

MUSTANSWER FOR 377 LIVES

Crown Prince and Governor of Westphalia to Be Made Defendants in an Action Brought by Widows of Miners.

By Malcolm Clarke.

Berlin, March 27.—The crown prince and the governor of Westphalia are to be made defendants in an action brought by the widows of the 377 miners killed in the Badbad disaster last October for the purpose of compelling the immediate distribution of \$500,000 raised on behalf of the survivors.

The crown prince is the honorary patron of a special fund of \$75,000, and the governor of the province is at the head of the national fund. So far only a small proportion has been doled out to the widows and orphans, as it was decided to defer the general distribution until the victims were disinterred and identified. This work will be begun next week. Fearing that among the population the authorities have ordered it to be carried on at night.

To prove that complete abstinence from food for indefinite periods is not only conducive to good health, but also to personal youth, Miss Serval, niece of the famous "fasting" Dr. Tanner, has submitted herself to a remarkable series of experiments at the Royal Charlotte hospital in Berlin.

Miss Serval ended at noon the other day in perfect health a fast of 10 days without nourishment of any kind, either liquid or solid. During that time she has lived in a glass cage, into which fresh air was pumped by a motor. She was removed from the cage and was placed in the ordinary ward, but she intends to abstain from food for another 20 days, living in the meantime on mineral water. Her weight has decreased from 114 pounds to 101 pounds, but her condition otherwise is perfectly normal.

Most of the time Miss Serval has communicated with the outer world by means of a telephone, but lately she has written messages to the medical men who are observing the experiment and held them to the sides of her glass prison.

She informed an interviewer today that she never once felt ill from lack of food and drink, and was entirely free from fever or headache. The young lady says that she was induced to become a "faster" in order to cure herself of chronic headache and lack of appetite, and also because she finds she emerges rejuvenated after a period of self-imposed starvation.

Professor Kraus, the celebrated physician, under whose auspices the experiment is taking place, hopes that the results will be of much scientific value.

Dr. Karl Peters, the German explorer, who was married in Berlin on Saturday to Fraulien Herbers, will, it is reported, shortly proceed to the Zambesi on a visit to his gold and copper mines in the Munda valley, near which he believes the land of Ophir to be situated. The principal object of his journey will be to inquire further into this theory.

Dr. Peters first set out to search for King Solomon's mines, which he sought to prove in a book published in 1890. He must have been situated in the region of the Lower Zambesi. He believes that the mines worked by the Phoenicians were only "scratched" and that their development with modern appliances might yield immense results.

The extraordinary spectacle was witnessed in the west end of Berlin the other day of a judge becoming suddenly insane and running amuck. The subject of the attack was Judge Niemir, formerly of the high court, and the outbreak occurred quite suddenly. The unfortunate man demolished all the windows in his dwelling, smashed the entire stock of crockery, glasses, wine, bottles, and flower pots and wrecked a considerable portion of his own furniture.

Niemir had previously lashed and barricaded the doors and threatened to murder his servants. These fled, screaming, to the balcony, and were rescued by means of a fire escape, which was hurriedly brought up by the brigade. The firemen then attempted to enter the dwelling, and when they broke the doors open Niemir rushed to meet them armed with an ax, with which he attacked them. He was killed by means of the jet from a high pressure hose, and then the police seized and arrested him.

A military novelty reported today has caused some interest. On the occasion of the equipment of the Austrian artillery with new guns each battery has been provided with a telephone patrol and a telephone wagon. Each patrol has three kilometers of wire and a telephone station. The entire telephonic material for each artillery regiment amounts to 22 kilometers of wire and five stations. The telephone patrols will transmit orders and reports to the artillery in the field. Up to the present Japan has been the only power to possess this innovation.

The arrests effected by the political police have recently become as numerous in Odessa, proportionately to the population, as those in St. Petersburg, and the police searchings of private dwellings by night are again as much in vogue as they were two years ago. A significant feature is that the military



Mrs. Lewis Harcourt, niece of J. Pierpont Morgan, is taking a prominent part in London society. She recently gave a very brilliant reception at which some of the highest lights in the realm were present.

casinos and private quarters of officers are not exempt from police search. Three officers, all of subaltern rank, have been arrested during the last few days, but the local press is not permitted to make any mention of military arrests. I am informed that the charge against the three officers is that they are members of what is known as the "Pan-Russian Military Revolutionary union."

It may be remembered that about a month ago five officers and 27 soldiers were sentenced at Warsaw to eight years' hard labor for their proved membership of the same organization. The revolutionary union now evidently includes a large percentage of the rank and file, judging from the continuous and numerous arrests of private soldiers, and it is known to be gravely anxious concern to the highest military authorities and to the military council of the empire.

BARR TO OPPOSE ALFONSO IN RACE

London, March 27.—The youthful King of Spain and the American skipper, Captain Charlie Barr, probably will be the dual attractions of the coming British yacht season. Racing will begin in British water in May and from the entries made and enthusiasm displayed it will in all likelihood be the most notable season in the history of the pastime.

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GOVERNOR OF SIBERIA IS SCOTCH

Condemned Siberian Soldier Describes Sufferings of Convicts at Hands of Mad Oppressor—Privileges Are Taken From Unfortunates

St. Petersburg, March 27.—An insane prison governor in Siberia is making life an inferno to the political prisoners under his control. Their almost incredible sufferings are described in a letter from a condemned soldier, which has reached here.

"For some time past," he writes, "the life of the convicts has been almost unbearable. The arrival of a new governor at the prison has been celebrated by all the convicts being put in irons. We have been deprived of the privilege of making purchases of tea, sugar and tobacco. This means that we have no nourishment over and above the prison diet, and we are almost dying of hunger."

But this is nothing to the punishments that the convicts have to suffer. For a trivial breach of the prison regulations we are sent to the cells. In each dark, unheated cell there are from seven to ten convicts. Most of them are ill, and they receive no medical attention. Those invalids who are fortunate enough to be in hospital are kept in irons. And the punishment of the lash is becoming more and more generally used.

"The men who were confined in Cell No. 8, deprived of their clothes, refused to march with the others to their work, so M., the director of the prison, sent for a file of troops and ordered them to be taken forcibly. Two of the convicts were killed and eight were seriously injured in the struggle that followed. Those who survived the scrimmage received 10 lashes each, but even this was not considered sufficient, and the rest of the convicts, who had nothing whatever to do with the riot, received 100 lashes each. Furthermore, the things used were steeped in salt, and salt was rubbed into the open wounds. "Finally, the cell No. 8 and several others—40 of them altogether—were tried by court martial, and thirteen of them were sentenced to death and thirteen more to penal servitude for life."

Since this occurred there has been no limit to the mad brutality of the governor. The lighting of a cigarette has become an offense that only 50 lashes can punish. The immediate result of all this has been an epidemic of suicide. Of the convicts who recently arrived at the prison, it is impossible to bear this insane ferocity, six killed themselves. Then, as a means of dealing with this epidemic, it was decreed that the friends of suicides should receive the lash. Seven more have followed the example of these six, and these things still go on."

AEROPLANE CLUB FOR THE LADIES

From a Staff Correspondent.
London, March 10.—The new Countess of Granard is credited with the intention of forming an aeroplane club for ladies. Like everything in which Lady Granard is interested herself it will be of the most exclusive order, and no mere woman, who is not a peeress or countess, will be permitted to ask for admittance. It is to be limited to a hundred members. The crown princess, the countess, niece of King Edward, and her sister, Princess Beatrice, reputed a future Queen of Portugal, Princess Teano, already well known as an accomplished balloonist, are a few of those interested in the new club; also the duchess of Westminster and the Countess of Biddulph. Lady Constance Stewart-Richardson still in America.

Lady Granard has made the acquaintance of Wilbur Wright and her friends say she has given him several valuable "tips" in the matter of flying, or at least he has been complimentary enough to say that Lady Granard has done so. Anyway she has ordered three aeroplanes and aeroplane toys, and one of these days by introducing her husband's compatriots to the art of aviation. One is told that she proposes to be the very first lady to attempt to cultivate the use of the aeroplane—a sport in which Lord Granard is quite as much interested as his wife. The headquarters of the club in which she is interested is to be at the Crystal Palace. This, by all accounts, has been brought about through the influence of one of the directors of the big amusement place upon Lord Granard. If the rumor proves true it will mean that the Crystal Palace will once more become a fashionable and popular resort. Further color is given to the statement by the fact that Lady Granard has been looking at houses in Norwood, a suburb in which she would never dream of residing were there not some definite reason for doing so.

The countess intends to offer prizes for the most effective and most suitable suit and headgear designed by a Britisher or American for aeroplaning, with the result that many artists are now busily engaged in the hope of winning the honor. The duchess of Sutherland is also interested in the aeroplane. Before her elder son was 17 he was a skilled balloonist, having been urged on by his mother, who is one of the most advanced of women. It is, however, only through her son that she is in a position to take a definite interest in the conquering of the air, or indeed anything of that nature. Like the duchess of Roxburgh, she has a "dour" masterful Scotchman for a husband, who objects to his womankind "playing to the gallery," as he calls it.

Wilbur Wright, who gets hundreds of invitations from the most exclusive people in England to visit him, had one recently from the Scotch woman who would have known that it is doubtful if he could be induced to accept an invite from King Edward for a dine and sleep visit to Buckingham palace. If the inventor had any social ambition at all it would be in his power to spend the whole year going from one swager home in England to another. He could be the social lion of British society if he chose. If the countess of Granard manages to get him to Ireland, as she says she will, she may take it for granted that she will be regarded as the cleverest diplomat of English society.

VANDERBILT ALTERS LONDON HORSE SHOW

London, March 27.—The forthcoming London horse show at Olympia is being thoroughly Americanized. At one time British horse shows were of the horse variety. They were held in the stable and almost the only visitors were clad in frock or corduroy. A scene of confusion and a few scattered, heavily-bearded men, was rare and as for a visit to the horse show figuring prominently in one's social diary—well, it was unthinkable. Alfred Vanderbilt, who is, of course,



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the moving spirit of the Olympia show, and his American friends, have changed all this. Society women will flock to Olympia, siring the latest creations of Worth, Paquin or Lucile. Even the poster of the show, which has been specially designed by the great French artist Simon, at a cost of \$100,000, is pointing out to her some daring feat of jumping or the merits of some noble steed. This without figuring in the poster, the horse is surrounded, while across is laid upon the social attractiveness of the show. In America, Add is this Mr. Vanderbilt's scheme. Look at Brighton beach season and see how safety credit a busy year for the young millionaires.



These are the two children of Mrs. Lewis Harcourt, niece of J. Pierpont Morgan. Mrs. Harcourt is a prominent figure in London society.