

IN QUEST OF THE NORTH POLE.

Will an Italian Duke Succeed Where Others Have Met With Disaster?

Prince Luigi, Duke of Abruzzi, having climbed Mount St. Elias and been wrecked in an expedition to Alaska, is striving now to add to his reputation by going in search of the North Pole. Being only 28 years old, an enthusiastic adventurer, a yachtsman, a hunter of big game and a general all-round sportsman, the quest of the Pole appeals strongly to the imagination of this son of the house of Savoy. He is a son of Amadeo, King Umberto's brother, now dead, who was once king of Spain, and the young man was born in Madrid while his father still reigned there. Nansen's expedition and the Jackson expedition filled the duke with a strong desire to follow in the wake of those Arctic adventurers. Soon after the return of Jackson from Franz Josef Land the duke announced that he would fit out an expedition for the Arctic.

For eighteen months the duke has been preparing for his trip. He has bought and fitted out the sailing steamer *Stella Polare*, or *North Star* in English. The royal explorer seems to have ordered supplies lavishly if not wisely. When he left Italy to go to Norway he left behind 1,500 cases of supplies which he had bought. But

and that there may be a season in which the waters which are generally open may be closed and form a suitable highway for explorers.

The chances of the expedition reaching Franz Josef Land this season are, unfortunately, slight. It is well known that the group of islands to which this name has been given are often inaccessible, and the vast mass of ice which this year fills the Arctic seas is likely to prove an insurmountable obstacle to navigation in high Northern latitudes. Up to the present the attempts of the Norwegian hunters in their sloops to gain Spitzbergen, and a German scientific expedition to reach Bear Island have proved futile, all progress being stopped by the ice barrier in 72 degrees 53 minutes N. Lat., necessitating their return to Norway. So severe has the winter been in the Arctic that the polar pack was observed within a few miles of the coast of Finmarken, and its range is, therefore, so exceptionally great that the possibility of reaching Franz Josef Land appears to be small.

But the duke has started for the Arctic, nevertheless, and may be trusted to bring up somewhere, even if he does not reach the North Pole. He is said to have an income of \$200,000 a

year, which he inherited from his mother. There was a rumor at one time that he had made a fortune in the Klondike, but that afterward was denied. However, he is in comfortable circumstances and has spent money lavishly on his expedition. It would be a joke on the Northern nations which have for so many years been searching for the Pole if an Italian prince should succeed where they have failed. Needless to say, the Arctic experts do not have much faith in the success of the Duke's trip, but strange things happen in the Arctic.

The duke has fitted up his *Stella Polare* comfortably but not luxuriously. There has been built on her a deck house which contains the cabins, saloon, officers' mess, galley and mess room for the crew. The fittings throughout are plain. The walls and ceilings are painted white. The officers' cabins are small, the duke's differing in no respect from the rest. The seamen's quarters are comfortable, consisting of two cabins below deck, one for the Italian, the other for the Norwegian portion of the crew. The ship is provisioned for five years and the outfit generally is admirable. This includes sixteen kajaks, almost similar in construction to those used by Nansen and Johansen on their famous journey, but slightly improved, fitted with rowlocks and provided with oars instead of paddles. This is possibly a mistake, as the paddle is far handier and more serviceable in a canoe, besides being far stronger than the slight oars with which they are

now supplied, while, in experienced hands, a capsize may easily be prevented by the use of the paddle, where with oars the kajak would undoubtedly turn turtle. The weight of each, with its oars, pump and box of repairing materials, is 45½ pounds.

The sledges are twenty in number. They, as well as those used on Norwegian and other expeditions of late years, are undoubtedly improved types of Hunt's St. Michael sledge, originally employed by the Greely relief expedition in 1884, and are decidedly superior to any previously constructed. With their traces they each weigh 48½ pounds. Every sledge will carry eight aluminum boxes (of which 100 have been made) to contain pemmican and other stores, and a canoe will be atop of these and be firmly lashed to the sledge. As in former types, the runners are shod with Britannia metal, and have protective, removable wooden soles. Of ski there are forty pairs, of a somewhat new pattern, being broader than usual, and specially designed for polar work. Forty pairs of snowshoes have also been provided. They are said to be lighter and stronger, and, though somewhat narrower, to have greater bearing power than the Canadian. The dog harness, of which 150 sets have been made, resembles that used by the Greenlanders, but is manufactured of stronger and better materials. The improvements effected in the equipment have been carried out at the suggestion of Dr. Nansen.

In spite of the excellent equipment

ZIONISTIC MOVEMENT.

Whereby the Jew Hopes to Regain the Land of His Fathers.

"The Jews are developing a scheme that has for its object the purchase of Palestine from the Turk and the founding of a Jewish government in the land of their fathers," writes Edward A. Steiner in the *Woman's Home Companion*. "Already the movement has become a formidable one in some of the European countries. The leader of the movement is Dr. Theodore Herzl, of Vienna, an author of European reputation who, unwilling to bear longer the taunts of the anti-Semitic mob in his native city, and unable to erase from his face and heart the marks of his race, has planned this exodus with the view of restoring to his people the land once their own, in which, unmolested, they might live and govern themselves.

"An able aid to Dr. Herzl is Rabbi Moheleth of Russia, one of the noblest and most charitable of men, revered for his piety and saintliness of character. At his word of command the Jews would come out of Russia like bees out of a hive. Why should they not be glad to leave a country where they have experienced only hatred, shame and cruel oppression? In Germany there are scholarly men yearning to lead their people—not from narrow ghettos and squalid homes, but from the broad streets of Berlin and from the merchant palaces of Leipzig and Frankfurt—into a country of their own government, where they will no longer be the despised and persecuted beings they now are. In Rome, in Venice and in many other places in Europe the exodus fever is spreading and burning in the hearts of the downtrodden but hopeful people.

"Among the French Max Nordau, the well-known author, is the leader. From Paris, from Marseilles, from Boulogne, the Jews expect to go in large numbers, leaving behind them a country where Justice weeps because she is not only blind but fettered. In our own America the movement has not received such a cordial reception, because the need of it is not so apparent here. Though, of course, the American Jews who sympathize with this new exodus do not intend to leave the United States, yet they are encouraging it for the sake of their oppressed brethren all over the world."

THE IPECAC MARKET CORNERED

The Brazilian Variety Very Scarce—A Possible Substitute.

Ten or twelve years ago one could buy all the Rio Ipecac root he wanted for \$1.25 an ounce, says the *New York Tribune*. Now it costs \$4.25, and it is quite as likely to grow more expensive as to become cheaper. The supply has almost ceased and the world's stock is said to be in the hands of a few American dealers. There is much talk, however, at the present time about the fitness of the Carthagena, or New Granada, root as an efficient substitute for the Brazilian article. At least two points of difference have been noticed between the two. One is merely in appearance. When cut open the Carthagena root shows certain rings less distinctly than does that from Rio. The other distinction is more important. The alkaloid upon which the Brazilian Ipecac depends for its activity is known as "emetine." This is found to only a small degree in the Carthagena root. The characteristic principle of the latter is known as "cephaline," and its action is somewhat unlike that of emetine. Commenting on the situation a week or two ago, the *American Druggist* expressed surprise that more study had not been given to cephaline by experts than it has thus far received. Whenever new varieties of a vegetable drug are discovered it is customary to investigate them with great particularity. Thus far, however, the physiological chemists are unable to speak with confidence about the active principle of the New Granada root. One secret of the diminution in the output of Rio Ipecac is the labor of digging the roots. The operation involves bending over, and is said to be exceedingly tiresome. But this is also true of the Carthagena root. The real explanation, therefore, is probably the discovery by the Brazilians that rubber culture is just now more profitable than digging Ipecac.

Sea-Bottom Temperature.

The surface and bottom of the ocean, as is generally understood, differ materially in temperatures. All known observations of deep-sea temperatures have been arranged on equal projection maps, from which it is estimated, states Sir John Murray, that over 90 per cent of the sea floor is occupied by water cooler than 40 degrees Fahrenheit, 3 per cent being under 30 degrees, while on the 127,100,000 square miles deeper than 100 fathoms no annual variations of temperature have been observed, except, possibly, at the line of the meeting of the gulf stream and Labrador currents. On the 10,100,000 square miles of ocean between the shore and the depth of 100 fathoms, the bottom temperature shows annual variations. A study of the surface water leads to the estimate that over the entire ocean the area warmed to more than 40 degrees is never less than 75 per cent of the total, even in the coldest months, while it rises to 87 per cent in the hottest part of the year.—*Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*.

The Pot and the Kettle.

Prof. Gray—By the way, Prof. Sage, what day of the month is it? To save my life, I can't think. Prof. Sage—It is the 20th. And that reminds me, what month is it?—*Albany Press and Knickerbocker*.

THIS AMERICAN GIRL IS PAINTING A MINIATURE OF THE CZAR



AMALIA KUSSNER.

Miss Kussner, the young American who has achieved a high reputation in Europe and America as a miniature painter, recently returned to London from Russia, where she had most interesting experiences. She went to St. Petersburg to paint a miniature of the Grand Duchess Vladimir, and had only been there a few days when she was summoned to the winter palace to paint a likeness of the czarina. Before she had finished the czar ordered a miniature of himself. Miss Kussner speaks with much enthusiasm of the kindness and consideration with which she was treated by the imperial couple and of the simplicity and unaffected-

ness of their life. The czar gave Miss Kussner eight or nine sittings of several hours each and talked most freely with her. He is a great admirer of America and Americans, who, he told Miss Kussner, he admired for their intelligence and independence.

Everything affecting Russia or the czar's family appearing in the prominent American newspapers finds its way to the czar's desk and is read by him. His familiarity with American affairs and Americans of note is remarkable. The czar spoke warmly of Admiral Dewey, discussing his career with great interest and saying, "His victory at Manila was a splendid achievement."

UNHAPPY HUBBY

Congratulated Himself on the Start Too Early.

She had kissed the baby for the last time until she returned, and then kissed him again. She had carefully locked every door in the house, and all the windows. She had turned the gas to the exact point at which it was to be left until her return. She attended to the grate, and warned Mary not to meddle with it for fear of fire. She had put the cat and dog in the cellar and had wrapped a newspaper around the canary's cage. And then she was ready. She locked the inside door and tried it. Then she locked the

outside door and tried it. Then she opened the outside door and tried the inside door again. Then she locked the outside door again, tried it, and they started. They had proceeded two streets, and her husband had just begun to congratulate himself that she really was ready, when she suddenly stopped. "John," she said, "I must go back and tell Mary to be sure and not wake the baby unless he wakes himself."

Jailed for Kissing a Child.
A Watertown (N. Y.) peddler has been sent to jail for four months because he kissed a child without permission being first obtained.

GOGGLED-EYED SOLDIERS FOR PHILIPPINE WARFARE

Imagine facing an army of goggled-eyed soldiers, each man in rank wearing great goggles to completely cover the eye and shut out every ray of pure white light, advancing upon you, like some great-eyed, destructive monster! This is what the Filipinos must do when the United States puts into operation the scheme which has been projected and adopted by the war de-

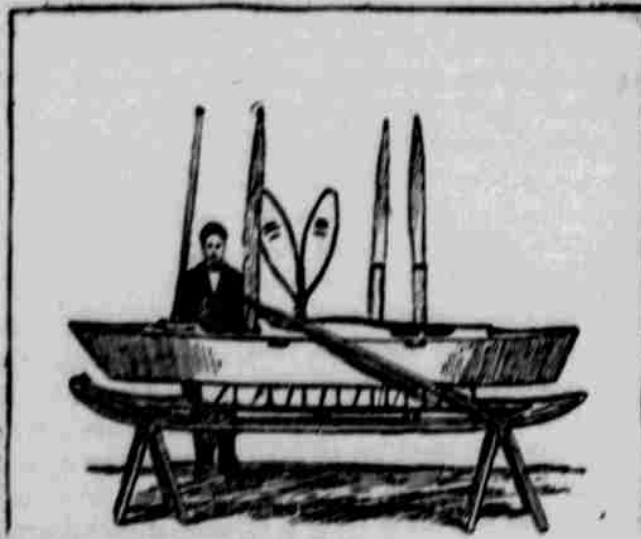
partment. The department proposes to furnish to each soldier fighting under the stars and stripes in the Philippines a pair of great glasses which he must constantly wear in active service in the field. The reason? Why, to detect and locate the ambushed enemy and its Indian fighting sharpshooters, to obviate the dangers and difficulties introduced into modern warfare by smokeless powder. How? Well there is an easy explanation. It was discovered in experimenting with



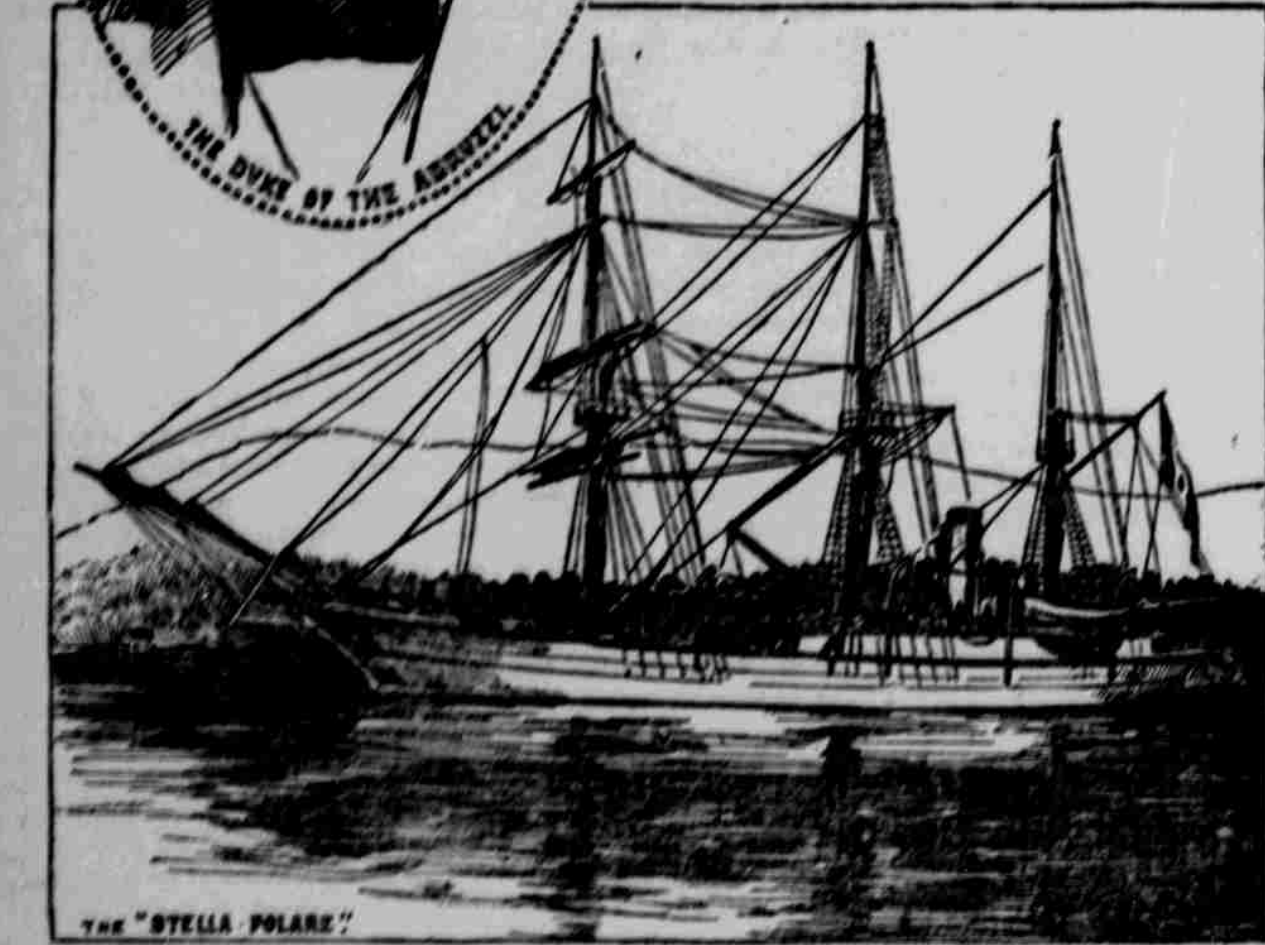
stantly on duty, which would shut out the pure daylight and enable them to readily detect the position of any sharpshooter, even though equipped with the smokeless powder. This is the explanation, but what a novelty! To what extremes may we not come in our efforts to combat the inventions of modern scientific warfare? The twentieth century soldier will soon vie with the armored athlete, who today battles on the foot-ball field for the honor of his alma mater. What will be the next step toward it?



THE DUKE OF THE ABRUZZI.



SLIDGE IN TRAVELLING ORDER, SHOWING THE ALUMINUM PROVISION BOXES AND KAJAK STRAPPED TO IT, ALSO SKI-STAF, SKI AND SNOW SHOES.



THE "STELLA POLARE"

he did take along an automatic piano, and a thousand bottles of wines and liquors. The young duke sailed the other day from Christiania in the *Stella Polare*, but so lavish had been his orders that the ship was filled by tradesmen, and the royal explorer had to bond her before he could clear. It was supposed that the ship will touch at Archangel, and then try to reach Franz Josef Land.

Previously to the sailing of the *Fram* last summer on her second voyage to the Arctic, the duke, after various conferences with Captain Otto Sverdrup, determined on making Franz Josef Land the base of his operations, and adopted the plan formed originally by Jackson of laying down depots of provisions along the route that was to lead to and from the Pole. Sverdrup being of the opinion that if the conditions were favorable the Pole could be reached in sixty days, and the journey to and from be accomplished in four months. After Jackson's three years experience in those regions and his discovery of a vast open sea to the north of Franz Josef Land, which with its tides and currents so seriously affecting the ice conditions as to preclude, apparently, the possibility of any journey due north over a frozen ocean, it is only a bold man who would follow in Jackson's wake and attempt to advance where the latter was baffled. But the decision to adopt, practically, a similar route has evidently been determined by Sverdrup's saying "H" for it is known that there are exceptions to every rule,

year, which he inherited from his mother. There was a rumor at one time that he had made a fortune in the Klondike, but that afterward was denied. However, he is in comfortable circumstances and has spent money lavishly on his expedition. It would be a joke on the Northern nations which have for so many years been searching for the Pole if an Italian prince should succeed where they have failed. Needless to say, the Arctic experts do not have much faith in the success of the Duke's trip, but strange things happen in the Arctic.

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which a list of the things provided for the *Stella Polare* would indicate some Arctic experts say that the young man's expedition is fitted out not properly. They say he has neglected details too much, and especially in the matter of food has seemed to think that it was necessary simply to give a large order and leave the rest to the merchant who was to fill it. Another view of the duke comes from a correspondent at Christiania, who says:

"During his stay at Christiania the Duke of the Abruzzi was constantly engaged superintending the loading of the *Stella Polare*. From his great activity and energy, his fixed determination to bring the venture to a successful issue, his quick appreciation of every detail connected with the undertaking, there cannot be any question as to his qualifications as leader of so great an enterprise, and as such he is not only fully entitled to the thanks of the scientific world for fitting out the expedition, but to the best wishes of all those who are interested in Arctic research."

The principal members of his expedition are: Captain Umberto Cagni, royal Italian navy, aged 26; Lieutenant Franco Querini, royal Italian navy, aged 31; Dr. Achille Cavalli, aged 33; Sailing Master C. J. Evensen, aged 47; and Chief Engineer Henry Alfred Stokken, aged 24. The others are a second engineer, carpenter and six Norwegian hands, two Lapland dog drivers, four Alpine climbers and two Italian seamen.