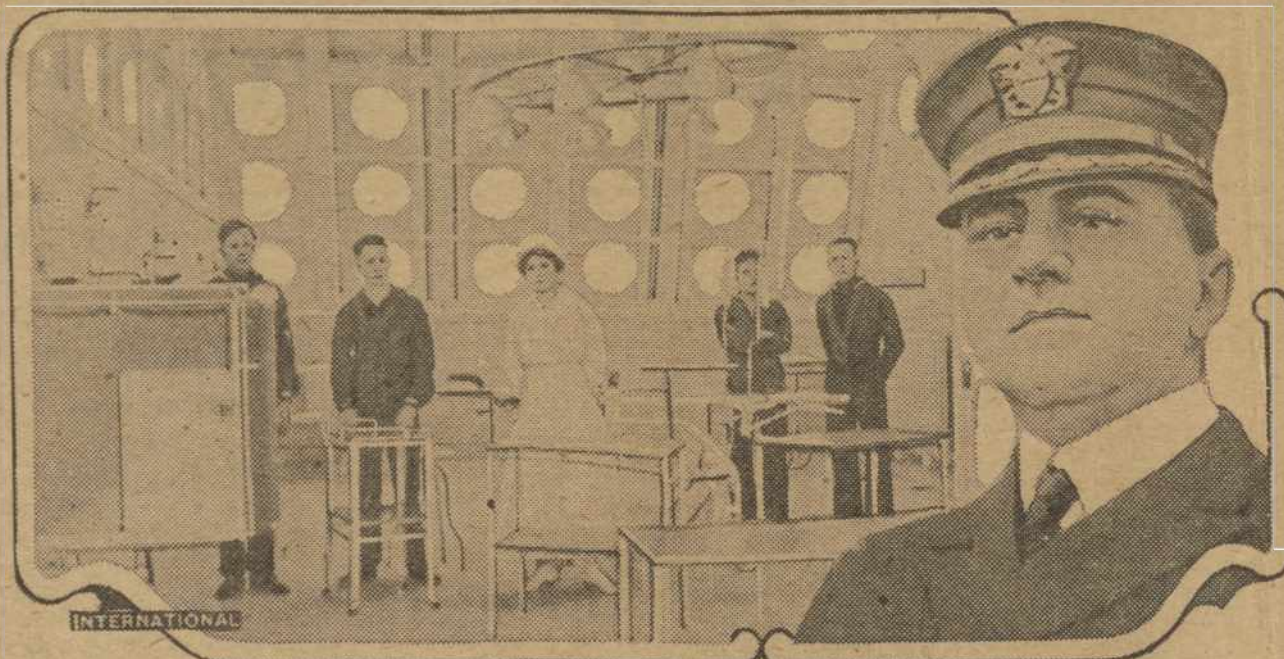


Our New Hospital Ship and Its Commander



A view of the operating room on the U. S. S. Relief, Uncle Sam's new hospital ship which was recently commissioned at the Philadelphia navy yard. The Relief is for use of the officers and enlisted men of the Atlantic fleet. Inset is a portrait of her commander, R. C. Holcomb of the navy medical corps.

Many Schools Serious Menace

Tens of Thousands of Children in United States Are Reported Housed in Firetraps.

REPORTS FROM 429 CITIES

453,000 Pupils Either on Half-Time Study or in Unsuitable Quarters—Survey Conducted by Chamber of Commerce Committee.

New York.—Tens of thousands of school children housed in firetraps and hundreds of thousands of them either on half time or in makeshift buildings is the condition in 429 cities of the United States, as disclosed in a report made public here.

The report was issued by the national committee for chamber of commerce co-operation with the public schools on a survey conducted by the American city bureau.

The committee was organized in February, 1920, to inquire into school conditions. Its executive committee is headed by George D. Strayer of Teachers' college, Columbia university, New York.

The evidence presented "shows clearly that there are tens of thousands of children now housed in old, unsanitary, dangerous buildings," says Mr. Strayer in his introduction to the report. "Many of these structures are best classified as firetraps."

Data From 429 Cities.

Data was received from 429 cities. The report says: "These facts, obtained from 75 per cent of all the cities reporting, show that in these cities, even excluding those housed in annexes where conditions may be normal, there are more than 453,000 children who are either on half time because of lack of building space or are housed in portables, rented buildings, attics, basements or corridors. It would require an average of two 30-room buildings in each of these cities to properly house these groups of children alone."

The report sets forth statistically the inadequacy of playground space. "It is clear that in many cities children are now housed in buildings in which there is less space on the playground than is supplied in the classrooms in which they are taught," says Mr. Strayer in the introduction.

"Three million six hundred thousand

children are represented in this report on playgrounds," it is stated, "and the study discloses that one-half of them—1,800,000 children—have each a playground less than six by six feet per pupil, and many of them have no playground at all.

"These facts of limited playground space," says the report, "present one of the serious problems confronting those who are interested in the welfare of American school children. Whatever the cost, adequate playground space should be provided for those school buildings already erected in congested districts. Public sentiment must become so strong that it will be considered a breach of trust for school authorities to erect a school building on a site that will not afford adequate playground space for all the pupils housed in the building."

Few Fireproof Buildings.

On the subject of fire hazard in schools the report states: "Only five per cent of the total number of buildings are of the types constructed usually called fireproof. Only a small number have fireproof elements to lessen the fire hazard to the children. At least 25 per cent of the two poorest types of buildings are of two or more stories, and do not have a fire escape. Thirty-nine per cent of these two types are without fire extinguishers and less than ten per cent of them have automatic sprinkler equipment in any part of the buildings. Only 11 per cent have automatic fire alarms. Such facts as these demonstrate the existence of a real menace to the children of these cities." One-half of pres-

ent day schools were built prior to 1897.

The report directs attention to "the large number of children between the ages of thirteen and sixteen years who leave the public schools," and adds: "There probably is no more serious problem or one more difficult to solve now facing the people of this country."

According to the reports from 290 cities 6 per cent of the children have left school before their thirteenth year, 10 per cent before fourteen, 38 per cent before fifteen, and 64 per cent before they are sixteen years old.

"In the geographical groups," the report continues, "the highest per cent of these children remain in the western cities. Next in order are the great plains cities, then the southern, the great lakes, and the lowest of all are the eastern cities. In this last group only 29 per cent of the children sixteen years of age, and 56 per cent of those from fourteen to sixteen years, inclusive, are in school."

WILL EXPLORE PERRY ISLAND

Sir Ernest Shackleton to Leave in May or June on New Polar Expedition.

Christiana.—Sir Ernest Shackleton, the antarctic explorer, will leave in May or June on a new polar expedition.

He will take with him a dozen men, chiefly those who accompanied him on former expeditions, and contemplates being away for about two years.

The Norwegian whaling boat, *Foca I*, has been purchased for the expedition, and in all probability it will first proceed to Hudson bay, where 150 dogs will be taken on board. Thence the expedition will proceed to Axel Heiberg's land. From there Sir Ernest intends to explore the islands eastward to Perry Island, this being the main object of the expedition.

Not Crime to Kill Dying

Belgian Court Acquits Man Who Shot Girl Who Tried to Commit Suicide.

Brussels, Belgium.—The question whether or not a person is guilty of a crime in hastening the death of another who is suffering from a mortal wound has been decided in the negative here in the case of a married man who shot and killed a girl who had attempted to commit suicide. His plea was that she was dying and that he killed her rather than watch her suffer. He was arrested, but acquitted of the charge of murder by the Brabant Court of Assizes.

The man was Jerome Hermans, thirty-two years old, and the girl was

Coline Vandeyck, age eighteen. They had a love affair and the attempt at suicide resulted. The shooting occurred in the Bois de Cambre, Brussels' largest public park.

"Coline ran from the path into a thicket," said Hermans. "I heard a shot and ran after her. She had shot herself in the temple, but was still alive. I could not see her suffer and I took her revolver and shot her in the neck. Then she was still, and I shot myself."

Hermans recovered from his wound and was in prison for eight months until acquitted. Medical testimony given at the trial was to the effect that the girl's suicidal wound ultimately would have been fatal.

Wherein Cupid Gets Best of Father-in-Law

Philadelphia.—The romance of Oscar Shenderoff, dental student, which got mixed up when his father-in-law "kidnaped" his bride of a few hours, is mended again.

Shenderoff married eighteen-year-old Myrtle Stewart, daughter of William Stewart, retired printer of Denver, Colo. That night her father summoned them for an interview.

He urged his daughter be allowed stay with him all night. Shenderoff returned the next day to find that his bride had disappeared. He went to Washington, where he knew her father had friends.

Boarding a car in Washington to begin his hunt, he was startled to see his bride on a corner waiting for a street car. Then came the reunion and Shenderoff and bride returned here without bidding "dad" farewell.

Barking of Dog Saved Man's Life.

Muskegon, Mich.—The barking of his dog attracted men to the garage of Severson Casper, where they found Casper unconscious from gas fumes from his car, the motor of which was running. He was revived.

Russian Nobles Now Work Hard

Refugees, Impoverished by the Bolsheviks, Help Each Other in Warsaw.

MME. LUBINOFF IS LEADER

Conducts Relief and Commands Admirals, Generals and Governors—Peel Potatoes and Chop Wood in Poland for a Living.

Warsaw.—Driven from palace to hovel, some of the members of the aristocracy of old Russia now are peeling potatoes or chopping wood here for a living.

Five thousand men and women and children, some of whose resounding titles once brought them homage of courtiers, are clustered here after having fled to Poland before the Bolsheviks. Helping them to help themselves is Mme. Ludmila Lubinoff, herself a refugee, though born a princess of one of the oldest Russian houses and the wife of the former civil governor of Warsaw.

This remarkable woman is conducting soup kitchens, sewing rooms and workshops for members of her unhappy class, and taking orders from her men who once commanded the armed forces of the Russian emperor. On her staff are admirals, generals, governors, mayors and members of the old Petrograd court, while her husband has laid aside his gubernatorial duties to become her secretary.

A Woman of Action.

A beautiful woman, she hides the tragedy of her life under an optimism that is an example to the unhappy folk to whom she ministers. A woman of action, too, for she escaped from Petrograd with her two sons after freeing her husband from the fortress of Peter and Paul and arming him with a fictitious passport that enabled him to flee to Warsaw. Here the family was reunited.

Selling virtually all she possessed to aid her fellow countrymen, Mme. Lubinoff organized the Warsaw branch of the Russian Red Cross, which is being aided by the American organization.

Sparing not herself, Mme. Lubinoff has not spared the colony of refugees which included many of the former Russian nobility. In the soup kitchen and wood yard, which she has established in a Russian orthodox church at 5 Podwal—a squalid property placed at her disposal—are working men and women of title at tasks which once servants performed for them.

In the dingy little courtyard General Oblonsky, formerly architect at the Russian court, chops wood for a living with several officers of the crack imperial guards, one of whom has lost his reason and must be watched. In a small and dirty building Prince Meschersky, who was master of ceremonies at the imperial court, peels potatoes for his daily bread.

Nobility as Servants.

In the crowded rooms the meals are served by women of the Russian nobility—Princess Rukoff, widow of Admiral Rukoff, who was executed by the Bolsheviks; Princess Ouchtomsky, whose husband was reputed one of the richest men in Petrograd and is now cashier in the next room at 4,000 Polish marks a month, the equivalent of \$4 today, and Mme. Koudravatsky, widow of the vice mayor of Petrograd, who was put to death by the Red revolutionists.

Colonel Kesselaef of the Imperial Russian Guards runs errands for Mme. Lubinoff, and refugees who collapse from exhaustion while waiting for their food are attended by Mlle. Caragestoff, a former wealthy resident of Petrograd, now a nurse.

Working in an American Red Cross warehouse are twenty officers of the Imperial Guards regiment headed by M. Riekhensky, a lawyer of Kiev, who arrived in the Polish capital

without underclothing or footwear. He said his sister had been killed this winter by the Bolsheviks and that the capital of the Ukraine had become a city of the dead.

Mme. Lubinoff boasts a storehouse about the size of an American housewife's pantry, which is in charge of Michael Shramchenko, the son of the governor of Tchernikoff, who was killed by the Bolsheviks. The assistant storekeeper is Victor Borsenko, who was governor of Novgorod.

3,700 CHINESE WORK ROADS

Employed in Railway Construction, Relief Body Reports—Town's Girls Sold.

Pekin.—The engineering department of the American Red Cross famine relief organization reports that up to the end of December, 3,700 Chinese had been employed in railroad construction.

The men are in charge of division engineers—sergeants from the Pekin guard, who have as assistants privates from the guard.

The line under construction extends from Tchow to Lintsing on the Chihli-Shantung border.

In one district a census of families showed that before relief arrived all girls between nine and fourteen years of age in two villages had been sold.

A shipment of foodstuffs brought by the United States transport Merritt was moved from Chingwangtao to Tchow with little delay.

RULER IS VICTIM OF ROYAL FLUSH

Amar Alayam, Tribal King of Armenia, Lands in Jail in Minneapolis.

POKER GAME HIS UNDOING

Seeks to Rally His Tribesmen to Regain Heritage of His Fathers—Turns to Gambling to Supply Necessary Funds.

Minneapolis.—Amar Alayam, by right of birth a tribal king of Armenia, is a prisoner in the Hennepin county jail, held there on the charge of giving a worthless \$50 check to redeem his losses at poker and afraid to summon his clansmen to his aid for fear they would repudiate the leadership of a man in a felon's cell.

At least such was the story told by Alayam to Floyd B. Olson, county attorney, from whom he besought a recommendation of probation that he might once more rally his tribesmen and seek with them to regain the heritage of his fathers.

Ten years ago Alayam, according to the story he told Mr. Olson, became the king of his tribe in Armenia upon the death of his father, Abu Alayam.

Abu had been a strong ruler. He had amassed lands and fortune. During his lifetime he had held at bay the emissaries of the Turkish sultans who had sought to despoil his lands. Upon his death the Turks came.

Looted by Turks.

Alayam was but a youth of twenty-two at that time. Marauding Turks, backed by the power of the Sultan, seized upon the richest of his inheritance. It was useless to resist their strength by force. For money they promised to release the farms of his fathers, so, gathering about fifty of his young men, Alayam came to America, the land of fabled fortunes.

After the custom of the Armenian immigrants, Alayam was spokesman for his tribesmen in the new land. It

OIL HAS MADE HER RICH



Twenty-one years ago Miss Ella Tarrant became owner of a 200-acre farm near Bowling Green, Ky., willed to her by an old lady whom she had nursed for some years. For 21 years Miss Tarrant and her family made a bare living raising tobacco and corn. Not long ago oil was discovered on the farm. Today Miss Tarrant's income from the many wells which have been drilled is about \$100 a day.

Year's Round of Red Tape All for Six Mills

Nuremberg.—An automobile carrying the license No. 11 B 488 passed through the town of Schwabach last November without paying the toll of 40 pfennigs (normally eight cents, but at the present rate of exchange three-fifths of one cent).

Unable to ascertain who owned the car, the Schwabach police chief reported to the German ministry of the interior, which turned the matter over to the Bavarian foreign minister. Then the report went through Munich police department, the Schwabach board of aldermen, and a score of hands to the agricultural council of the Palatinate, which found that the automobile belonged to the state of Bavaria and therefore was not subject to the Schwabach municipal toll.

On January 20, last, the Schwabach town government was informed of the result of an investigation that had lasted more than one year. And all about 40 pfennigs.

was through him that they hired out for various occupations. A tithe of their wages they gave to Alayam, who hoarded the money that he might go back to ransom his kingdom from the Turks.

Almost enough money was raised to accomplish the purpose when the world war came. Upon the heels of news of the war came tidings of the ravishing of Armenia by the Turks. Tales of the suffering of his countrymen caused Alayam to abandon his dream of going back to his kingdom. The money saved for that purpose he sent overseas, a contribution to the Armenian relief funds. Many of his colonists returned to enlist as soldiers to fight against the Turks. The rest were scattered.

Still those who remained continued to give a part of their wages to Alayam and he stayed on in this country, feeling that the money he could raise here would be of more value to his countrymen than his presence in Armenia as a common soldier.

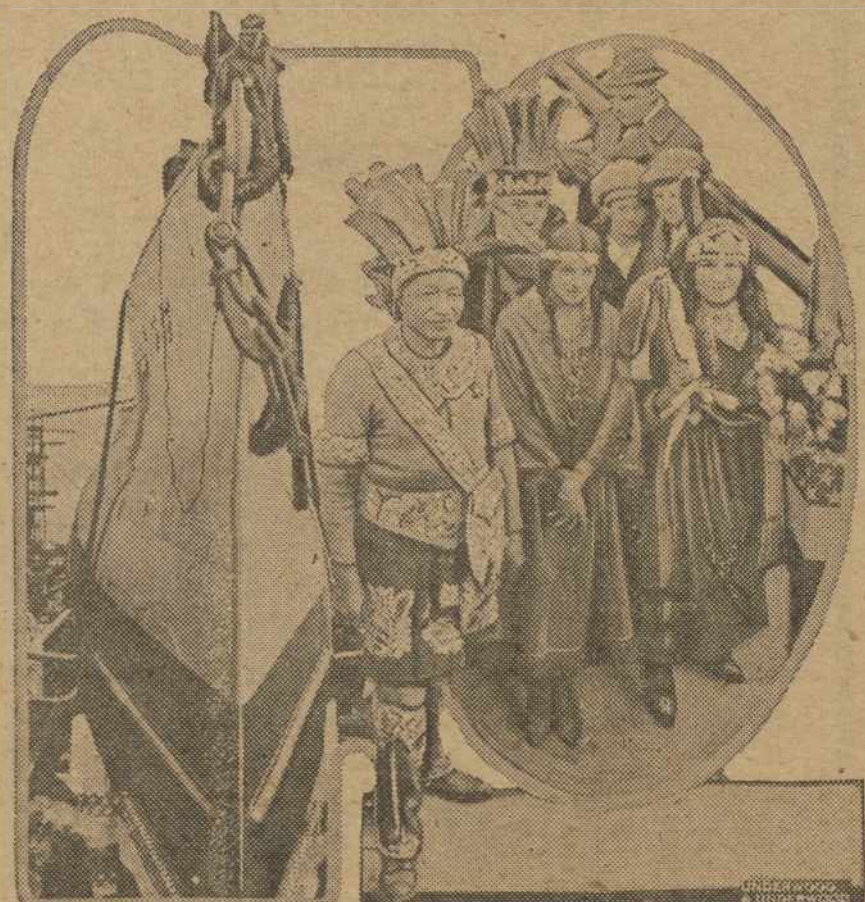
Turns to Gambling.

The end of the war was also the end of Alayam's resources. So many of his colonists had gone back to Armenia that the contributions of the remaining were scarcely enough to afford their chieftain a living. Desperate at the thought that return to his fatherland might never be realized, Alayam began to gamble, seeking, he told Mr. Olson, to multiply the tithes of his colonists into the fortune he needed.

But instead of winning Alayam lost. With money gone he gave a worthless check for \$50 for a last stack of chips and those, too, were lost. Alayam was arrested.

In his plea to the county attorney Alayam begged for a recommendation of probation. He could call his followers together then, he said, and would depart with them for their old home in Armenia. Even without money Alayam was confident he could rally his father's tribesmen and, with the power of Turkey weakened, regain again his heritage.

Indian Princess Christens New Sub



Princess Tocomas, an Indian, who in private life is Mrs. James O. Germaine of Norwich, Conn., christened the new American submarine S-48, when it was launched at Bridgeport, Conn. She is shown here with her Indian party; and the illustration also gives an unusual view of the hull of the new vessel.

Mississippi Wild Man and His Wife



Albert Parsons, the "wild man" of the Loaf river bottoms, Mississippi, his fifty-year-old wife, whom he says he caught in a bear trap 23 years ago, and his two-year-old baby girl, who strayed to civilization, like people of another age. They had been driven out of their home, a shack on a strip of land in an isolated section, by high water.