively for her.

### FRENCH VETERAN IS DEAD

John Kutsch, Native of Alsace, Succumbs at Home Near Tangent, Or.

ALBANY, Or., Aug. 2.—(Special.)—John Kutsch, who held medals of honor for service for France in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870, died at his home near Tangent Tuesday night, aged 73 years. He had resided in the United States 25 years.

Mr. Kutsch was born June 6, 1845, at Westhoffen, Alsace, then a part of France and now a portion of Germany. As a young man he entered the French army and was a sergeant in a squadron of cavalry, called "Rough Riders," which played a prominent part in the war. He was an acting Lieutenant in the latter part of the war. He received medals for distinguished services.

Mr. Kutsch came to the United States in 1882. He is survived by his widow and two sons, Charles Kutsch, of Tangent, and John Kutsch, Jr., of Oakland, Cal. He also is survived by 14 grandchildren. Two of his grandsons, sons of Charles Kutsch, are now in the service, one of them being in France.

### Railroad Shopmen Needed.

PASCO, Wash., Aug. 2.—(Special.)—Notwithstanding the recent advance in wages the local Northern Pacific shopmen are working short-handed, not having more than about a third of a full force. Fifty men are needed.

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Records now on sale. For VICTROLA GRAFONOLA OWNERS EDISON Eilers Music House Oregon Eilers Music House Broadway at Alder. Also Graves Music Store, 151 Post St. and 285 Morrison St.

### GRAFT CHARGED IN SHIP CONTRACTS

#### Former Law Partner of Kitchin in One of Three Men Arrested at Washington.

### WIDE INQUIRY IN PROGRESS

#### Secretaries of Members of Congress Said to Have Provided Information for Contingent Fee Operators.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—A graft conspiracy in connection with Shipping Board contracts was said today to have been disclosed. Arrests were made by Government agents on charges based on evidence obtained by Federal agents.

Those taken into custody here were: Edward L. Travis, former law partner of Representative Kitchin, of North Carolina, and Selim B. Joseph and Leon M. Green.

The technical charge against the men is that of conspiring to obstruct the draft by getting a job for Green which would place him in deferred classification.

More generally, however, it is charged that they, acting in connection with Government employes, promised to get orders for between 18 and 24 ships at a price of \$135 a ton, which is considerably higher than most contracts provide, with a view to dividing the bonus.

Several Government employes are under suspicion of having agreed to be associated with the men.

### Company Aids United States.

The ship contracts, which never were actually negotiated, were to have been given to the Perth Amboy Drydock Company of Perth Amboy, N. J., which aided the Government in running down the men after they were said to have made promises which seemed improper to the company officials.

A secret service agent is said to have found that Joseph was to receive \$1,500 a ton on each ship for which orders were obtained at prices above the average, while Green, who was said to have posed as a nephew of a Cabinet member, was to get 50 cents a ton, and in addition a position with the shipbuilding company at a big salary.

Green referred the Perth Amboy Company's supposed representative to Travis in Washington, who was said to have posed as having great influence with the Shipping Board. He also mentioned his former connection with Representative Kitchin and Senator Overman, whose political campaign he once managed.

### Secretaries Under Suspicion.

Other shipbuilding contracts are being investigated. In connection with activities of contingent fee agents it has been reported for some time that secretaries of members of Congress acted as information agents of the commission fee men.

### TEMPLE FINISHED TODAY

#### Several Hundred Workmen Give Labor Free to Red Cross.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Aug. 2.—(Special.)—Tomorrow is "Completion Day" for the new Red Cross Temple, now being constructed here by skilled workers in the building trades and by volunteers from the Loyal Legion and citizens generally.

The new building, which adjoins Liberty Auditorium, is 50x120, two stories high. The frame is up, the sides shiplapped and preliminary wiring and plumbing done. Sunday the roof will go on and the sides be shingled.

Several hundred carpenters will be on the job tomorrow from the shipyard plants. Luncheon at noon and six o'clock dinner will be served at the Motorship Company's dining rooms, which will seat several hundred. Business men will be the waiters.

### MOHAIR PRICE TO BE SET

#### Oregon Growers to Be Affected, but Not as Much as Texas.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 3.—Oregon mohair growers will be affected by an order soon to be made fixing a price on their product. Under normal conditions mohair sells at a little less than wool, but since the price of wool was fixed the price of mohair has been booming. Though Oregon produces considerable mohair, Texas is the state that has been the chief beneficiary of unrestricted mohair prices.

There is no intimation of the price to be fixed on mohair, but it will probably be somewhere near the price of wool.

### DEATH ENDS LONG ILLNESS

#### Frank Donwell Thomas, Who Died in Dufur, Suffered Two Years.

DUFUR, Or., Aug. 2.—(Special.)—Frank Donwell Thomas, who died at the home of his brother in Dufur on July 26, had been ill for two years. For several years he was city salesman in Pinedale and for the H. J. Heinz Company, and was well known to the business men. He was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Spanish War Veterans.

Mr. Thomas is survived by his widow, his brother in Dufur, his mother and a sister in Burlington, Iowa. His body was taken by his wife to Burlington for interment.

### MRS. LOUISE DUNN BURIED

#### Native of Burlington, Iowa, Came to Oregon in 1871.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., Aug. 3.—(Special.)—The funeral of Mrs. Louise Elizabeth Dunn was held yesterday, Rev. Walter Callison officiating. Death occurred Wednesday, the next day after her 78th birthday anniversary.

Louise Elizabeth Arnold was born in Burlington, Iowa, July 26, 1840, and was married to Henry Louis Dunn June 7, 1860. She came to Oregon in 1871, locating first in Salem, moving a year later to Lane County. Living children are: Orrin Webster, James David and Lydia Martha, all of Cottage Grove; Byron, of Washington, and Mrs. Mary Ellen Mosby, of Mosby, Mont.

### Funeral of J. W. Ismael Held.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., Aug. 2.—The funeral of J. W. Ismael was held Wednesday from the Christian Church, Rev. Walter Callison officiating. Death occurred early Tuesday morning from paralysis. Mr. Ismael was 78 years of age. Besides the widow, the following children survive: Earl and Arthur, Mrs. B. G. Crowe and Mrs. Vina Gilbert, of this city, and Mrs. Desiee Griggsby, of Watsburg, Wash.

### Camp Carson Mine Leased.

LA GRANDE, Or., Aug. 2.—(Special.)—The Camp Carson mine, up the Grande Ronde River, has been leased to an Illinois syndicate, headed by an engineer by the name of Ferguson. It is understood the lease, which runs for five years with option to buy, cost \$20,000. The mine has had an up-and-down career, changing ownership often and producing liberally at times.

### Laborer's Left Leg Is Amputated.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Aug. 2.—(Special.)—George Davis, employed at the Algoma Lumber Company's mill suffered an injury to his left leg, which necessitated its amputation.

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