

# The Saturday "News" Special Foreign Service.

## ENGLISH WOMEN, MERMAIDS SURE

Swimming is the Latest Society Fad and Lady Mayoress Wins Championship.

HEIRS TO THRONE LEARN ART

Princess of Wales Taught How to Duck—King Edward Fond of Watching Titled Ladies Dive.

Special Correspondence.  
LONDON, Aug. 26.—Swimming, as a sport for women, is now one of the "passionate pastimes" of the fair sex in England. One of the most popular lady mayoresses is the winner of four gold medals for diving and swimming, while many women of title have established records at the swimming pools provided by the exclusive clubs of Mayfair. Among these latter are Lady Constance Stewart-Richardson, holder of the Bath club championship trophy for three years; the Duchess of Sutherland and her daughter Lady Rosemary Vernon-Gower; Lady Diana and Lady Emily Manners; Lady Cairnes, and the popular American women, the Countess Essex formerly Miss Adele Grant of New York; Miss Lucie Dodge; Miss Lady Raikes and others.

LADIES' DAY AT BATHS.

Clubs in which women are members, at which have no swimming pools, are making arrangements for the use of some public bath. "Ladies' day" at the baths is becoming one of the most interesting London attractions. Most of the pleasure resorts on the coast, such as Richmond, Twickenham, Kingston and Windsor, swimming clubs are being organized. Nearly every Saturday afternoon contests in a river may be witnessed, women being the principal participants. In England, many of the women's thing suits are tight-fitting garments similar to those worn by men in America. There are no cumbersome skirts, sleeves, and nothing to retard the swimmer. These costumes would be regarded in America as somewhat "risky," to say the least, but in England, the swimmer's comfort and convenience is the first consideration, and the costume perhaps surpasses the Director in its clinging adhesiveness, little regard is paid by the ladies what might truly be described as "artistic" qualities.

Not only are women winning prizes at the numerous London swimming pools, but many of them are making records in the open. For instance, in the great London distance swim, Miss Smith, covered the distance from Richmond to London—over a mile of nearly 15 miles—six women swimmers competed valiantly with the men, and two of them, Miss Armstrong and Miss Smith, won the distance a little over four hours.

BOND STREET BATH CLUBS.

The "swellest" swimming pool in London is the Bath club in Bond Street. Regular attendants are the royal family. The Princess of Wales and her two sons, Albert and Edward, come to swim here, and even Queen Alexandra, when Prince of Wales is around, is "taking a header" from the diving boards.

The present Princess of Wales is a swimmer. The two little princesses, now experts, having been constant swimmers since they were five years old. They were first instructed by Miss Amy Daly, the swimming expert who gives instruction to lady members of the club. There is a special entrance for lady swimmers, and the club is open every day each week set aside during which they have exclusive use of the swimming pool which is 70 feet long by 30 feet wide, and is 7 feet deep.

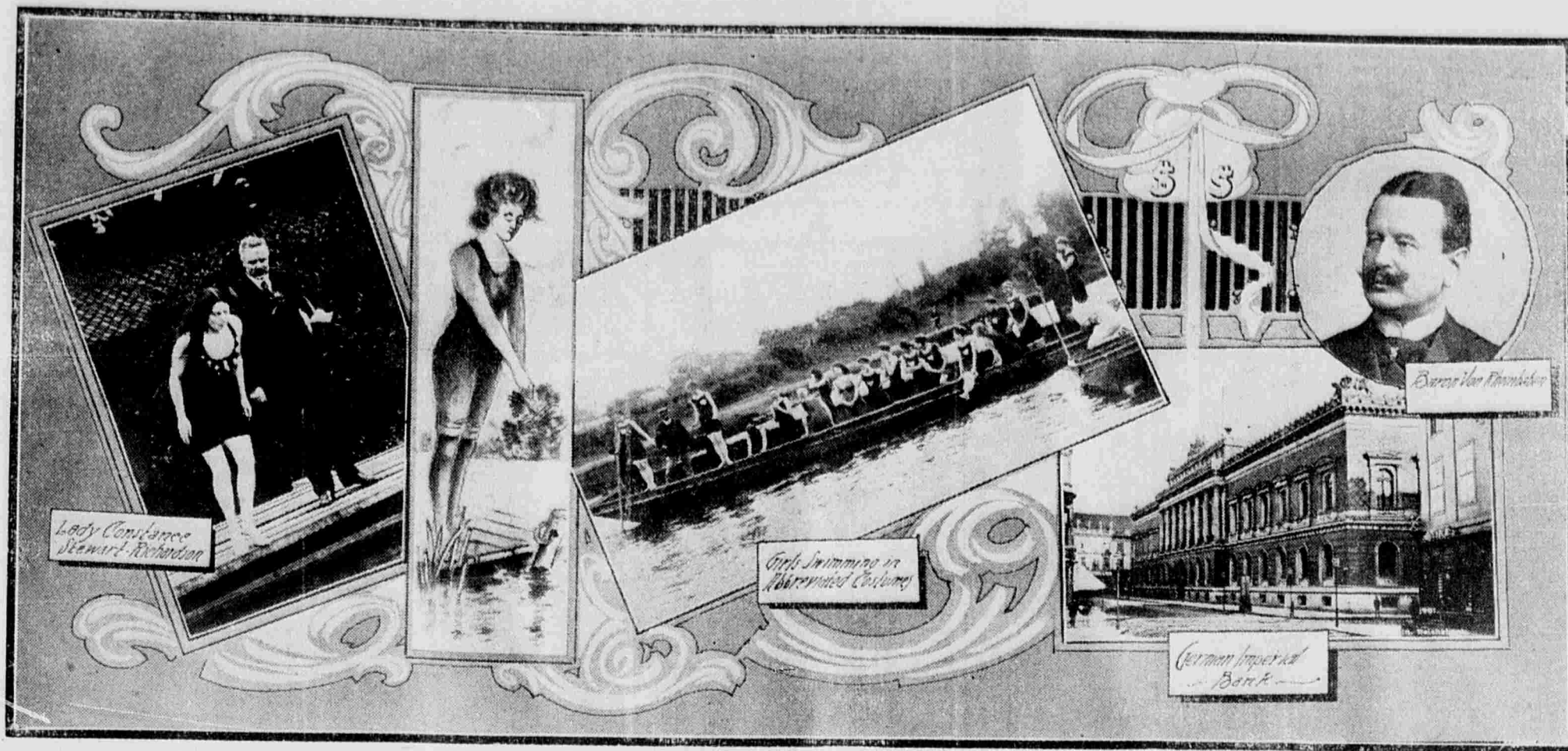
ATHLETIC ARISTOCRAT.

Lady Constance Stewart-Richardson is perhaps the most interesting personality in the Bath club. She has been the Bath club. Her career has been most romantic. Before her marriage in 1904, to Sir Edward Stewart-Richardson, she achieved an international reputation as a champion swimmer. Before her marriage, she was a champion swimmer, a skillful fisherman with some big "catches" to her credit, and expert polo player, and a remarkable "whip," being a member of the famous "Whip and Fish" club. In addition to all this, she can play the bagpipes, and the sword-dance, fence and polo.

MISS DALY, LIFE SAVER.

Miss Amy Daly, the instructor of the Bath club, is also an interesting personality. She has been decorated by the Royal Humane Society for plunging into the water fully dressed and saving a woman from drowning. She is one of the most expert swimmers in England and has won a number of prizes and gold medals for saving, high diving and "fancy" swimming. Among these last-named ones, might be mentioned the fact that she once swam the length of the bath, and the bottom of the water, and covered the length of the bath on the surface with hands tied, and holds a record for the fastest mile. Miss Daly gives instructions three mornings a week, and has adopted the "rule" which no one is allowed to be in the water more than 20 minutes at a time. She believes in swimming every day if possible, but only remaining in the water a few minutes at a time.

Some very fine exhibitions of life-



Lady Constance Stewart-Richardson

German Emperor

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## GERMANY SUFFERING FROM BAD ATTACK OF HARD TIMES

Kaiser, Krupp, Atlantic Steamship Lines and Millionaires All Short of Money—They Lay the Blame on America, but Over-Production and Other Local Conditions Responsible for the General Suspension of Credit.

Special Correspondence.

BERLIN, Aug. 18.—If misery really loves company America may cheer up, for there are others. So identical are Germany's economic conditions this summer with those of America is just recovering from that one might safely take the tidings of distress in the United States which were published so gleefully in the European press and insert Germany for America and Germans for Americans in every paragraph without resorting to any substantial alterations in causes or effects.

The Fatherland is thoroughly and desperately "hard up." The Kaiser feels the pinch so acutely that he is looking for a "raise" in his allowance from \$3,500,000 to \$5,000,000. The Imperial government, thanks to extravagant military and naval habits, finds it necessary to levy fresh taxes to the extent of \$125,000,000, or go borrowing again. The great Krupp works at Essen, which employ 40,000 men and represents an invested capital of more than \$100,000,000, is short of ready cash to the extent of \$12,500,000, and just has floated a public loan at 4 per cent to tide itself over the difficulty. Even the Fatherland's two great shipping lines, the Hamburg-America and North German Lloyd, are out of funds, and are talking, according to well-grounded report, of appealing to the government for a temporary loan at low interest for the purpose of building a fleet of German Mauretania and Lusitania.

Once known that such conditions as these prevail in the richest and soundest financial quarters of the nation, there will be small wonder among American readers that the whole Fatherland is afflicted by a comprehensive, serious money famine the like of which, authorities claim, never has been experienced.

AMERICA BLAMED.

If you ask a German banker or captain of industry what is to blame for this abnormal condition in apparently prosperous Germany, he will answer quickly as a flash, "America."

Germany has been hit in two different ways by the business slump across the water. First, her stock exchanges and money markets have been unsettled, and secondly, her rich export trade to America has been checked severely and in some lines utterly annihilated. Countless failures have resulted from this double cause. On the one hand, merchants and manufacturers accustomed to regular "lines of credit" at their banks have found this source of supply suddenly and arbitrarily cut off. On the other, factories and foundries, wholesalers and jobbers, who are dependent mainly on their American trade, have been overwhelmed not with generous orders, as in the past, but with peremptory cancellations of orders and complete cessation of fresh business.

DEPENDS ON FOREIGN TRADE.

It has been stated by German economists that more than 50 per cent of Germany's population is dependent directly on foreign trade. That is why the Kaiser rattles his saber and brandishes the mailed fist whenever foreign powers threaten to gobble up Morocco, Persia or the other few remaining "open markets" of the world. Exports

business, in other words, is vitally necessary to the welfare of Germany's industrial element. It is a life and death question. Thus, with America—the Fatherland's second best customer—compelled to take any sort of work on hand—so much, in fact, that the deposit banks offer no attractions in the way of interest to people with money—but until the international horizon is cleared the powers who hold the strings of the nation's money bags are determined to hold them relentlessly tight.

OVERPRODUCTION.

Bankers declare, on their part, that they have saved Germany from a still greater catastrophe by their apparent hardheartedness. They point out that the country is suffering already from overproduction in almost every important manufacturing line, and that the enforced low speed at which the industrial machine has been compelled to travel for the last few months will prove to be a blessing in disguise.

Conceding with these "tight money" conditions, which affect prince and pauper, millionaire and day laborer, there has come a general increase in the cost of living. Food, clothing and rents have gone up. The workingman, accustomed heretofore to eat meat twice a week as a great luxury, now has it set before him by a frugal housewife on Sundays only. The restaurants have raised their prices. Fares on the motor omnibuses—the motor cars of the masses—have gone up. Everybody who works is asking for more money to meet the "tearings" (rise in cost of living). A general atmosphere of increasing exasperation confronts the householder at every turn.

ACH, SUCH A HEADACHE.

If he seeks to forget his troubles in this respect, however, his faithful subject of the Kaiser feels a fresh headache coming his way when he thinks of what the next session of the Reichstag is likely to do. The paramount duty of the session will be to pass judgment on Herr Siedow's scheme of providing the empire with the bagatelle of \$125,000,000 of fresh revenue.

The new secretary of the treasury is keeping his own counsel, but it has developed that his budget will provide for a variety of fresh taxation burdens, including increased levies on sugar and tobacco, cigars and cigarettes, railway tickets and inheritances, while wholly new taxes are said to be under way on gas and electricity supplies. It is even hinted that a window tax, such as Frenchmen pay, may be resorted to.

Such is the burden of empire and breadtroughs. Then Herr Siedow is flirting with proposals for nationalizing the alcohol monopoly, from which he figures the state can derive an annual income of \$15,000,000, but the country meantime will have to find the money to buy this fat concession from its present avaricious owners. The eyes of the country are, therefore, centered for the moment on two men—Herr Reichel and Baron von Rheinbaben, Prussian finance minister—who, between them, are charged with the duty of putting the empire financially on its feet.

\$50,000,000 DEFICIT.

At present Germany is doing business at the bare end of \$50,000,000 annual deficit. She is in the same condition as

factories closed.

This decree from the ministers of Mammon has fallen like a blight upon the industrial world. Factories have been shut down. Others have adopted half-day working schedules. Workmen have been dismissed by the thousands. Merchants are unable to meet their

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