

# The Czar of Russia and His Interesting Family

ALL the world is interested in the personality of those who are born in the purple. Paradoxical as it may seem, the dwellers in a republic are especially anxious to be kept informed as to the sayings and doings of royalty in general. Owing to the present condition of the continental political situation, the family group herewith depicted—Nicholas II, the czarina, the four little grand duchesses and the baby heir to the Muscovite autocracy—is the most interesting collection of royal persons in Europe.

There is always a great deal of mystery enshrouding the personality of a Russian czar. The sovereigns of that country are less accessible to their subjects than are those of other Caucasian races. This seclusion has been perpetuated designedly. The semireligious atmosphere surrounding the sacred person of the man who is the visible head of the Orthodox church inspires a sanctity which is even more awesome to the Russian than that other accepted doctrine, the divine right of kings. Comparatively speaking, there is never a more mysterious figure in European affairs than the czar.

The present ruler is not an exception. Those who do not like him and what he represents declare that he is a weak and lachrymose man, uxorious and wholly engrossed by trifles, the tool of designing relatives and the German women they have married. His admirers insist that he is a man of character, with a taste for the advancement of humanitarianism and a strong dislike for militarism. Those who have been permitted to enjoy some degree of social intercourse with him have found him possessed with a sort of shrinking shyness and apparent diffidence, an almost womanly air of deference to the opinion of mankind in general, but not destitute of a pronounced strength of character, and a strong tendency to look at matters from the standpoint of expediency. He is physically weak, and his nervous system is deranged, but there is not the slightest evidence that he shares the moral degeneracy so conspicuous among the men of his race. He is known to have a passionate affection for the czarina, the amiable and devoted Alix of Hesse.

The home life of the royal household of Russia is remarkably devoid of ceremonial. It seems to be the habit of most European monarchs to rise early, and Nicholas is one of the earliest of all. His Russian valet, Ivan, a sturdy peasant from the shores of the gulf of



THE IMPERIAL FAMILY OF RUSSIA.

Finland whom he trusts implicitly, enters his master's bedroom daily, both summer and winter, at precisely 7 o'clock. The czar rises immediately and makes a hasty toilet. Ivan brings the breakfast of bread and butter and tea, and it is eaten in the most informal fashion, the czar interjecting remarks to his favored servant between the mouthfuls and now and then laughing heartily at Ivan's blunt rejoinders. Breakfast dispatched—it is usually a matter of about ten minutes—Nicholas proceeds at once to what is termed his "workroom." Here he remains, almost always alone, until 10 o'clock.

During the two hours and a half spent in his workroom the czar looks into reports and examines other papers awaiting his attention. He does not employ a secretary to assist him, but sends all state papers to his ministers for further action. At 10 o'clock precisely he makes his second breakfast, this time with his family in the seclusion of the czarina's private apartments. This is also a most informal meal, the children and their nurses being present. It is a mark of great favor to be invited to one of these family breakfasts of the Romanoffs, and few have ever been so fortunate as to be hidden to one of them. Nicholas chats with his wife and the children, often dispensing with servants and helping the others with his own hands. The minutiae of domestic life are discussed with the greatest enthusiasm, and each member of the family is free to speak. Immediately at the conclusion of this meal the czar is put into his uniform by the efficient Ivan and is ready to be escorted to the audience room of the palace, where he receives a great number of functionaries of all sorts and officials from the provinces. This public duty is attended by considerable state, and he is surrounded by court officials and secretaries.

At 3 o'clock he dines. This third meal of the day is also taken in family. After this informal dinner the royal couple go for a drive, and sometimes they make short visits to some of the czar's numerous relatives. The evening meal, called supper by the Russians, is the gustatory event of the day. When the royal family is occupying one of the larger palaces it is an elaborate state affair, with many guests, everything being served in a grand and lavish fashion. At Peterhof and the small royal residence at Tsarskoe-Selo less magnificence is observed, but the formalities of court etiquette are retained. The czar eats little at these feasts and

drinks less. Nicholas withdraws early, almost universally retiring to the seclusion of his study and the solace of a cigarette and a book on some devotional or theological subject.

The czarina is an ideal mother. For her there is nothing so important as the proper management of her five children. She is so devoted to the personal welfare of her four little girls and baby son, upon whom are concentrated all the aspiration and ambitious longing of her tender maternal affection, that she has often been accused of neglecting court duties. She has no taste for the political intrigue that is so prevalent among the Muscovite grandees, and she has shown herself at all times to be a conscientious and noble woman. She has never made much progress in acquiring the Russian language, although she has accepted the Orthodox faith with enthusiasm and apparent comfort. When in the seclusion of their own household the imperial family converse altogether in French.

JOHN HENDRICKS.

## RUSSIAN NORTH SEA COMMISSIONER.

Vice Admiral Dousbassoff, who made himself exceedingly agreeable as the Russian member of the North sea investigation commission, is no stranger to Americans. In 1891 he came to the United States to make an inspection of



the shipyards and naval institutions of the country. He achieved fame in the Russo-Turkish war of 1877 and is reputed to be one of the most capable and gallant officers in the Russian navy.

## MARYLAND MEMORIAL TO CECIL CALVERT.

The picture represents the noble \$10,000 bronze statue which the Maryland Society of Colonial Wars proposes to erect to the memory of Cecil Calvert, the original proprietor of the colony and the man who gave his name to Cecil county and the city of Baltimore.



The sculptor is Albert Weinert of New York. It will be about nine feet in height and will be cast in American standard bronze. Calvert is to be represented in the act of addressing the colonists who are about to sail for the new world under the leadership of his brother Leonard. In his left hand he holds the charter which was granted to him by Charles Stuart.

## SPAIN'S OLIVE CULTURE.

The cultivation of the olive is increasing constantly, though slowly, in Spain. The area devoted to olives increased from 2,673,666 acres in 1901 to 2,683,550 acres in 1902 and 2,690,963 acres in 1903. The oil yield per acre last year was 32 gallons, or 13.8 gallons more than the yield of 1902-03, 3 gallons more than the yield of 1901-02 and 2 gallons more than the average.

## SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

A growing idea is that all living forms—even plants, fishes and insects—must develop some bodily heat, even though the amount be very small. Bringing together various observations, a French entomologist, A. Acloupe, finds that a thermometer thrust into an ant-hill has shown a rise of five degrees, that beehives are warmer than the outside air in winter, and that when the bees were agitated the hives have grown so hot as to melt the wax. One observer has noted that creatures giving off the least heat have greatest resistance. Caterpillars may be frozen to brittleness and may exist for weeks in a cake of ice, yet may become active again on thawing out. On the other hand, insects may live in intense heat, termites and others in Brazil and elsewhere being quite active on the burning

sand and under a vertical sun. This resistance to great heat and cold is not understood, and a fact, it may be added, that should be kept in mind by those who speculate on the possible life of other worlds.

Earthquakes often have more than one focus or apparent source. Pointing this out, Dr. C. Davidson notes that in Great Britain one earthquake in every twenty is a twin, with two distinct foci, and that the strongest shocks have had this character. The distance between the epicenters varies from four to twenty-three miles, the average for seven recent earthquakes being between ten and eleven miles. The foci seem to be at different points on the same fault, and the phenomenon is evidently not due to refraction, reflection or division of the earth-waves.

Heating together and mixing thor-

oughly 85 parts of coal-tar oil and five parts of asphalt from coal-tar is recommended by a German authority for a reliable liquid to preserve wood from mold and dry rot. It gives a fine brown color, and is waterproof.

An important advance in deep-sea surveying, saving much of the labor of present methods, is claimed for the acoustic sounding of H. Berggraff, a Norwegian engineer. The depth is estimated from the time taken by sound to travel to the bottom and back, the echo from 2,000 feet being received in one second, and the apparatus consists of a transmitter, an acoustic receiver, and a chronometer. The transmitter is a slowly revolving disc which at each revolution closes an electric circuit and energizes a magnet operating a vibrating armature. At each contact a sound is sent to the bottom of the sea, and the vibrations

are tuned to the only pitch to which the specially constructed receiving microphone will respond. In accurate work, the time of contact and that of the return of the sound are registered with great precision on the revolving drum of a chronograph.

Ball-playing seems to be physiologically beyond feminine powers. After careful investigation, the principal of a girls' college finds that a larger and lower-settling collar-bone makes the movement of the girls arm less free than that of the boys, so that she cannot hope to throw well.

Recent gales and high tides have reminded the Englishman that his little island is being gradually swallowed up by the sea. It has been found that Great Britain lost 148,906 acres between 1867 and 1880, and 29,155 acres between 1880 and 1890. A survey in the reign of

Edward I gave the Dutchy of Cornwall 1,500,000 acres, but the Ordnance survey some years ago showed that this had been reduced to about \$29,500 acres. Villages have disappeared in the ocean, as in the case of Dunwich, of which nothing remains but a ruined church on the edge of a cliff.

"Prismatic lubrication" is what Dr. Carlo Del Lugo of Genoa calls his new plan for increasing the speed of ships. It consists in reducing the density of the surrounding water by pumping air into it, creating a foamy stratum in which the vessel slips forward against greatly lessened resistance.

Half a ton of the curious vegetable product known as kapok reaches Amsterdam yearly from Java. It is a yellow, wadding-like material, which covers the seeds of the Eriodendron, a rapid-growing tree of the Malacca, and

its fiber is remarkable as being much lighter than cork, so that it will support in the water 35 times its own weight. The fiber, however, resists all attempts at spinning or weaving. It is silky, only about an inch long, and is made into thin rings. The claim is made that kapok never decays. A 16-ounce mass will support a man in water and the substance is expected to become useful for lifesaving apparatus, and is even looked upon as the probable future stuffing for all ships' beds.

Speaking to British students on "Mimicry" in animals, Dr. W. E. Hoyle, the other day pointed out the inappropriateness of the term. The peculiarity described is a protective resemblance, and not a conscious imitation. Butterflies of different species that resemble each other cannot be said to be aware of the fact. Various theories have been offered to account for these

resemblances of creatures to others and to their surroundings, but the simplest explanation is that it is due to natural selection. Forms less disguised have been weeded out by enemies of the struggle for existence.

Of all desperately dangerous persons, the brilliant surgeon is the most lamentable, declares Sir Frederick Treves. Genius is some sort of uncalculated nervous disease, and the usual men of genius are quite impossible persons, and entirely out of place in the medical profession, where even cleverness is not to be encouraged.

Analyses of 350 samples of coal from 44 French, Belgian, German and British mines have shown M. Sallard that a good coal should contain about 20 per cent of volatile matter and not more than 9 to 10 per cent of ash.



QUEEN'S ROOT



STONE ROOT.



MANDRAKE

## NATURE'S ESSENCE.

### Extracted From Forest Plants

Nature's laws are perfect if we obey them, but disease follows disobedience. Go straight to nature for the cure, to the forest; there are mysteries here that we can fathom for you. Take the bark of the wild-cherry tree, the root of mandrake, stone root, queen's root, bloodroot and golden seal, make a scientific, non-alcoholic extract of them with just the right proportions and you have

### DR. PIERCE'S GOLDEN MEDICAL DISCOVERY.

It took Dr. Pierce, with the assistance of two learned chemists, eight years of hard work experimenting to make this vegetable extract and alternative of the greatest efficiency.

Just the sort of spring remedy you need to make rich, red blood, and cure that lassitude and feeling of nerve exhaustion. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery bears the stamp of PUBLIC APPROVAL and has sold more largely in the past forty years than any other blood purifier and stomach tonic. The refreshing influence of this extract is like Nature's influence—the blood is bathed in the tonic which gives life to the blood—the vital fires of the body burn brighter and their increased activity consumes the tissue rubbish which has accumulated during the winter. Dr. R. V. Pierce, the founder of the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, and a physician of large experience and practice, was the first to make up an ALTERATIVE EXTRACT of roots, herbs and barks,

### Without a Particle of Alcohol or Narcotics,

which purifies the blood and tones up the stomach and the entire system in Nature's own way. The "Golden Medical Discovery" is just the tissue builder and tonic you require when recovering from a hard cold, grip, or pneumonia. No matter how strong the constitution our stomach is apt to be "out of kilter" after a long, hard winter; in consequence our blood is disordered for the stomach is the laboratory for the constant manufacture of blood. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery strengthens the stomach—puts it in shape to make pure, rich blood—helps the liver and kidneys to expel the poisons from the body. If you take this

### Natural Blood Purifier and Tonic

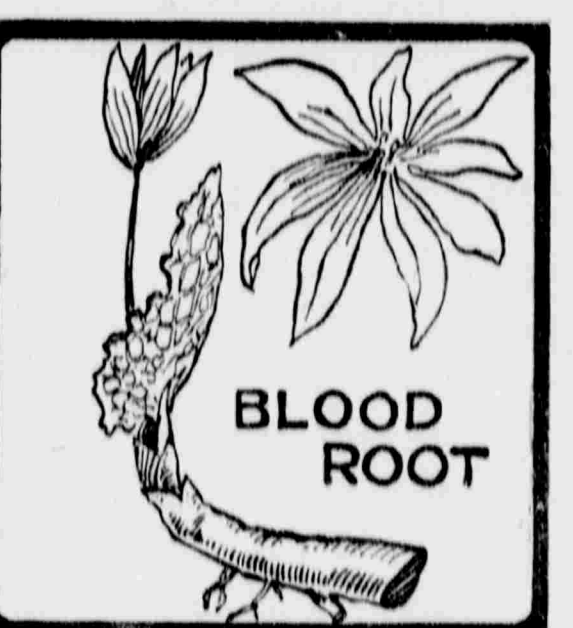
you will assist your system in manufacturing each day a pint of rich, arterial blood, that is stimulating to the brain and nerves. The weak, nervous, run-down, debilitated condition which so many people experience at this time of the year is usually the effect of poisons in the blood; it is often indicated by pimples or boils appearing on the skin, the face becomes thin—you feel "blue." Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery CURES all blood humors as well as being a tonic that makes one vigorous, strong and forceful. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery

### STANDS ALONE

as the one medicine for stomach, liver and blood disorders that has the ingredients printed upon the wrapper of every bottle leaving the great laboratory at Buffalo, N. Y., which CURES in nature's own way; not only in respect to its ingredients but also as the only spring tonic and reconstructive which absolutely contains NO ALCOHOL.



GOLDEN SEAL



BLOOD ROOT



CHERRY BARK